

MEDICINE'S DILEMMA: RESEARCH OR DISEASE PREVENTION

the ANIMALS' AGENDA

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urban animals**

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THE ANIMALS' AGENDA

APRIL 1988 VOLUME VIII NO. 3

6 Moving Towards Coexistence: An Interview with Alice Walker

BY ELLEN BRING

The author of *The Color Purple* discusses her involvement in the movements for civil rights, women's rights and animal rights.

12 Downtown and All Around Town: The Plight of Urban Animals

BY GUY HODGE

How territorial disputes between wild animals and homeowners can be handled without harm to the animals.

38 The Dollar Best Spent

BY STEVEN TIGER

Why a sensible approach to protecting health would be based on prevention.

46 Dog Diets: A Vegetarian Insight

BY MICHAEL W. FOX

Canines thrive on meatless meals.

2 Page Two

3 Letters

10 Network Notes

22 Animal Newslire

A Rodeo Victory ♦ World Laboratory Animal Liberation Week ♦ Is There a Future for Grizzly Bears? ♦ NIMH Memo Calls for Covert Campaign ♦ The Fur Industry's Snare Tactics

30 Dateline: International

32 News Shorts

36 Comment

Helping Children Help Animals ♦ Nonviolent Direct Action

42 Animal Intelligence

BY PATRICE GREANVILLE

44 Activists' Agenda

Using the Media, Part I

48 Compassionate Living

BY VICTORIA MORAN

50 Reviews

Tree of Life ♦ The Skin Trade Primer ♦ Animal Liberation: A Graphic Guide ♦ For the Vegetarian in You

58 Classified

COVER: PHOTOGRAPH BY E. LOREN SODERBERG



10 Close encounters of the urban kind



17 Pantry poacher



24 No bear spots?



46 Veggie pals

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PAGE TWO

Nowhere to Run, Nowhere to Hide

In this issue, we focus on one of those difficult areas sometimes faced by those who care for animals. In "Urban Animals," Guy Hodge tells how to humanely resolve territorial disputes between homeowners and wild animals who are desperately trying to find a niche in the urban sprawl devouring their habitat.

Problems of this nature aren't likely to diminish in frequency in the foreseeable future. Quite the contrary. As the human population continues its seemingly inexorable expansion, competition for space will escalate. The only wild species likely to survive will be the "opportunists," those animals with flexible space and food requirements. The megavertebrates (elephants, bears, tigers, etc.) whose territorial needs are exceptionally large are already endangered.

Humans have been manipulating the earth in a major way for about ten millennia, since the advent of agriculture. Even hunter-gatherer tribes and, of course, herding nomads changed the face of the earth to some extent. But the pace and scope of change have increased dramatically in the last half century, due partly to the forces of industrialization, but mainly to a rapidly increasing human population.

The most conservative calculation has the "population clock" ticking 265 human births a minute. Though nature's resilience has its limits—and we may have already surpassed them—it is projected that the world population will grow from five billion now to between eight and ten billion in the next century. By the year 2000—just a dozen years away—the U.S. population is expected to exceed 270 million, double the 1945 population. While the U.S. growth rate pales in comparison to that of Africa or Asia, Americans place disproportionately greater demands on the world's resources—using a third of them, with only a sixth of the total population. In energy use, America's per capita consumption is ten times the global average. Still, regardless of nationality, more humans mean more houses, offices, and factories; more garbage, sewage, and every other kind of pollution; greater food, clothing, and consumer goods requirements; more roads to accommodate more traffic; and so on. All of these things affect animals, and stress the earth's life-support systems.

The rate of species extinction is presently running at about 1,000 a year, but as environmental destruction accelerates, the rate will rise. If present trends continue, in the 1990s the figure will reach 10,000 a year—one every hour. In the next 30 years, over a million species will become extinct. Soon, only "urban animals" may be left.

A year ago, a bill was introduced in Congress which would establish a national population policy in order to achieve stabilization. The Global Resources, Environment, and Population Act (S.1171 and H.R.2212), sponsored by the organization Zero Population Growth (ZPG), was introduced jointly by Senator Mark Hatfield (R-OR) and Representative Buddy MacKay (D-FL). So far, four national animal protection organizations have endorsed the bills: the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), the National Alliance for Animal Legislation, and the World Society for the Protection of Animals. Asked why they support the legislation, Dr. John Grandy of HSUS explained, "We support it because the human population explosion has severe negative impacts on animals by reducing or altering habitat, and diminishing and destroying resources which are necessary for their—and our—survival."

We commend the four groups for having vision broad enough to see that many, if not all, animal problems are caused or at least aggravated by the burgeoning human population which is casting such a dark shadow over the earth. And we encourage all animal advocates to support ZPG's efforts; contact ZPG at 1601 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009, (202) 332-2200.

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—The Editors

Green is for Liberation

I had my first exposure to the politics of animal liberation at the First National Green Gathering at Amherst, Mass. last July. My life hasn't been the same since. That bold group of people (the Animal Liberation Caucus) described in the November 1987 *Animal Newsline* opened my eyes, and I don't doubt that they opened the eyes of many Greens.

Animal liberation is not by any stretch of the imagination a "fringe issue" for Greens. It can't be. The liberation of all species from oppression and terror must be the goal of a truly biocentric (as opposed to anthropocentric) political movement, as Greens clearly claim to be.

Last December, Lone Star Green (the local expression of the Green movement) became, we believe, the first Green group in the U.S. to pass unanimously the animal liberation plank proposed by the Animal Liberation Caucus. I personally presented the 12-point plank to the members of the Interregional Committee (IC) of the Green Committees of Correspondence at their meeting here in Austin in January. The proposal was passed by consensus of the IC delegates on to a committee for "strategy and policy approaches in key areas" that will meet formally in 1989 and, upon its acceptance by the local Green organizations, the animal rights proposal will be turned into a platform plank. The focus of animal activists now needs to shift to their local Green groups. Greens need to be educated to realize that all species have a right to equal consideration of their interests.

I see no reason the plank won't pass at local and national levels, and I believe it will be included in any future U.S. Green Party platform. If it doesn't, U.S. Greens aren't worthy of the name.

—Charles Allen Dews
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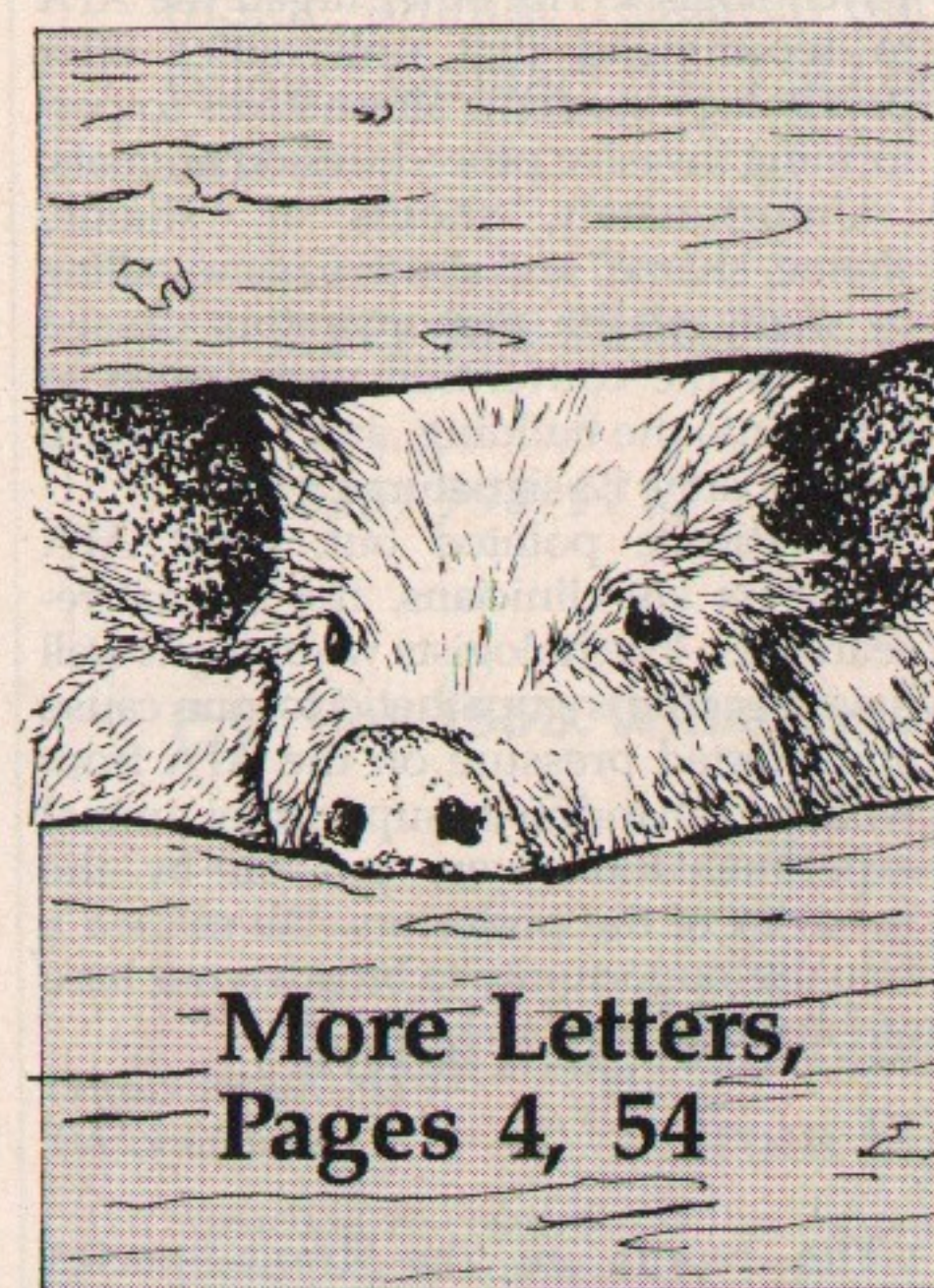
Foreman's Hunting Reflects Blindness

Dave Foreman makes many cogent and valid observations in the December 1987 interview, but his hunting and meat-eating reflect a perceptual blindness inconsistent with most of his professed philosophy.

When a wilderness homesteader or aborigine hunts, it is often a life-sustaining function. Neglecting for a moment the overbearing pressure that

the human population exerts upon our plundered planet and the biologically and ecologically devastating effects of public hunting and game management, the subsistence hunter is—in a narrow sense—living in harmony with nature.

However, when Mr. Foreman or someone else who pursues a technological lifestyle goes beyond his or her needs and engages in hunting (often rationalizing that it is done to procure necessary food or reestablish a bond with the wilderness), then he or she becomes part



—Jean Griffin

of the overall problem of consumptive self-indulgence that threatens to destroy the earth and its life.

The hunter with a conventional lifestyle usually is considerably more destructive to the environment than the non-hunter, because he or she not only utilizes natural resources at a prodigious rate, but in addition engages in hunting. There are far too many hunters, too few wildlife species, too much destructive "management," and too little natural land. Even if a hunter makes some personal sacrifices that lessen his or her impact on the earth, the net result is much more harm than good.

There is also the legitimate issue of cruelty. Anyone can say that they love nature, but lifestyle and sacrifice speak louder than words. Death and suffering may be facts of life, but there is no reason to encourage them. Sound ecology and human reverence for life are not incompatible, they are indivisible.

—Ron Baker
Paradox, NY

Focus on Foreman's Truths

Rather than waste time criticizing Dave Foreman (*Interview*, December 1987) for his embarrassingly obvious blind spots (he enjoys hunting and fools himself with simplistic comparisons between factory-farmed meat and factory-farmed soybeans, but I don't think many readers are going to be influenced to go hunting by the interview), I suggest we would be better off focusing on those truths which he seems to grasp well.

People sometimes look askance at me—or worse—when I say that by merely being a member of industrial society, we're probably wreaking more havoc on our fellow sentient beings than almost any hunting and gathering society is capable of. Those societies kill animals to eat, at least partly out of perceived necessity. We—even those of us who don't eat animals—kill to maintain the lifestyle to which we've become accustomed. Just because we pay others to do the killing for us doesn't absolve us of responsibility.

If we think of the fish ground through electric generating plants or unable to swim upstream to spawn; if we think about the destruction of habitat for industry and raw material to feed it; if we think of our dependency on oil, with the attendant risk of resource wars—potentially nuclear—to maintain supply lines; if we think of the disappearing and dying forests of the world, the pollution of the air and streams, rivers, and whole oceans to produce cars and VCRs; and if we think of the animals killed on the highways, then we can begin to comprehend the magnitude of the violence inherent in the industrial mode of production and living.

An ecological, steady-state economy seems clearly to be a precondition for animals—or anybody's—rights. I don't want to let Foreman's blind spots blind me to the general excellence of his vision of a "green" future.

—Billy Ray Boyd
San Francisco, CA

Animal Trainers Don't Deserve Defense

For those of us who participated in the investigation of *Project X*, Gretchen Wyler's letter (January/February 1988) defending the animal trainers came as no surprise. From the beginning, Ms. Wyler has done her utmost to impede our efforts on behalf of the *Project X* chim-

Continued on next page

LETTERS

Continued from previous page

panzees. However, the futility of Ms. Wyler's position was emphasized recently by the resignation of Carmelita Pope as director of the American Humane Association's Hollywood office. Ms. Pope's husband, who was her assistant, has also resigned.

The sad story of the *Project X* chimpanzees was impressively told on the December 1, 1987 segment of *The Fifth Estate*, a highly respected Canadian Broadcasting Company television program. Tapes of that show are available to your readers by contacting our office. All we require is \$10.00 to cover the cost of duplication and postage.

—Nancy Burnet

*The Coalition to Protect Animals
in Entertainment*
P.O. Box 565 Riverside, CA 92502

Gretchen Wyler's letter was an example of her bizarre behavior throughout the *Project X* scandal.

The first investigation of charges of animal cruelty during the production of the movie was conducted by the Society Against Vivisection (SAV), which succeeded in securing notarized statements in which eyewitnesses stated that they saw animal trainers beat the *Project X* chimpanzees. The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) did its own independent investigation and, at the conclusion, agreed with SAV that the animals had indeed been beaten. SAV presented the evidence to Ira Reiner, District Attorney of Los Angeles County, and requested that charges be filed against the guilty parties. District Attorney Reiner arranged for another investigation of *Project X* by the Los Angeles Dept. of Animal Regulation. At the conclusion of its three-month investigation, the department agreed with the conclusions of SAV and HSUS, and requested that the District Attorney file criminal charges against six *Project X* animal trainers for 18 violations. However, a spokesman for the District Attorney said the statute of limitations had expired on the most appropriate charges that could be filed.

In the parlance of the fight ring, the animal trainers were "saved by the bell," but, perhaps, only temporarily. As of this date, District Attorney Reiner's office is considering the possibility of filing a civil suit in the case.

Obviously, it is not a question of whether the *Project X* chimpanzees were beaten, but rather a question of whether those who are guilty of the animal mistreatment can be punished.

—Bob Barker
Beverly Hills, CA

Venting Fury

I agree with Wayne Pacelle's observation in the November 1988 article "Venting Fury at APA" about the inappropriate behavior of some activists demonstrating at the August meeting of the American Psychological Association. I went to the convention with two petitions I had prepared in the hope of getting signatures from my colleagues. One petition proposed the formation of a committee to advocate humane and ethical treatment of animals used in experiments by psychologists. The other urged the APA to recommend that universities offer psychology students alternatives to performing invasive procedures on animals.

Unfortunately, shouts of "shame, shame, shame" and abusive name-calling by many of the demonstrators caused most of the convention participants to hurry into the building, and I wound up getting only 12 signatures.

As Pacelle pointed out, most APA members are clinicians, not animal researchers. Psychologists who might well have become sympathetic to our cause and exerted pressure on the APA from within to abandon its support for animal experimentation were put off by the behavior of the protestors. We missed a valuable opportunity to broaden our base of support.

—Dr. Robyn Cooper
New York, NY

The report on the Trans-Species Unlimited (TSU) protest at the APA convention was factually correct in that only a small percentage of the psychologists in attendance actually does animal experimentation. The description of the behavior of a small portion of the 400 demonstrators was also accurate. However, I differ with the interpretation of the significance of these facts, and regret the emphasis placed upon them. Here, once again, we find ourselves facing the question of what means are best suited to creating effective opposition to animal exploitation.

No one will argue with the call for logical behavior and reasoned analysis, but considering that it was only a small minority who were indiscreet, I wonder how reasonable or fair it is to devote the report to this while a subject of far greater importance is left relatively ignored. The "guilty" persons are part of a group that, in response to the leadership of TSU, has in one year grown to the point where it has given animal rights issues a higher visibility here than exists in any other major U.S. city. Now I am aware that the subject of the report was the APA demo, not

Dennis the Menace



"ALL I DID WAS TELL HIM HE'S EATING A GROUND-UP COW."

the state of activism in New York City, but that is just the point—why hasn't a dramatic outburst of grassroots activism in the most important city in the world been seen as newsworthy? TSU's New York membership has created a mushrooming network of volunteers devoted to outreach, who are convinced that they are recruiting the people needed to fuel the popular uprising against animal exploitation that alone can really change things in this nation. Their ongoing missionary effort has, in a short time, doubled the ranks of animal rights activists in this city.

—Steve Siegel
Trans-Species Unlimited
P.O. Box 20697
New York, NY 10023

I take serious exception to the statement that "animal rights activity has seemed scarce in New York City" and that "activism has been resuscitated there" by TSU. During 1985 and the first part of 1986 (a time during which I lived in NYC), New York activists stopped heroin experiments that were performed on some 100 rhesus monkeys at the Psychiatric Institute and managed to get some of the monkeys to a sanctuary. They also sneaked into Columbia University and documented conditions in the animal facilities, causing the National Institutes of Health to suspend grants to that Ivy League school. They also held the first

civil disobedience on behalf of animals on the East Coast, and have been staging permanent weekly vigils at Fred the Furrer for three years.

No doubt, NYC activists are more sarcastic than activists elsewhere; they thus operate on a totally different level. When judged on that level, their activity has not been scarcer than that in other communities. You were too quick to judge activists whose methods you are unfamiliar with. You totally ignored the fact that a New Yorker heads the Coalition to Ban the LD50, that a New Yorker is producing a television show on animals that is aired all across the nation, and that a New Yorker brought animals into politics way before any other animal group (large or small) issued legislative alerts.

The bottom line is how effective we are in helping animals. We shouldn't all have to display Broadway pizzazz in order to be respected for honest efforts.

—Avi Magidoff
San Francisco, CA

Question ALF Tactics But Not Morals

One might legitimately wonder about the wisdom of extra-legal activities from a tactical viewpoint (do ALF actions actually advance the cause of animal rights?), but there can be no serious question about their rectitude. Given the urgency and irreversibility of much that is now happening (i.e., the accelerating rate of species extinction and nature destruction) and the spectacular ineffectiveness of the old-guard humane organizations in reversing or even slowing the trends, I believe the moderates in our movement have precious little basis for reprehending those who raid laboratories or engage in "ecotage." To paraphrase Seneca, "Extremism in the cause of compassion is no vice, and moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue."

—Robert A. Hansen
Dublin, OH

Pet Shop Experience Changed Views

I was hesitant to agree with the idea of banning pet shops that was advocated in the December 1987 issue, since having pets has allowed me to feel more strongly about animal liberation. Recently, though, I entered a pet shop to watch a man who was carrying in three plastic bags filled with goldfish. The fish were packed 75 to 100 in each bag, in about two

Continued on page 54

LIBERATE LAB ANIMALS!

Last April 24th, Trans-Species Unlimited launched its campaign to end barbiturate addiction experiments at Cornell University Medical School. Within 5 months, the lab was closed down. With your help, we can do it again!

Join us this April 24th for hard-hitting direct actions at major animal research laboratories in the cities listed below. Contact the TSU branch office nearest to you for details.

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Moving Towards Coexistence

An Interview
With Alice Walker

BY ELLEN BRING

Social activist, mother, publisher, and author, Alice Walker ended her first animal rights essay this way:

As we talked of freedom and justice one day for all, we sat down to steaks. I am eating misery, I thought, as I took the first bite. And spit it out.

Entitled, "Am I Blue?" the essay appeared in the July, 1986 issue of Ms. magazine. Blue, a horse who lived in the meadow adjacent to the cottage Walker rented a number of years ago, reawakened her consciousness about nonhuman animals and changed her life. Along with her involvement in numerous movements for peace and justice including the civil rights movement, the women's movement, the anti-nuclear movement, and liberation struggles in South Africa and Central America, Walker now adds animal liberation to her commitments.

Walker is best known though for *The Color Purple*, a 1983 novel for which she received both the American Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize. Her other published works include two collections of short stories, a collection of essays, four volumes of poetry, and a biography of Langston Hughes written for children. She also edited a collection of writings by author, folklorist, and anthropologist Nora Zeale Hurston. Two new books, *To Hell With Dying* (for children) and *Living by the Word, Selected Writings, 1973-1987*, will be published this month.

At her home in rural Northern California, Alice Walker talks about animal rights, social change, and personal responsibility.

—E. Loren Soderberg



In your book, *In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens*, you wrote about connections, about seeing a larger perspective in a diverse world. What, for you, is the common thread, the unifying theme that connects movements for animal liberation, women's liberation, civil rights, and others?

I think we all suffer oppression. We all suffer from a lack of having others perceive us as being basically the same, in having the same feelings, and the same dreams and desires. I remember when I gave a benefit for Winnie Mandela, I was thinking at the time that there were two things really important to me. One was to raise money for Winnie Mandela and South Africa. The other was to raise money for animal rights because I was just beginning to deal with my own feeling of responsibility towards animals. There were people who were very critical of that because they immediately thought that I was equating human beings with animals in a negative way. I mean I definitely do equate them, but positively. It seemed to me so right because the oppression that black people suffer in South Africa—and people of color, women, and children face all over the world—is the same oppression that animals endure every day to a greater degree.

In terms of public activism, the animal rights movement is predominantly white and middle-class. Why is that?

I think white, middle-class people are the only people who have the time to do the things that have to be done.

At the same time, I feel that, inasmuch as I am a citizen of the planet, my responsibility to other beings is clear. I don't see the responsibility for promulgating an animal rights agenda falling just on white middle-class people. I think that everyone has to nurture an awareness of the ways that we are connected to animals—the essence of what being animal is—and to cherish and literally try to save animals.

I think many people of color feel that they're facing extinction. It's a little difficult, then, to put the energy that you have to fight for your own life into trying to fight for the lives of creatures that you are also exploiting. It's a very heavy bind.

Although every day provides us with an opportunity to feel better about ourselves by personally resisting and boycotting violence towards nonhuman animals, many people are hostile and defensive about changing their lifestyles. Why do you think that is?

I think that people are defensive about change because people are basically lazy.

If they already feel that they are suffering under a horrible government, the world is going crazy, and war is everywhere, then it's a little hard to now have to think about everything they eat and wear.

It would be nice to think that universal enlightenment occurs at once, but it doesn't. I think you can only hope to inspire people—to move them by what you see yourself, by what you feel yourself, and by what you do. It may take them weeks, months, years, but once you reach them, they start to work on the problem, whatever it is. If I didn't have faith that that is what happens, I wouldn't bother to work at all.

When I write a novel about child abuse and sexist violence, I expect that a lot of the wife beaters and a lot of the child abusers are going to be really hostile and resentful. Of course, they don't want to stop this behavior. This is the behavior they learned from their mama and daddy. Since it didn't kill them, it's obvious-



ly the right thing to do.

But if the argument and the scenario is presented in such a way that it truly engages the feelings of the abusers, then I think we have a change coming in those people. I don't care how much they claim they're not going to change or how much they claim this doesn't happen. Once they are moved, the change is inevitable because you cannot live so divided within yourself, between what you know to be right and what you are in fact doing that isn't right.

Why do you think people are so invested in being violent toward nonhuman animals?

In thinking about *The Color Purple*, I should have included the mistreatment of dogs in poor communities, especially in Southern black communities like the one in the book. Even today, in some of these communities, there is a real battering of dogs, in addition to a lot of child abuse and wife battering.

I think that people really pass on what's done to them. Therefore, we can only really change people by treating them differently. In that sense, you can understand how violence is not only obsolete, it's totally useless as a way of changing the world. The more violence you create, the more you have. Even what it accomplishes is illusory because you acquire something today by violence only to lose it over and over again. That's because people will always protest and the planet will protest too.

The planet is not helpless and its patience is wearing thin. I'm all for its patience to wear thin because I can't stand the abuse of the planet and the rampant lack of compassion for the Earth.

What do you think is the artist's responsibility towards social change?

To work for it, but also to be it. If you want a world where people are concerned about life on the planet, then you have to be concerned and work for change. But everyone is responsible for the whole creation and the artist has her or his part to do.

At this point, what do you feel is your role in the animal liberation struggle?

I wish you could see the place where I live when all the creatures are running around. Someone even saw an eagle here yesterday. I don't know what's happening, but I think that everything that ever used to be here is here! So I think coexistence is the direction of my effort and I'm still struggling with my vegetarianism.

—Robert Allen

Continued on next page

INTERVIEW

Continued from previous page

What is that struggle about and can people help?

I get so much help from vegetarians, it's amazing! It's like being prayed through some kind of phase. Ever since people have heard that I was trying, they've been really rooting for me.

I'm not sure that I will ever be totally vegetarian. I guess about ten percent of my diet is chicken and fish. I'm not sure that this won't always be so. Part of it is that I can't force myself anymore. I've nudged myself to the stage where I eat mostly vegetables, rice, and tofu. In fact, I was vegetarian for three months before I went to Nicaragua this past summer.

I'm still trying to formulate how I really feel about this. I feel in a sense that we are all eaten. That the earth is eventually going to eat all of us. What really bothers me about eating animals, in addition to being able to empathize with them, is that they can't get away. I think my reason for feeling that eating a fish is not as awful as eating an animal who is grown in a factory farm is that the fish can get away, at least in theory. Not being able to escape is the most awful thing. I know, in my soul, that to eat a creature who is raised to be eaten, and who never has a chance to be a real being, is unhealthy. It's like what I say in the essay about Blue, that you're just eating misery. You're eating a bitter life.

I have a friend up on the hill who has some chickens who run around and she gives me some of their eggs. So, sometimes I eat eggs. My struggle continues. But, I'm also just as concerned about the migrant workers who harvest the strawberries I eat. I read an article in the *San Francisco Chronicle* recently about two of them who are suing the growers they worked for because they were paid \$20 a week for a six-day, twelve-hour-a-day week. They were housed in a shack with no toilet or bathing facilities, with 89 other people. This is slavery.

How has your reawakening to nonhuman animal consciousness affected your personal and professional life?

I think the animals know that I have awakened to them and I feel an amazing connection. For instance, in my house in the city, animals come to the door and into the house. The other day, I was sitting under the tree over there and a bird politely came down and sat on my head.

Now, I am always aware that I'm truly coexisting in the midst of other beings.

Are your friends already animal rights

advocates or are you bringing this awareness to them?

I think I'm bringing it to them. Generally, they are receptive. One or two of them have looked at me askance. People are so afraid to feel for themselves if the feeling is different from what they perceive the mainstream feeling to be. So I do have friends who just couldn't imagine what I was talking about—"You talk to these animals? Isn't that weird?" But now, of course, they talk to them too. So I don't give up on them, and I don't give up on myself either.

The animal liberation movement is about compassion. Yet, compassion for the self is often the hardest to show.

Yes, because we love to be perfect or even just vastly better now. But, as long as I feel I'm moving, I won't despair. I think this need of ours to be better than we are sometimes prevents change. It prevents us from acting.

For instance, I agonized a long time over whether I should write the article about Blue because I felt that I could only really take this position and express and share the way I feel about him as a fellow being if I was already a vegetarian. I kept asking myself how can I dare to presume to say this if I am not already at the point where I want to take people. I finally answered by saying to myself that I have the responsibility to share the vi-



Walker at the tender age of six. She maintains her consciousness towards animals has been reawakened from her childhood.



— Robert Allen

Race and gender issues are, almost always, important components of Walker's narratives.

sion even if I am not already in the vision. There's value in sharing the process. You want to encourage people by appearing as if you have it all together, but I frankly feel it's better to share that you don't because that's the truth and that's the reality. Nobody has it all together.

Being vulnerable in that way often makes it easier for other people to begin their own process.

Absolutely! It also makes it easier for them to share their process. I have gotten tons of cookbooks, letters, testimonials—I think I've heard from half the vegetarians in the world!

At times, I question my ten percent of chicken and fish, but then I think it's okay because it is the truth. It's where I am and I'm glad to be there. Given my background of meat three times a day, this represents such a leap in consciousness.

Was it hard to move away from that?

Not really, although every month I would get a real chicken attack. I wrote about an incident when I was in Bali that is helping me a lot to deal with my chicken problem. One day, I was walking across the road with my daughter and my companion. It was raining and we were trying to get home. I looked down and there was this chicken with her little babies. They were trying to get home too. It was one of those times feminists refer to as a "click." Well, this was one of those human animal-to-nonhuman animal clicks,

where it just seemed so clear to me how one we are. I was a mother. She was a mother. And she was trying to get those little brats across the street. They were not cooperating and she was just fussing and carrying on.

I feel I've been having a lot of help.

What do you think about the argument that vegetarianism violates cultural traditions and rituals and, therefore, is racist or imperialist?

You mean if people have been killing pigs forever, you should let them keep doing that and not mention that the pig has something to say? No, I don't think that's a good argument.

Slavery was an intrinsic part of Southern heritage. Propertied white people loved having slaves. That was something they were all used to and they even fought a war to keep them. But that view did not take into account the desires of the slaves, who didn't want to be slaves. In the same way, animals don't want to be eaten.

There seems to be an emphasis in the current animal liberation movement on male-defined philosophy and science, and on male academicians—even though women are the backbone of the movement. Emotions are for "little old ladies in tennis shoes," but not for a sophisticated movement that's to be taken seriously. However, in her article, "Dominance and Control," author Gene Corea discusses the necessity of dismantling patriarchy and sounds a warning to women that we "betray ourselves in our work for the animals" when we adopt "artificial male language." Please comment.

I read her article and I agree absolutely. I think the feeling that the animal rights movement and a lot of other movements are dominated by white men who have a very dispassionate, rational, linear way of approaching reality keeps away a lot of passionate Third World people who are really sick of that. That's gotten us where we are today, which is on the edge of extinction.

Who needs this? Who wants this? Who cares about trying to sit under that kind of tutelage—condescending, cold, cut off from feelings? Wherever I go, I take my passion. It's part of me. The whole thing is what you get. In any case, it's what I keep.

Think of it this way. During the enslavement of black people in this country, white women were required to look on the most savage beatings and also to administer some of them. White women

continued on page 56

INTERVIEW



"Mother and child, yes, but sisters really," says Alice about her daughter Rebecca.

— 1984 L.A. Hyder

COMING SOON

♦ **ENDING DOG AND CAT OVERPOPULATION** is not only a desirable goal in itself, it would release the talent, energy, and much of the funding of America's 3,500 animal shelters to work on other forms of animal abuse. Progressive humane organizations are developing creative strategies to deal with the tragedy of homeless animals.

♦ **HUMANE EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN** is usually recognized as the key to a better future for animals. Yet, most animal shelters are engulfed by the dog and cat overpopulation problem, with few resources left over for humane education programs. How and why individual activists should invest in this important work.

♦ **PET-THERAPY PROGRAMS** have been established by many humane societies with great enthusiasm, but little serious evaluation. Why human service agencies, rather than animal welfare organizations, should bear the major burden of providing these services.

NETWORK NOTES

Animal Airwaves

Shelton Walden hosts a monthly radio program on animal rights and religion on WBAI-FM in New York City. Past guests have included philosopher Tom Regan, author Steven Rosen, and the Reverend Carolyn Michael-Riley of the Unity Church in Huntington, N.Y. Cassette tapes of previous broadcasts are available for \$5 each. For more information, contact: Shelton Walden, WBAI Radio, 505 8th Ave., New York, NY 10018; (212) 279-0707. ♦ Cultural Media Services, Inc.—producers of "Food for the Thoughtful," a syndicated radio program exploring current dietary trends and their effects on health and the environment—is considering launching a radio series devoted exclusively to animal rights. Ideas for programs and funding may be directed to: Jay Wagner, director, Cultural Media Services, Inc., P.O. Box 1598, Soquel, CA 95073; (408) 476-8797.

Ministries for Animals

The International Society for Religion and Animal Rights, an organization which encourages exploration of animal rights issues by members of religious groups, recently changed its name to Ministries for Animals. The group has initiated an interdenominational resolution on animal rights, which recently saw successful passage by the Northern California Board of Rabbis. Unitarian and Hare Krishna groups have also passed versions of the resolution. For more information on these efforts, contact: Joan Clair, Ministries for Animals, 1798 Scenic Ave. Box 543, Berkeley, CA 94709.

New Endeavors

Humanitarian Books was recently founded for the purpose of acquiring rare books, pamphlets, and ephemera relating to the history of animal protection and humane thought and making them available to activists and organizations. Search services are also provided for those with specific titles in mind. For a list of currently available titles, write to: Humanitarian Books, 600 East Phil-Elena St., Philadelphia, PA 19119; or call (215) 848-5121.

EDITED BY LESLIE PARDUE



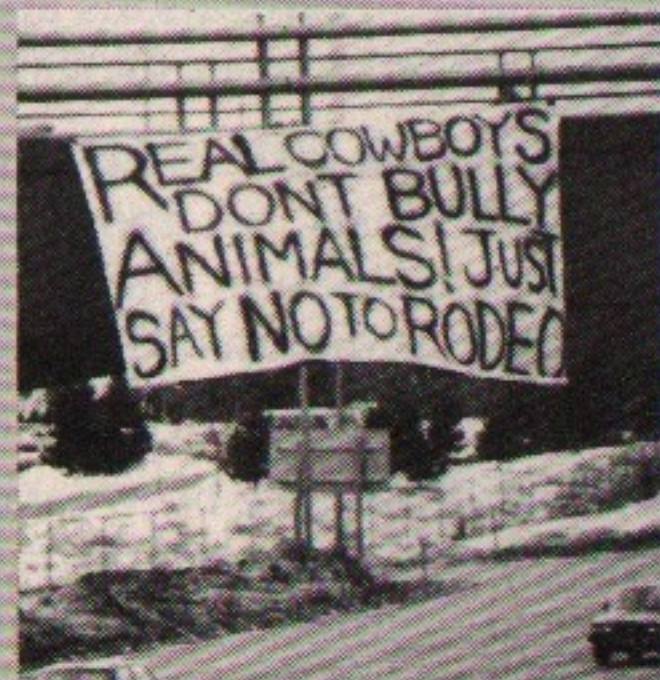
Tim Sullivan of the Bergen Co. SPCA checks out the Docktor Pet Center's license.

Memorial Day for Animals

Activists in the San Francisco Bay Area are organizing a "Memorial Day for Animals," a day of action to call attention to the use of animals in military research projects, to take place Sunday, June 5. A demonstration is being planned for the Letterman Army Institute of Research in San Francisco, with possible additional sites to be announced. For more information, contact Bob O'Brien at: Vigil for Animals, P.O. Box 18134, San Francisco, CA 94118; (415) 752-4688.

They Said "Whoa" to Rodeo

Independent activists made a highly visible statement against the National Western Stock Show and Rodeo—the largest event of its kind in the nation—on January 20. Anonymous animal advocates draped two huge banners condemning rodeo cruelty over the railings of overpasses on Interstate 25, where they were visible to thousands of motorists for most of the day. The activists also distributed leaflets and placed anti-rodeo stickers in public locations on the rodeo grounds.



An informative overpass.

Pet Shop Scandals

Two pet shops in the Northeast were recently subjects of investigations by authorities who were tipped off to the situations by conscientious consumers. The Animal Kingdom II pet shop in East Haven, Conn. was slapped with a canine quarantine order by the state Department of Agriculture after numerous reports surfaced of puppies and dogs becoming sick and/or dying days after having been purchased from the shop. The state has scheduled hearings to consider revoking the shop's license to operate as a result of the scandal. Meanwhile, a Docktor Pet Center in Paramus, N.J. has been charged with 314 counts of cruelty to animals for overcrowding, lack of sanitation, and failure to provide veterinary care for a dying puppy. Unfortunately, dismal conditions for dogs and cats raised to be sold in pet shops seem to be the rule rather than the exception. Activists are encouraged to look into conditions at local pet shops, and follow up with reports to authorities if there is evidence of abuse or neglect. Those seeking a companion dog or cat should be urged to obtain one from a local animal shelter rather than supporting the puppy mills and the pet trade by purchasing pet shop animals.

In Good Company

The Australian Association for Humane Research can supply animal protection organizations with bulk orders of "In Good Company," a booklet of anti-vivisection quotes from famous people, at wholesale prices. Contact the group at: P.O. Box 356, Broadway, New South Wales 2007, Australia.

Upcoming Events

A Wisconsin Animal Rights Convention, sponsored by the National Alliance for Animal Legislation's Educational Fund, will be held on Saturday, April 9. For details, write to P.O. Box 83122, Milwaukee, WI 53223; or call the Alliance at: (703) 684-0654. ♦ The Mid-Atlantic Regional Office of the Humane Society of the U.S. is offering two one-day workshops on humane solutions to wildlife problems on April 13 and 14 in East Windsor, N.J. For information, contact Nina Austenberg at (201) 927-5611. ♦ Several Pennsylvania animal protection groups are sponsoring a day-long seminar and series of workshops on animal rights issues on April 30 at the Community College of Allegheny County. For details, call (412) 381-5020. ♦ The American Humane Association's third annual Executive Training Program for chief administrators of animal care and control organizations will take place April 10-14 in Wayzata, Minnesota. Call (303) 695-0811 for more information. ♦ The Alliance for Animals in Virginia is sponsoring its second annual animal rights symposium on April 30 in Virginia Beach. Contact Doreen Dykes at (804) 464-5284 for details.

Pageants to Continue Using Furs

Officials of Miss Universe, Inc. (which stages the Miss USA, Miss Teen USA, and Miss Universe contests) have reversed their previous decision not to give away fur coats as prizes to contestants—prompting Bob Barker to resign after 21 years as pageant emcee, sacrificing the job's six-figure paycheck. Meanwhile, the furriers' Fur Farm Animal Welfare [sic] Coalition has announced that former Miss America Jacquelyn Mayer Townsend will act as a liaison between furriers and pageant officials, helping the Coalition "inform pageant contestants about fur agriculture and the true meaning of the animal rights movement," according to *Fur Age Weekly*. Readers wishing to express their views about the pageant officials' decision may write to: George Honchar, president, Miss Universe, Inc., 6420 Wilshire Blvd. #1920, Los Angeles, CA 90048.

Cast a Vote for Animals

Ballot initiatives and bond issues which come before voters in many communities often have repercussions, good and bad, which affect animals. Check into those issues appearing on your local ballot, and contact the League of Women Voters to place a pro or con position in the local voters' guide. Examples of such ballot initiatives and bond issues might include: proposals for aquarium or zoo construction; allocation of funds for parks development; various environmental issues; and proposals supporting organizations which fund animal research.

Hollywood Shuffle

Carmelita Pope, director of the Hollywood office of the American Humane Association (AHA), recently announced her retirement from the organization. The office was hit last year with allegations of inadequate monitoring of the treatment of chimps used in the production of the movie *Project X* (see our story on the controversy in the September 1987 issue's *Animal Newsline* section). Some speculate that the storm of negative publicity stemming from the allegations is the impetus for Pope's retirement, though Pope asserts that she just wants "to be free of the nine-to-five drudgery." The recently-formed Coalition to Protect Animals in Entertainment wants to see AHA relieved of its job of monitoring the use of animals by the entertainment industry altogether, due to the organization's handling of the *Project X* case. Carol



Carmelita Pope.

Moulton, associate director of AHA's animal protection division, says that the Hollywood office will be renamed the Los Angeles office, and will hire a new director and an animals-in-entertainment specialist. AHA also plans to provide training to other agencies and groups on the monitoring of the film industry's use of animals, says Moulton.

MEAT IS DEAD

Stick it to 'em.

Meat is Dead

A slogan for the vegetarian movement? These succinct and to-the-point bumper stickers say it all. They're available for \$1 each from: Trans-Species Unlimited, P.O. Box 1553, Williamsport, PA 17703. The group offers discount prices on the stickers to grassroots groups to assist in their fundraising efforts.

Lower Education

Dr. Ned Buyukmihci, a veterinary professor at the University of California at Davis (UCD) and co-founder of the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights, recently lost his position as course leader for Veterinary Ophthalmology at UCD because he offered students ethical alternatives to cutting up live, healthy animals to learn surgical techniques. Buyukmihci, a board-certified veterinary ophthalmologist, has received ratings ranging from above average to excellent from students who have previously taken his course. He offered students surgical training using cadavers or animals already diagnosed with terminal diseases, but these options were not favored by UCD's curriculum committee. Though UCD talks a good line on the development of nonanimal alternatives, its actions speak louder than its words. Animal advocates are encouraged to protest UCD's decision by writing to: Dean Rhode, School of Veterinary Medicine, UCD, Davis, CA 95616.

State Agency Wages War on Wildlife

Two years ago, the Board of Supervisors of Santa Cruz County, Calif. passed an ordinance banning the sale and use of leghold traps. In the fall of 1987, the California State Attorney General John Van de Camp upheld the county's ban, asserting that county bans do not conflict with state wildlife regulations because counties have the right to legislate in matters of public safety. However, the California Department of Fish and Game (the same agency which pushed last year for a renewed trophy hunt of mountain lions in the state) is reportedly considering suing Santa Cruz County in an attempt to overturn the ordinance. Activists, especially Californians, are urged to contact the agency and voice their opinions about the use of taxpayers' funds to pay for costly litigation against Santa Cruz County, to the detriment of California wildlife. Write to: E.G. Hunt, Wildlife Management Chief, California Department of Fish and Game, 3211 S St., Sacramento, CA 95816; and to: Gov. George Deukmejian, State Capitol, Room 250, Sacramento, CA 95814. The Governor must approve the agency's request for the lawsuit.



Victims of vanity.

Draize Bill Passes N.J. Senate

A bill to ban the infamous Draize eye irritancy test (used to test cosmetics and household products) is under consideration in the New Jersey state legislature. The bill has already passed the Senate, and now moves to the state Assembly. New Jersey residents are urged to contact their Assemblypersons in support of the bill (S. 109). For more information, contact: New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance, P.O. Box 703, Woodbridge, NJ 07095; (201) 855-9092.

Sanctuary Sabotage

Beaversprite Sanctuary, a 1,200-acre private wildlife haven in New York state, was established in the 1930s by animal advocate Dorothy Richards. In 1986, Richards donated the sanctuary to the Erdman Trust, which was set up to support wildlife preservation efforts. Now, unfortunately, the original purpose of the sanctuary is being undermined. The Erdman Trust hired managers for the sanctuary who are hunters (one, Larry Watkins, even authored a book called *A Guide to Adirondack Deer Hunting*—marketed using the sanctuary's name and address). Friends of Beaversprite, a local group of concerned citizens, is asking for protest letters be sent to those administering the Erdman Trust, requesting new managers for Beaversprite who have the animals' best interests at heart. Write to: Edward Montgomery, Chairperson, Mellon Bank (East), P.O. Box 7899, Philadelphia, PA 19101. Friends of Beaversprite may be reached at: Box 591, Little Falls, NY 13365.

Sturla Resigns From UCB Animal Care Committee

Kim Sturla, director of society services for the Peninsula Humane Society, resigned from the University of California at Berkeley's (UCB) Committee for the Protection of Animal Subjects in November. Sturla, the lone animal advocate on the committee, asserts that, "Unlike any other committee member, I've had to battle for my right to vote as I wanted on protocols. Even my minority reports would have been selectively edited had I not walked into a meeting in which the committee was editing one of my reports, striking comments they felt unsuitable... [the committee] is a rubber stamp committee to sidetrack the issues of animal abuse and use in the UCB laboratories." Sturla was harassed and publicly ridiculed by committee members and UCB officials for her careful scrutiny of research proposals. Her resignation means that only one member of the committee remains who is not affiliated with the university. A representative to fill the "animal welfare" vacancy on the committee is expected to be chosen soon.



— Leonard Lee Rue

Downtown and All Around Town:

The Plight of Urban Animals

BY GUY HODGE

Eugene Scheiffelin, a classical literature buff, decided to acquaint Americans with all the species of birds mentioned in the writings of William Shakespeare. On the morning of March 6, 1890, Scheiffelin halted his carriage in New York City's Central Park, opened four large birdcages, and watched in delight as 80 starlings—imported from Europe—flew skyward. From a biological perspective, Scheiffelin's starlings have been an overwhelm-

ing success: today, North America supports a naturalized starling population estimated at 900 million. But in the eyes of many humans, starlings—with their disagreeable habit of gathering in noisy roosts and creating a stench with their droppings—are nothing more than "nuisances." The unfortunate outcome of Eugene Scheiffelin's good intentions is symbolic of many of the conflicts that now exist between humans and other animals.

The human species has an unparalleled ability to manipulate its environment. And in the process of altering the environment, people sometimes provide or create conditions so ideal for certain animals that they attain population levels that could never be reached under natural conditions.

Robert Dorney, an urban planner at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, divides the urban ecosystem into a central core (downtown), fringe areas zoned for urban development, and outer fringes with residential dwellings. He has found that even among the congested buildings and pavements of the inner city, wild animals find ways to survive. Species whose territorial needs are easy to satisfy may only need a small patch of land with ground cover, shrubs, or trees.

Some wild animals reside in metropolitan areas not by choice but because—due to human encroachment on their habitat—there is simply no other place for them to go. If the animals are fortunate, they will find in the urban landscape a reasonable facsimile of their "natural" habitat. A skyscraper may substitute for cliffs, and an attic for a tree cavity.

But homeowners quickly turn hostile when wild animals move into buildings or try to restake their claims to the land. In suburbia, mortgage payments—not the laws of nature—determine possession of property. It seems that territorial disputes with wild animals can cause considerable aggravation for even the most tolerant human residents. Woodpeckers damage homes, raccoons tear into garbage bags, geese foul golf courses, and automobiles collide with deer. When the inconvenience, the monetary price of damage, and human safety concerns are added to the low respect generally accorded to nonhuman animals in our culture, it is not surprising that "a call to arms" is often the human response to the appearance of a wild intruder.

A "pest" is in the eye of the beholder

In professional circles, the troublesome wildlife species are classified as "nuisance" or "pest" wildlife. The list of animals so categorized includes such well-known urban dwellers as squirrels, raccoons, opossums, pigeons, rats, mice, skunks, woodpeckers, deer, snakes, and bats. Yet most of them are relatively inoffen-

sive creatures. The opossum, for example, causes little trouble, but is often the subject of anxious telephone calls to animal shelters because of the animal's rat-like appearance.

So troublesome do humans deem pigeons, squirrels, and their kin, that an entire industry with its own professional staff, tools, lingo, and literature has arisen. There are at least 15,000 "pest control" companies in the U.S. According to the National Pest Control Association in Vienna, Va., some 2.4 million households employ professional exterminators each year just to kill mice and rats. In 1984, the most recent year for which statistics are available, Americans paid the "pest control" companies and chemical manufacturers more than \$2.8 billion to rid themselves of unwelcome creatures.

Most exterminators are technicians trained only in the archaic practices of deploying poisons, snap traps, and glueboards to kill animals. But a few communities—such as Bloomfield, N.J., and Columbia, Md.—are served by a new breed of exterminator who specializes in urban wildlife control. Known as "urban trappers," their principal function is to remove animals



A gray squirrel finds a water source in New York's Central Park.

unharmful from within buildings and return them to the wild.

Unfortunately, many people are more interested in their own convenience and comfort than the fate of urban wildlife. They are unwilling to spend a few extra dollars to relocate the offending animals. Execution is still viewed as an acceptable and expedient way to deal with these "undesirables." But there may be another motive behind the "pest control" industry's reliance on traps. It is, after all, a profit-making enterprise. These entrepreneurs know that without remedial measures to actually solve the problem, there will be a perpetual demand for their services.

Former presidential candidate Eugene McCarthy wrote in the February 14, 1981 issue of *The New Republic* about the strategies of some "pest control" companies: "Pigeon experts know that pigeons cannot be exterminated. At most they can be moved about. The greatest American practitioner of the science of moving pigeons about was one Lewis Neid of St. Paul, Minnesota. The Neid technique might not work in Washington, but it was perfect for St. Paul. At the height of Neid's career, St. Paul had only three tall buildings—the State Capitol on a hill to the north, the Archdiocesan Cathedral on a hill to the northwest, and the First National Bank building on what was called the upper levee. Neid hired himself out as pigeon remover to church, state, and commerce, but never to all three simultaneously. In this way, the pigeons always had a safe haven in at least one of the three buildings, while each of the three great estates of St. Paul could feel that they were rid of pigeons most of the time."

The case against killing

Our pioneering forebears had a simple answer to troublesome animals: they killed any wild animal who got in their way. Today, our responses are more sophisticated, but no less arbitrary and lethal. The shelves of most hardware stores are stocked with harpoon traps that impale gophers and moles on metal spikes, snap traps that send metal bars crashing across bodies of mice or rats, and an array of potent poisons.

There are no legal impediments against taking up arms against urban wildlife. Homeowners can destroy "nuisance" animals with virtual im-

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punity. For example, under Section 11-0523 of the New York State Fish and Wildlife Law, most wild animals (except deer, beavers, muskrats, and some species of birds) may be destroyed by owners or occupants of dwellings or property when these animals are injuring property or causing a nuisance. Some states require that during the closed season on the exempted "game" species the homeowner obtain a special permit. But, in truth, few citizens bother with the formalities of checking into wildlife laws before killing bothersome animals.

The irony in the way people deal with nuisance animals is that it is both unnecessary and futile. Wild animals move into neighborhoods because they have been offered, albeit unwittingly, a comfortable haven. As long as suitable accommodations remain, other animals will take the place of those who perish.

Attitudes toward wildlife

A "pest" animal has been described as "an animal that is noxious, destructive or troublesome to man [sic] or to his interests." It is convenient to designate animals as "good" or "bad," "ally" or "pest." But such definitions are, of course, a matter of perception. Animals become "pests" only when someone views them as such.

Because the public ultimately determines "pest control" policy, progressive animal defense organizations are emphasizing the positive role of wildlife, and promoting a greater understanding of wildlife problems. Last year, The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) initiated a series of one-day seminars on "Humane Solutions to Nuisance Wildlife Problems," designed to familiarize personnel in animal shelters and nature centers with humane methods of managing "nuisance" wildlife so that they can serve as pro-animal emissaries. The next seminar will be held April 14, 1988, in East Windsor, N.J. For information, contact the HSUS Mid-Atlantic Regional Office at (201) 927-5611.

State wildlife departments are finally taking an interest in the effort to protect urban wildlife. The Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission has assigned three wildlife biologists to promote greater public understanding of native animals found in cities. One of the team's duties is to work with ci-

In suburbia, mortgage payments—not the laws of nature—determine possession of property.



Many buildings have ornate features that provide resting or nesting places for pigeons.

ty planners and builders in preserving greenbelts for wildlife within residential and commercial developments.

Strategies for control and coexistence

Many wild animals—given the proper food source, water, and cover—can make homes among humans. When wild creatures overpopulate or otherwise "get out of hand," the situation is usually attributable to human carelessness in food storage or failure to properly design and maintain buildings.

In most cases, the damage caused by wild animals is avoidable. There are few simple solutions to dealing with wildlife, but there are intelligent choices. Urban wildlife biologists now

preach a concept called "integrated pest management," or IPM. The goal of IPM is to alter the habitat so that it becomes inhospitable, supports fewer animals, or attracts preferred species.

IPM can be achieved by physically excluding wildlife, conditioning them to avoid the area, or inhibiting their breeding. As unorthodox as it sounds, the homeowner or building superintendent should sit down and try to think like one of these "pests," and figure out why the animals are there. Most wild animals are territorial: the individual animal remains in a certain area (the home range) because that site meets requirements for food and shelter. In order to design a course of corrective action, one must identify entryways, pathways, and food caches

Continued on page 16

ADVERTISEMENT

World Laboratory Animal Liberation Week

April 18 • April 24

Coast to Coast • Campus to Campus

World Laboratory Animal Liberation Week is only days away, and we need *your* help. *Now.*



We want the upcoming demonstrations, marches, vigils and other protests to be the largest direct action demonstrations in the history of our movement. And the largest show of support for the animals. *Ever.*

Direct Action - one of the most effective tools we have for stopping animal torture and mutilation - depends on *you*. Last April 24, thousands of people who care about animals demonstrated ... and hundreds were arrested during nonviolent direct action for the animals.

At latest count, protests will be taking place in nearly every major city in the nation. Activities are scheduled for every day throughout the week and weekend.

Find out what's happening in *your* community ... then join in!

UPDATE

Join the protest at the NIH campus in Bethesda, MD on April 21.

Please contact an animal rights/protection group in your community or:

In Defense of Animals

21 Tamal Vista Blvd. • Corte Madera, CA 94925 • (415) 924-4454



I'm unable to participate in World Laboratory Animal Liberation Week, so I'm supporting activists who can. Please use every dollar of my donation for activities directly related to World Laboratory Animal Liberation Week.

☐ \$15 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$35 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100

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used by the animals. With a minimum of effort, humans can adapt to—or even choose—their animal neighbors.

Animal-proofing

A wide variety of tactics and tools can be used to evict and keep out unwanted animals, or to mitigate the damage they may cause. But physical barriers, such as fences or nets, are the tools of preference for most conflicts between humans and wildlife—the only ones that provide permanent relief.

The process of animal-proofing starts with repairs. Broken windows should be replaced, and torn screens should be mended. Windows on vacant buildings should be covered with boards. To discourage animals from entering a building, block or screen all holes and openings larger than one-quarter of an inch. Make certain that building materials are resistant to gnawing or prying; patch cracks in concrete and masonry with mortar; replace or cover wood surfaces that contain holes with galvanized sheet metal or heavy gauge (one-quarter inch mesh) hardware cloth; and tightly fasten floor drains.

Many buildings have ornate features which offer nooks where pigeons or other birds can rest or nest. Sometimes, simple modifications will sufficiently alter a structure so that it no longer can be inhabited by birds. Pigeons, for example, prefer to perch on a flat surface. By sloping a ledge with wood blocks or sheet metal, it can be made difficult for pigeons to maintain their footing. If the angle of

the ledge is adjusted to 60 degrees or greater, birds will slide off the surface when they land.

Monofilament lines or stainless steel wires can also be used to exclude birds from ledges, railings, and roof-tops. Birds who attempt to return to the perch strike the line, behave as if they are startled, and leave.

Netting constructed of weatherproof synthetic fiber (which won't corrode, rot, or rust) provides a ready-made barrier that has wide application in

When wild creatures overpopulate or otherwise "get out of hand," the situation is usually attributable to human carelessness in food storage or failure to properly design and maintain buildings.

the control of birds, and it can be used to bird-proof virtually any type of structure. Netting can also be used to prevent birds from roosting or nesting in trees and to protect garden vegetables. It is sufficiently rigid and has mesh openings large enough to prevent birds from becoming entangled. Netting was originally developed to protect fruit crops such

as grapes and blueberries from raids by birds. In tests, netting reduced bird damage to crops from 90 to 99 percent, and it is equally effective in ridding human-made structures of avian occupants.

To evict birds from window ledges, the netting can be anchored to the roof, draped across the front of the structure, and then secured to the base of the building. Netting can also be used to secure loading dock doors and other entryways that must remain open. It is installed in overlapping strips so as to form a protective curtain which parts to allow the passage of personnel and vehicles, and then falls back into place to seal out the birds.

Porcupine wire, as its name suggests, is a strip of metal with protruding prongs with barbed tips. Laid in parallel rows, it can be used to keep pigeons and other birds away from ledges. Birds are unable to maintain their footing on the metal strips, and, therefore, avoid sites where this product is installed. Despite its menacing appearance, porcupine wire is apparently harmless to birds.

Creative repellants

There are a number of chemical products registered for use as animal repellants. They include substances that are offensive to an animal's senses of taste, smell, and touch. For example, an application of coal tar, copper oxalate, or thiram sprayed directly onto ornamental shrubs will render them distasteful. In concocting repellants, homeowners are limited only by their imagination, but caution must be exercised to assure that the brew is not harmful. A safe deer repellant formula calls for one tablespoon of hot pepper sauce mixed with a gallon of water containing an additive that promotes moisture retention (such as *Wilt-Pruf* or *Vapor-Gard*).

Any unusual noise or movement can startle animals and cause them to retreat. Acoustical or sound-based repellents are designed to convey a message of stress, alarm, or imminent danger to animals, causing them to flee the area. This line of tools includes recorded distress calls, predator calls, firecrackers, wind chimes, and portable radios. Noisemaking devices are useful when quick, temporary relief is needed—such as when blackbirds attempt to establish a winter roost in someone's yard, or when a homeowner wants to evict a

Continued on page 18



Mouse-Proofing Your House

BY MERRITT CLIFTON

Every house is a mouse-house. Cats or no cats, and regardless of how many floors you live above ground level, you may get mice sooner or later. They can arrive on their own, or with things you bring in. They'll zip up heating ducts and the insides of walls. They'll slide down vent pipes for plumbing. They're probably present already. If you think you live in a mouse-free house, it's probably just a mouse-safe house.

Mice will accommodate themselves to your dwelling whether or not you accommodate yourself to them. Their flexible bones enable them to squeeze through cracks and holes no wider than your fingers. They can eat almost anything. They reproduce so fast that a single pair can produce 36,000 offspring in a year—if all offspring reproduce at maximum rate.

They're cute, but they're neither pleasant nor healthy to live with—spoiling food with their nibblings, soiling clean clothes and dishes. Traditionally, getting rid of mice has involved the cruelty of traps and poisons—methods endangering not only the rodents but companion animals and perhaps even small children.

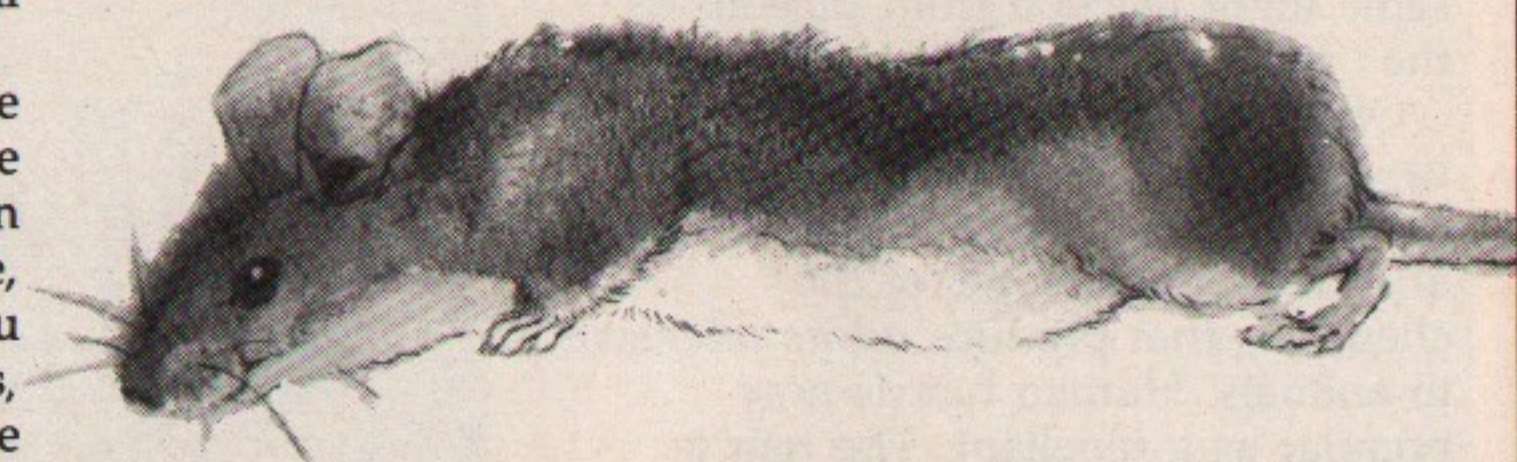
Yet there is another way—the common sense way. While many houses have mice, most houses have so few that they're never noticed. Their population (and breeding ratio) is held in check by restricted food supply. When you begin noticing mice, they're probably experiencing a population explosion. When you see nibblings in your food and droppings in your cupboards, you're noticing the end effect of a cycle that began when the household food supply for mice somehow dramatically increased. The mice bred in response, ate their way out of that food supply, and now are actively seeking another.

You won't restore balance without inconveniencing or displacing the mice, but you can do it without being cruel. This will entail cutting off the food so that most of the mice have to hit the road—which they will do promptly.

First, review your food storage practices. Grains, sugar, candies, pasta, nuts, dry pet foods, etc. should be kept in lidded glass or metal jars, not in paper or plastic bags and containers. Bread belongs in a breadbox, not out on a counter. Dribbles around the mouths of syrup jugs and jam jars should be washed off before the containers are put away, and margarine dishes should always be covered. Mice won't normally eat fruit if the skin is unbroken; if it is broken, refrigerate it. Potatoes, onions,

and other root vegetables are difficult to mouse-proof, but they can be kept in a mouse-proof cupboard or the refrigerator. Drawers are virtually impossible to mouse-proof, so don't keep edibles there. If mice don't find food in a drawer, they may make a mess there once or twice, but they won't keep returning.

A mouse-proof cupboard is one with absolutely no cracks you can get a pencil into, especially at the top. The cupboard under your kitchen sink is probably the most mouse-vulnerable one in your whole house—give it special attention. Look for holes around pipe entrances, a crawl-space for mice between the backs of adjoining drawers and the wall, and—especially in older houses—a crawl-space between a new countertop and the original counter. Nail tin or lath over all cracks. Don't try to use caulking, as mice can chew through that in no time. You might be able to use joint cement, but it may not harden properly in an enclosed, moist space.



Also especially vulnerable in older houses are hanging cabinets, which may have settled down from the ceiling just enough to give mice a runway. Trim may disguise the settling from in front. Stick your head into the top shelf area; using a flashlight, have a good close-up look. If for some reason you can't properly mouse-proof the top shelf in a hanging cupboard, you can secure those below it by nailing a cleat to the inside of the door that overlaps the top shelf when the door is closed. This prevents mice from descending around the end of the shelf—as long as you remember to keep the door closed and latched.

After securing your kitchen, you shouldn't have to worry about a large rodent population hanging around. If they do, you have an unknown food source. If you garden, secure your seed storage. Also check the attic, eaves, woodshed, and even the corners of the basement for wild beehives. A swarm of wild bees can build enough honeycomb in an attic over a summer to feed a thousand mice all winter—if they find it. Make sure you find it first.

Mice can live on the pages of books, any kind of organic insulation, and even sawdust—for a time. But they don't like to. If that stuff is all they find, they'll nibble it for a meal in passing and be gone.

Merritt Clifton is an environmental journalist living in Vermont.



Animals Frequently Reported as "Nuisances" in the United States

Alligator	Deer	Mexican Free-tailed Bat	Pronghorn Antelope
Armadillo	Mouse	Mexican Vole Mink	Rattlesnake
Bald Eagle	Dog (feral)	Mississippi Kite	Raccoon
Badger	Elk	Mole	Red Fox
Beaver	Golden Eagle	Montane Vole	Red Wolf
Black Bear	Gray Fox	Mountain Lion	Roof Rat
Black-footed	Gray Wolf	Mule Deer	Salamander
Ferret	Hog (feral)	Muskrat	Short-tailed Weasel
Black-tailed Deer	Hooded Skunk	Norway Rat	Shrew
Big Brown Bat	House Cat (feral)	Nutria	Snapping Turtle
Bobcat	House Mouse	Opossum	Soft Shell Turtle
Cliff Swallow	Jackrabbit	Pallid Bat	Starling
Coot	Kangaroo Rat	Pigeon	Spotted Skunk
Cotton Rat	Least Weasel	Pine Vole	Striped Skunk
Cottontail Rabbit	Little Brown Bat	Pocket Gopher	Water Vole
Cowbird	Long-tailed Vole	Porcupine	White-footed Mouse
Coyote	Long-tailed Weasel	Prairie Dog	White-tailed Deer
Crayfish	Meadow Vole	Prairie Vole	Woodchuck
Crow			Woodrat

Continued from page 16

raccoon from an attic just long enough to seal the entryway. But such scare tactics will not bring a permanent end to a conflict with wildlife. Animals can become habituated to a sound and, after a period of time, ignore it or move only a short distance away.

Visual repellants are designed to frighten animals away. Visual stimuli include mirrors, pie tins, floodlights, strobe lights, flares, lanterns, revolving lights, colored flags, balloons, scarecrows, kites, strips of paper, flags, tinkling cans, and colored rags. Like noisemakers, visual repellants are most useful in situations in which temporary relief is the objective. They are best suited for use in protecting vegetable gardens and in encouraging migratory species to continue on their way.

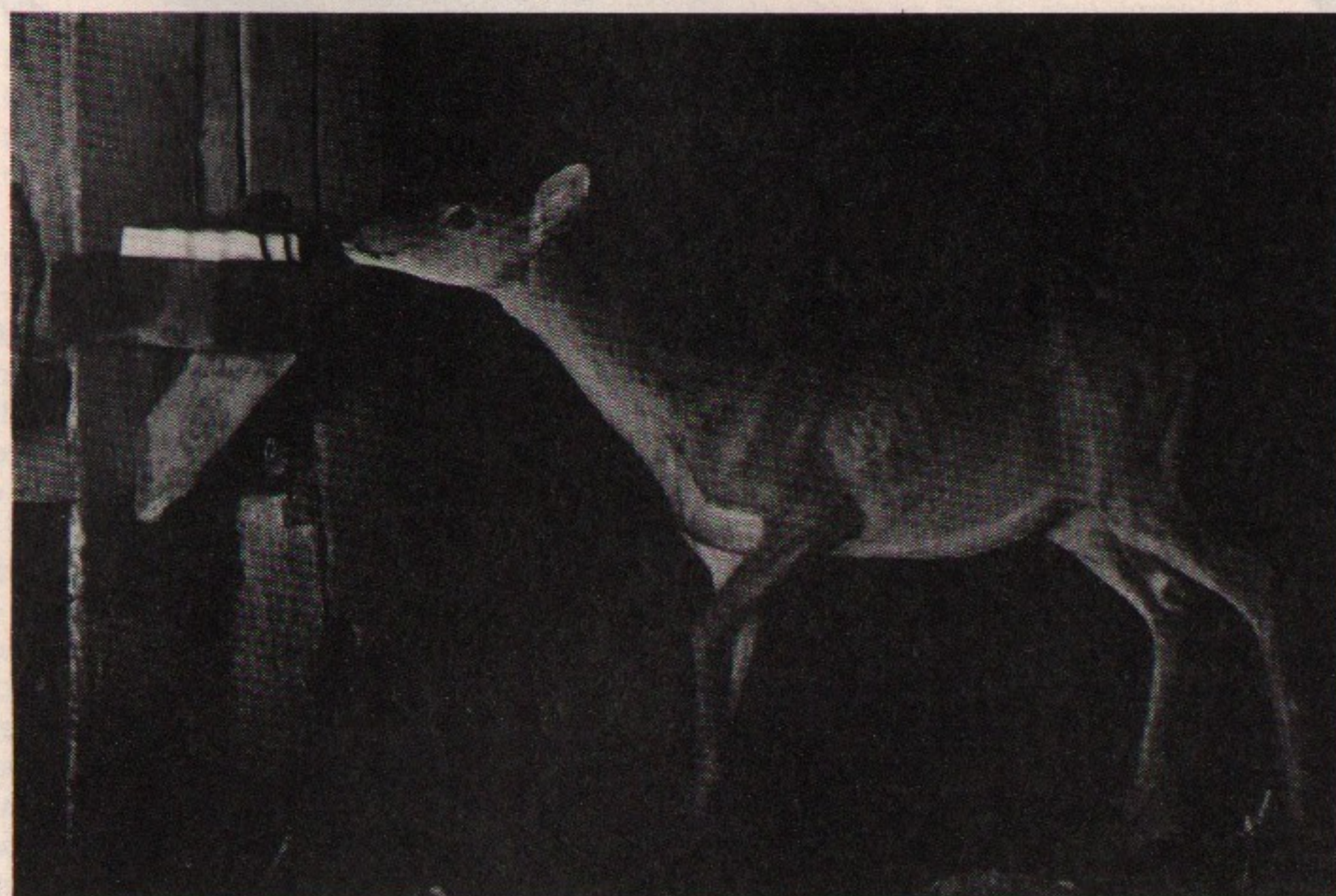
Inanimate reproductions of hawks, snakes, owls, and other predators—termed facsimiles or effigies—serve as “scarecrows.” Animals instinctively flee from sites where natural predators seem to be present. Facsimiles, if realistic in appearance, often elicit the same flight reaction from pigeons as the “real thing.”

Olfactory repellants disperse animals by assaulting their sense of smell. Mothballs, moth flakes, bone tar oil, and creosote are some of the chemicals that produce odors offensive to animals. Human hair is now popular as a repellant. The hair is placed in nylon stockings or onion bags and hung on the plant to be protected. Several bags can be hung from a fence or strung around the perimeter of an area. The concept behind the use of hair is that wild animals, such as deer and rabbits, associate the human scent with danger.

Repellants are probably the most effective tools for reducing wildlife damage, especially for the private gardener, homeowner, or small-scale farmer. Success in the use of these tools is measured in the reduction of damage, not in its total elimination. The effectiveness of repellants depends, in part, on just how hungry an animal is for food, or just how desperate for shelter. In times of severe food shortage, wild animals may ignore repellants.

One of the keys to success with both scare devices or repellants is to take action at the first sign of a problem. It is difficult to break an animal's patterns of behavior or movement once they have been established.

Often the problem is not the presence of wild animals, but their numbers.



This doe has found a salt block put out for a cow.

A Survey of Wildlife Problems and Human Attitudes

Michael A. O'Donnell and Larry W. VanDruff conducted a telephone survey for the State University of New York on human responses to wildlife in urban and suburban areas. The survey, which was conducted over a period of four months in the Syracuse, New York metropolitan area, revealed that 30 percent of the households contacted had experienced a problem with local wildlife during the previous two years.

Gray squirrels and pigeons appeared to cause the most problems for city dwellers. The gray squirrel also received the most blame for problems in suburbia (where the most frequently reported problem was yard damage), but the cottontail rabbit ran a close second. Surprisingly, in light of the damage attributed to them, the rabbit and squirrel were among the most-liked animals—surpassed in esteem only by common songbirds. The order of preference for 12 wildlife groups from least to most liked was: bats, mice, snakes, skunks, pigeons, blackbirds/starlings, woodchucks, squirrels, rabbits, sparrows, blue jays, and cardinals.

O'Donnell and VanDruff discovered the urban resident to be more emotionally attached to animals than the rural resident. The two groups responded differently to wildlife problems, but only half of them attempted to solve the problems at all. Of those who did try, 45 percent were successful. Those who did not attempt a solution mainly cited a lack of knowledge of suitable methods as the reason.

The charts (at right) have been derived from data compiled in the O'Donnell/VanDruff research.

—Kim Bartlett

Making the habitat uninviting

Habitat manipulation involves altering the landscape to reduce the food, water, and cover available to animals. Tree pruning and brush removal are two of these tactics. Where starlings congregate in roosts, thinning will remove perch sites and reduce wind protection, forcing the birds to move to another site.

Most animals are secretive and prefer to move under cover of tall grass or brush. Basic yard care may be all that is needed to eliminate ground cover. Piles of brush, lumber, or other debris should be removed, and grass mowed to a height of two inches or less. The ground bordering a building should be well manicured, and dense shrubbery pruned around the base.

Birth control

Although the possibilities for wildlife birth control are relatively unexplored, the application is fundamentally sound. There is already “planned paren-

thood” for pigeons: Ornitol is registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the control of these birds. The compound produces temporary sterility and inhibits the embryo from forming within the egg; however, a two-year treatment program is required to achieve significant reductions in the number of pigeons within a town, and it must be fed to the entire population. Ornitol, therefore, is best suited for use in small urban communities. Since it does not provide immediate relief from pigeon-related problems, Ornitol is best used in conjunction with other methods of control.

Humane trapping

Trapping with cage or box traps for later release is widely advocated by animal welfarists as a technique for ridding a property of unwelcome animals. This kind of trapping is appealing as an alternative to poisons because the animal need not be harmed. But this technique, used alone, does not prevent other animals

from moving onto the site.

Whenever feasible, a captured animal should be set free within his home range rather than being moved to another location. In many instances, people are careless about the relocation of trapped animals. There is a strong possibility that those released in unfamiliar surroundings may not survive. The release site may not contain suitable habitat, or the area may already be supporting all the animals it can accommodate. At best, an animal who is uprooted and moved into unfamiliar territory is at a disadvantage in competing with other creatures for food or living space. Unless the release is well thought-out, a person's effort may be for naught. Adequate attention must be given to the selection of suitable homes.

Don't feed the animals

Urban wildlife may owe their existence, in large part, to the generosity of their human neighbors. Animals may concentrate in

continued on page 57



Repairing this fence would deny the skunk access to garden vegetables.

The Species Most Often Blamed

SPECIES	% CITY PROBLEMS	% SUBURBAN PROBLEMS
Squirrels	23.1	22.8
Rabbits	10.5	19.2
Skunks	11.9	16.0
Pigeons	19.7	3.9
Mice	7.1	7.6
Raccoons	8.1	6.0
Moles	3.4	7.1
Woodchucks	4.1	4.3
Blackbirds/Starlings	2.4	2.6
Rats	1.4	1.9
Bats	3.4	0.6
Woodpeckers	1.0	1.3
Sparrows	1.0	0.6

The Most Frequently Reported Wildlife Behavior

TYPE OF PROBLEMS	% CITY PROBLEMS	% SUBURBAN PROBLEMS
House damage	6.8	6.5
Animals inside the house	16.9	12.7
Stealing feeder food	13.6	14.9
Vegetable garden damage	13.2	18.3
Yard damage	10.5	22.6
General nuisance	39.0	25.0

Squirrels and pigeons were blamed for 50 percent of reported house damage; mice and squirrels were the animals found inside houses in 66 percent of the incidents; squirrels stole feeder food in 79 percent of the reports; rabbits caused 64 percent of vegetable garden damage; rabbits and moles were blamed for 54 percent of the yard damage; and skunks and pigeons accounted for 55 percent of general nuisance reports.

Elephants Need YOU! — An Emergency Appeal

By: Stephen Best, Vice President, International Wildlife Coalition

"When an animal is shot and has his face sawn off with a chain saw just to satisfy a demand for ivory trinkets and bangles, you cannot just sit back and accept it."

Those chilling words are from Ian Redmond, a former colleague of Dian Fossey, who is trying to stop the grisly murder of elephants for their ivory.

The enormity and cruelty of the elephant massacres is almost beyond belief. The poachers weapons include: automatic rifles, spears, snares, and poison. Their greed seems insatiable. So easy and callous is the killing that even baby elephants just three years old with tusks no larger than pencils are being slaughtered.

Kenya has a total ban on private ivory trading, but the deaths continue and the body count rises. In Kenya's Tsavo National Park, 84% of the elephants have been killed off by poachers in the last 15 years. Tragically, the situation is far, far bleaker in other African countries where elephant numbers are less than 1/10 of what they were just a few years ago. In Zambia's Luangwa Valley, an area noted for its high elephant populations, scientists estimate they are being ruthlessly and brutally killed at a rate of 9 per day. In 1976, in the national parks of the Central African Republic, there once were over 100,000 elephants. Now there are barely 9,000.

Dr. Iain Douglas-Hamilton, one of the most respected biologists studying elephants today, has just co-authored a study for the United Nations Environment Program. His words succinctly spell out the awful tragedy that is occurring.

"There are now 109,000 left, but if the 'harvest' continues at the current level the East African elephant would be finished in eight years.

"... if the offtake for ivory is not drastically reduced, we can expect to lose all the major populations of elephants in the great national parks of East Africa, other than small remnants.

"The dramatic collapses we have seen in the past decade... have been caused by ivory poachers, not by farmers taking elephant land. Some of the worst elephant catastrophes have been in 'protected' areas with no human population at all."

Last November, the British magazine, *BBC Wildlife*, carried a deeply disturbing article by Ian Redmond about the extraordinary underground elephants in Kenya's Mount Elgon National Park. Over hundreds of thousands of years, these elephants — to satisfy their need



"Elephant numbers are being drastically reduced over much of their range — and that is a direct result of the increased price of ivory and an uncontrolled ivory trade."

for salt — have been mining massive caves complexes in the mineral rich agglomerate near Mount Elgon. In the article Redmond describes his return to the park to make further scientific observations after a two year absence. The park's game wardens met him with horrific accounts of deaths and butchery.

Since February 1986 hundreds of the rare underground elephants had been killed. Indeed, there had been a virtual war between the wardens and the poachers. Military-style, the poachers had blown up bridges to hamper the work of the rangers and were even using anti-tank weapons to kill the elephants. At one point the entire park had to be closed down for three months and the army and police brought in to fight the poachers with modern helicopters and armaments. During the three months from January to March 1987, 11 poachers were captured and imprisoned, 42 elephants were killed, and uncounted numbers were wounded — only to slowly die days or even weeks later from infection or starvation. By May of 1987 it looked as if the poachers had been beaten and the elephants would be safe: the park was re-opened.

But the poachers weren't finished. On July 8th a group of Kenyan tourists visited the caves at Mount Elgon in the hopes of seeing the last of the underground elephants. They were sitting quietly just inside the mouth of the caves as dusk approached when they saw a small herd of elephants approaching. What they did not see above the mouth of the cave was a band of poachers stealthfully taking up position. As the elephants peacefully began entering the cave, the men opened fire and blasted away with small calibre automatic weapons. Screaming in terror, the tourists fled for their lives. By the time the rangers could be mobilized the poachers had disappeared into the night with the ivory. The bodies of the larger elephants were found later, their faces cut off with chain saws.

Local naturalists believe there are now only 50 elephants left out of the original 500 at Mount Elgon. These unique subterranean elephants may not survive the ivory trade's poachers.

Elephants have lived in Africa for millions of years and because they are the largest land animal, their appetites are, of course, great. They roam over large areas every day eating many different types of plants. To the casual observer, they appear to destroy young trees as they crash through the vegetation — they are in fact Africa's gardeners. They open up the forest to light so that seedlings can grow, dig up the ground turning under the decaying plant material (Nature's compost), and manure the soil — a prodigious 300 pounds per day per elephant. And they carry seeds in their dung, scattering them over a vast area.

In Namibia live the tallest elephants in the world. The area is only desert. There are no rivers and very little rainfall. The elephants find water by digging down many feet into the ground until water is reached. These 'elephant' wells are the only supply of water for other species that live in the region.

All these vital, life-giving activities are unique to the African eco-system and create a special harmony of life in Africa made possible only by the elephants. It is a harmony that the poachers and the ivory trade are destroying. In a very real sense when one saves elephants, one also helps save the African environment and all the animals it contains.

If not stopped, it is certain the ivory trade and its hired guns are going to drive the elephant to the verge of extinction as they have the rhinoceros. Ivory is being smuggled out of Africa in huge quantities, most of it going to the Far East for carving and then into the markets of the richer Western nations, particularly the United States. It is estimated that 3/4 of the ivory available today has been acquired illegally.

Saving the elephant depends on three elements. Poachers must be combated in the field. Baby elephants orphaned by the poachers attacks must be raised and re-introduced into the wild. Ivory markets must be closed down through legislation and/or consumer education.

The International Wildlife Coalition (IWC) is helping Ian Redmond and his *African Ele-Fund* stop the poachers killing the underground elephants at Mount Elgon. The warden at Mount Elgon, Mr. M.B. Amoko, reports that his most urgent need is to get his anti-poaching vehicles fully manned and back on the road. Of his 8 vehicles, 6 are off the road needing either spare parts or new tires. For anti-poaching work in Mount Elgon National Park, minimum repairs will cost \$6500 and the maintenance costs for adequate patrolling will cost \$25,000 for the year.

In Kenya's Tsavo National Park, the IWC is helping Daphne Sheldrick and orphaned elephants with food, shelter, and veterinary care. These helpless animals are alive only because they had not yet grown tusks when their families were slaughtered. Because of her years of experience in rearing wild animals, Ms. Sheldrick has been asked by the Kenyan park authorities to care for the orphaned elephants, but for the most part she is responsible for acquiring her own funding.

In Washington, Marion Newman of the IWC is working with other organizations to get a law passed that would ban the importation of ivory into the United States. If passed, Congressman Anthony Beilenson's *Elephant Protection Act* would restrict imports of ivory into the United States and would eliminate over 80% of the ivory trade.

And lastly, education. This article is the beginning of an International Wildlife Coalition campaign in the United States, Britain, and Europe to publicize what the ivory trade is doing to elephants. People must be convinced not to buy ivory. It's a simple economic fact that if consumers in the US, Britain and other European countries stop buying ivory most of the illegal and murderous butchery of elephants will stop. The ivory trade must be ended.



To finish their ruthless business as quickly as possible, poachers use chain saws to remove the entire face of the elephants they have shot.



Poachers captured and arrested, surrounded by the results of their brutal trade: elephant tusks and rhinoceros horns.



Daphne Sheldrick in Kenya caring for one of her new orphans. This baby elephant's entire family was killed by poachers.

Without more money — NOW — the understaffed, poorly equipped forces fighting ivory profiteers will be helpless to stop the trend that is going to mean the end of elephants in East Africa within eight years.

HOW YOU CAN HELP THE ELEPHANTS

- 1) Write your congressman at the House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515. Ask him or her to co-sponsor Congressman Anthony Beilenson's *Elephant Protection Act*.
- 2) Send a donation to the International Wildlife Coalition to help:
 - a) re-equip the anti-poaching teams in Mount Elgon National Park

to save the last of the underground elephants,

- b) support Daphne Sheldrick's elephant orphanage in Kenya,
- c) fund the efforts in Washington to have the Elephant Protection Act passed and the work in Europe to have similar legislation introduced, and
- d) expand the IWC public education campaign to gain more desperately needed support for the elephants and close the ivory markets.

Please send donations to:
International Wildlife Coalition
320 Gifford Street
Falmouth, MA 02540

Name _____

Address _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Amount of donation:

\$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other ☐ \$ _____

ANIMAL NEWSLINE

A Small, But Sweet, Rodeo Victory

The annual charity rodeo held by the Hayward (Calif.) Police Officers Association (HPOA) is no more, thanks to the concerted efforts of a coalition of San Francisco Bay Area animal protectionists. The five-year-old amateur event, whose participants were primarily police officers or deputy sheriffs from throughout the West, was deemed by many to be the worst of the local rodeos. Numerous animals have crashed headlong into the Rowell Ranch arena's iron bars over the years, risking serious injury. In 1987, a calf hit the fence with sufficient force to break his nose and palate. Bleeding profusely from nose and mouth and at first unable to rise, the calf was still lassoed—and was

left untreated for more than six hours despite repeated protests from spectators. The previous year, a stallion broke his leg in the chutes and was subsequently destroyed. In neither of these instances was a veterinarian present, despite assurances that one would be. Animal advocates attempting to take photographs of the injured animals were threatened both verbally and physically by rodeo stock handlers.

The HPOA rodeo also featured "greased pig scrambles"—and an event known as "steer dressing," in which women's underwear was forced over the animals' kicking hind legs. Crude comments were provided by the announcer, making the entire proceedings sound like gang rape. When complaints about the announcer's remarks were made to the all-male HPOA Board of Directors, one of them joked, "Well, there was no actual penetration."

Keys to the activists' success in closing down the rodeo were informational picket lines and a concerted letter-writing campaign to local media, city officials, rodeo sponsors, and beneficiaries (including the Special Olympics, YMCA, and Boys and Girls Clubs of Hayward). In their meetings with various city agencies, activists discussed the irony of peace officers crippling animals in order to raise funds for crippled children (many of whom were in the rodeo audience). Propitiously, an article on the connection between animal abuse in early childhood and later criminality appeared in the in-house publication *Police* magazine (July 1987), which activists sent to all concerned. This helped to advance the idea that the police were perhaps inadvertently creating future problems for society at large by encouraging animal abuse via their own local rodeo. The activists also emphasized

the joint policy statement opposing rodeos which was issued by the American Humane Association and the Humane Society of the United States, and offered to work with police on fundraisers which would not exploit animals.

Buoyed by the victory, animal advocates are now meeting with the Hayward Area Recreation District in the hopes of achieving a ban on all rodeos at the Rowell Ranch facility. Other rodeos held there include the Junior Rodeo, the Black Cowboys Rodeo, and the recently-added Gay Rodeo. The activists also plan to meet with the Alameda County Supervisors in hopes of securing an outright ban on all rodeos (standard and Mexican-style rodeos also take place elsewhere in Alameda County). If that fails, they will investigate the feasibility of a ballot initiative for a county-wide rodeo ban.

For animal advocates working to stop



rodeo abuses, the police-sponsored rodeos are a good place to start. Many states have a Police Rodeo Association—check with local police departments to find out about police rodeo activities in particular locales. For information on the successful effort in Hayward, contact:

Steve Sapontzis, c/o Hayward Friends of Animals, P.O. Box 3986, Hayward, CA 94544; (415) 783-3685.

—Eric Mills

Eric Mills works with Action for Animals in Oakland, Calif.

World Laboratory Animal Liberation Week—April 18-24

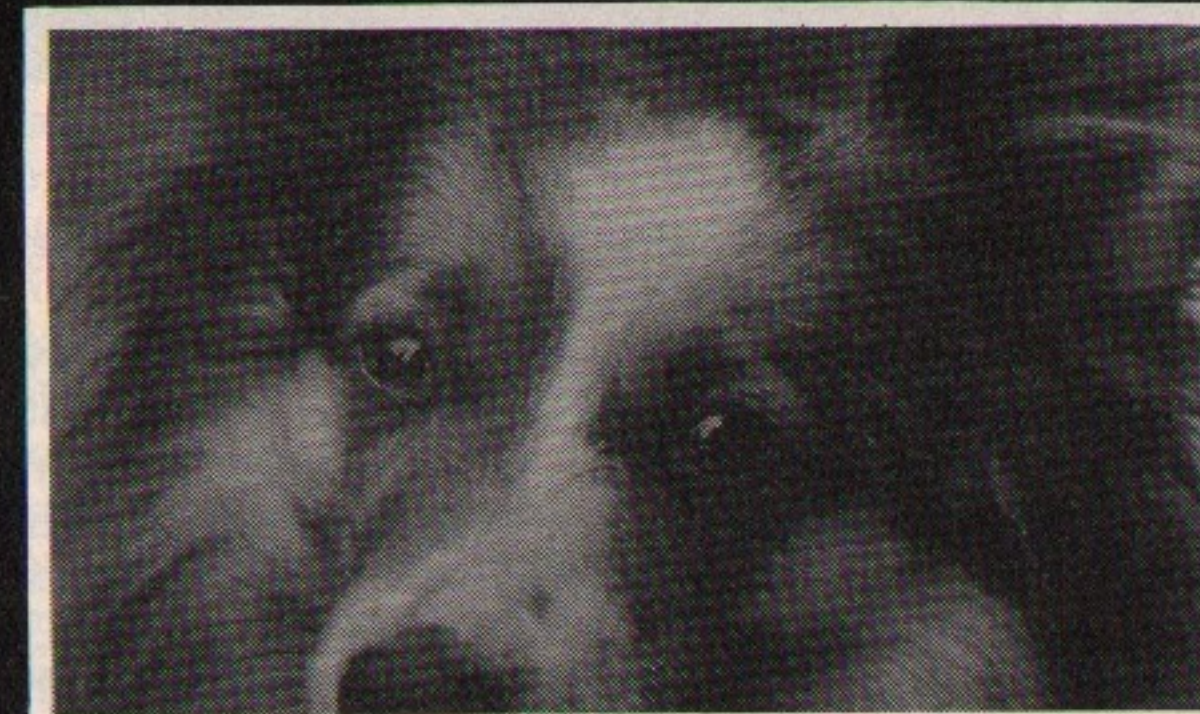
Groups and individuals around the nation working on behalf of animals are planning events in more than 50 locations in 26 states to commemorate World Laboratory Animal Liberation Week. The organization In Defense of Animals (IDA) is coordinating the actions, referring activists to contacts in their local areas. Protest sites include colleges and universities, corporations which conduct animal research, primate research centers, and military installations. Additionally, IDA is planning a major demonstration on April 21 at the National Institutes of Health. Civil disobedience actions will be included in some of the demonstrations. Some sites are still to be selected—for more information, or to add sites to the list, contact IDA at: 21 Tamal Vista Blvd., Corte Madera, CA 94925; (415) 924-4454. At press time, the following demonstration locations had been announced:

Arizona: University of Arizona. **California:** University of California (Santa Cruz, Berkeley, San Francisco, Davis, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, Irvine and San Diego campuses); Stanford University; Humboldt State University; Veterans' Administration Hospital (San Francisco); Letterman Army Institute of Research. **Colorado:** Colorado University Medical Center. **Connecticut:** Yale University; U.S. Surgical Corporation. **Florida:** University of Miami. **Georgia:** Emory University. **Illinois:** Northwestern University; University of Illinois; Chicago (site to be announced). **Indiana:** University of Indiana; Wayne State University. **Kentucky:** University of Louisville. **Louisiana:** Tulane University; Delta Regional Primate Center; Louisiana State University Medical Center. **Maine:** University of Southern Maine. **Maryland:** National Institutes of Health; National Institutes of Mental Health. **Massachusetts:** Harvard University; Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology. **Michigan:** University of Michigan. **Minnesota:** University of Minnesota. **Missouri:** University of Missouri. **North Carolina:** University of North Carolina; North Carolina State University. **New York:** Syracuse University; Albert Einstein College of Medicine; New York City (site to be announced); Downstate Medical Center; Nathan S. Klein Institute for Psychiatric Research. **Ohio:** Ohio State University; Case Western Reserve University; Rice State University. **Oregon:** Oregon Primate Research Center; University of Oregon. **Pennsylvania:** University of Pittsburgh; Philadelphia (site to be announced). **Rhode Island:** Brown University. **South Carolina:** University of South Carolina. **Tennessee:** Vanderbilt University. **Utah:** University of Utah. **Washington:** University of Washington. **Wisconsin:** Medical College of Wisconsin; University of Wisconsin; Wisconsin Primate Research Center.



—Courtesy In Defense of Animals

Activists all over the nation will make a stand for animals during World Laboratory Animal Liberation Week.



April 24th

Today we will remember you.
A few diehards will chant and shout for the animals,
stoke the fires of change,
but a slow wind feeds this fire,
and tomorrow the rest of the world will forget.

A dog, maybe a monkey, only a rat—
someone unhuman, less than human, maybe
even the same—
cries in the dark
and cannot bear another moment of pain.
He dreams of a place called home
but waking remembers it is only a dream.

Yet maybe they will think of you
with the soap they use to wash away dirt
like sins they forget or choose to ignore,
with the powders and shadows they wear to hide
truths,
or the polish they sweat over so their floors shine
just so.

Yes, the rest of the world, in its way,
does remember you but thinks nothing
of what you have given so they can have more.

Every day I remember you
and cry out to my God each night before sleep
when your face looks like mine
and the thought is too hard to bear.
What must I do? What, then, must we do?

—Judy Allen-Newberry

Is There a Future for Grizzly Bears?



— Courtesy Great Bear Foundation

Western ranching interests threaten the very survival of America's few remaining grizzly bears.

Grizzly bears (*Ursus arctos horribilis*) now survive only in six mountainous areas that add up to only one percent of the land that the bears once inhabited in the American West. Unfortunately, current Federal policy and spending may soon make the grizzlies' survival very difficult or impossible, even in their last remaining fraction of habitat. Grizzlies also face increasing decline in Canada and Alaska, despite popular belief to the contrary, but their situation is extreme in the lower 48 states.

Once there were as many as 100,000 grizzlies in the West. These bears—about two-and-a-half to three times as many as exist in Alaska today—lived in virtually every state west of the Mississippi River. There may have been as many as 10,000 grizzlies in California alone. That day is gone. Grizzlies have been extinct in California since the 1920s, as they are in almost every state that ever had them. Only 1,000 or fewer survive in the lower 48 states, primarily in Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks and on surrounding U.S. Forest Service lands. How did grizzlies fall so close to extinction, and what is their hope for a future? Answers to these questions are tied to the fate of the West itself.

The basic reason grizzlies died in the past, and the basic threat to their existence today, is human encroachment on their habitat. The historical record is clear:

where human populations move into grizzly country to take advantage of natural resources, the bears are killed in the name of human safety. Any grizzly can indeed be extremely dangerous under certain circumstances, and humans create precisely those circumstances when they flock to grizzly country and compete with resident bears for habitation.

In the early days of the "Wild West," grizzlies were primarily killed when white settlers moved domestic cattle and sheep deeper and deeper into the American frontier. To make the West safe for those burgeoning herds of livestock, the Federal government launched an extensive campaign of unbridled trapping, shooting, and poisoning of predators. Some ranchers put up bounty money to encourage killing of grizzly bears, but the vast bulk of the deliberate extermination program was carried out by Federal employees—at taxpayers' expense.

A few grizzlies are still killed today as a result of conflicts with cattle and sheep, but the largest threats to the bears now come from other sources. Grizzly country is currently being thrown open for timber cutting, mining, oil drilling, campground development, resort construction, and other human competition for use of the land. One Federal agency—the Forest Service—plays a leading role in the

spending spree that is now endangering grizzlies.

The Forest Service has authority over two-thirds of the lower 48's lands still occupied by grizzly bears. By contrast, Yellowstone National Park accounts for but twelve percent of grizzlies' last one percent of their former range, and Glacier National Park accounts for only eight percent. But the Forest Service is spending many millions of dollars to build logging roads in grizzly country all around these parks, and is also granting permits for oil drilling, gold mining, and other industrial operations detrimental to the land. All this pressure on the remaining grizzly habitat could be the kiss of death for the bear.

Is the law on the grizzly's side? Three Federal laws do have a good potential to save the bear from invasion by developers: the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Forest Management Act, and the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Much of the focus on grizzly-related law has fallen on the ESA, but this law is having problems.

The ESA has been called a "glass hammer," because it could shatter if struck hard against political opposition. Many knowledgeable conservationists say privately that the ESA is a good law that could help save grizzly bears from extinction, but that it is in danger of being weakened or repealed by politicians who

put development schemes ahead of the survival of wild species. The result is that some conservationists are afraid to apply all the strength of this law, fearing that to use it could be to lose it. It's a realistic fear, because the ESA itself is in trouble, and the grizzlies are in trouble with or without it. Even if Congress lets the law continue in its present form, grizzlies could still suffer because some people (including some officials of state and Federal agencies) are saying that the bears should be removed from the list of species the ESA protects.

What can be done to counteract the governmental and societal trends that can extinguish grizzlies forever? The key to the grizzlies' future is indeed the fate of the land they inhabit, and the future of that land will be decided by the men and women on Capitol Hill. Congress is the body of government in charge of the Federal budget, and Congress gives the Forest Service money to build expensive roads and carry out costly timber cutting programs in grizzly country. Some people say that Congress should cut the Forest Service's roadbuilding budget—a move which could benefit the Federal treasury and grizzlies alike.

Congress is presently deliberating reauthorization of the ESA, which could continue in its present form or be weakened to accommodate vested interests. Because Congress is supposed to represent the public—you—Members of Congress *do* keep track of their mail. Through letters and phone calls to Senators and Congressmembers, we can all help the grizzlies by advocating preservation of the bears' habitat and continuation of the protections afforded them under the ESA.

—Lance Olson

Lance Olson is president of The Great Bear Foundation. For more information, contact the Foundation at: P.O. Box 2699, Missoula, MT 59806; (406) 721-3009.

As we go to press, we have learned that the Endangered Species Act has passed through markup hearings in both Houses of Congress, and next moves to the floors of the House and Senate. Senator Alan Simpson (R-WY) continues to threaten final passage of the legislation, demanding that sport hunting and trapping of grizzlies and wolves be allowed in the name of "predator control." Activists should urge their Senators and Representatives to co-sponsor the reauthorization bills (H.R. 1467 and S. 675) and to reject any weakening amendments which would relax protections for threatened or endangered species.

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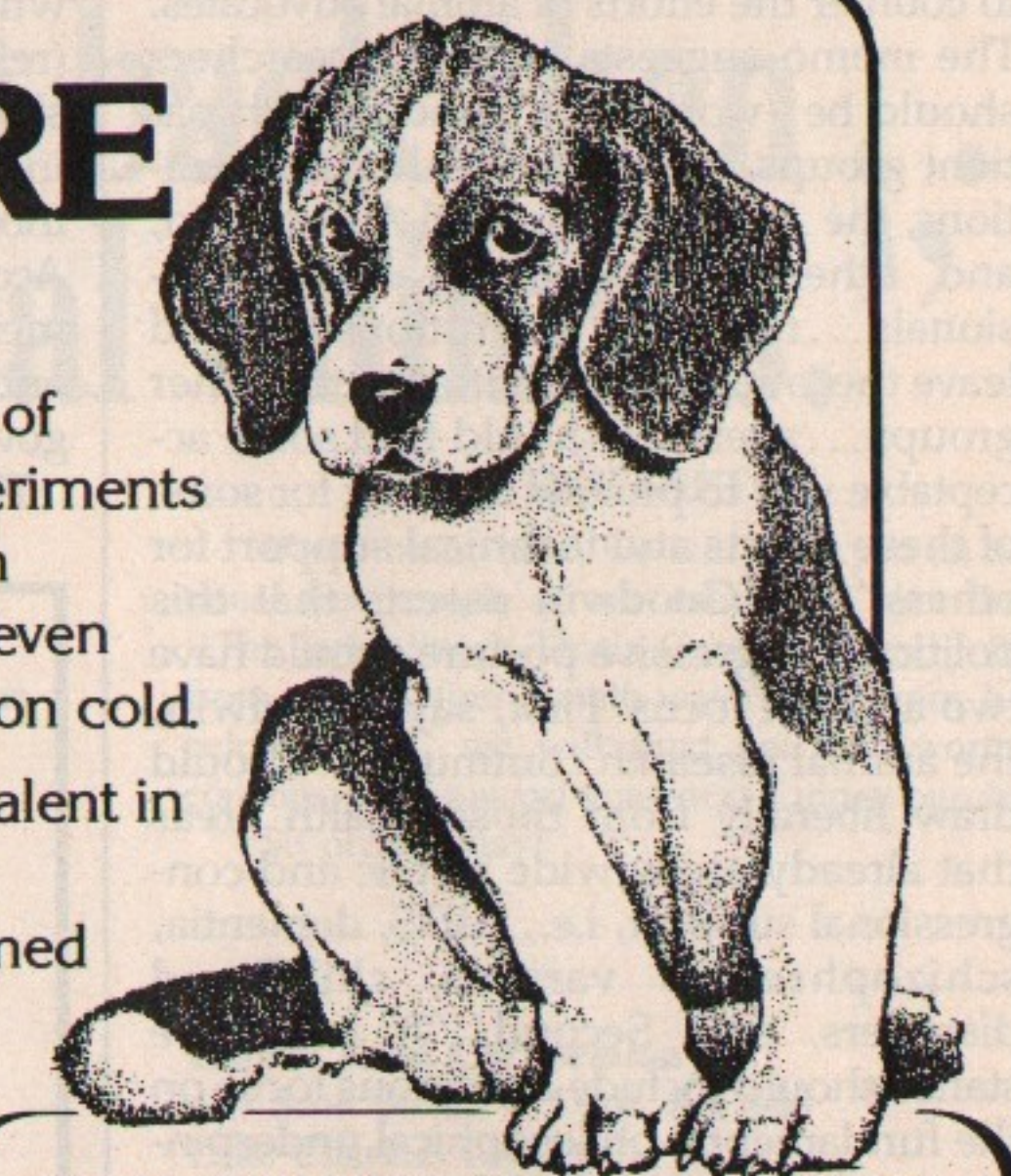
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NIMH Memo Calls for Covert Campaign

An internal government memorandum, recently leaked to members of the animal rights community, indicates support for a covert campaign to discredit animal advocacy. The memo was written by Frederick K. Goodwin, M.D., Director of Intramural Research for the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). It was sent to Lowell T. Harmison, Ph.D., Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). A copy was sent to Frankie Trull of the Foundation for Biomedical Research, an organization which lobbies heavily against any restrictions on the use of animals in experiments. The memo was also routed to the institute directors and scientific directors of both the National Institutes of Health and the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Association (ADAMHA).

The memo, entitled "Reflections Following the 9/28/87 Meeting on the Animal Rights Movement," sets forth a plan of action which encourages public health officials to adopt a "pro-active posture" to counter the efforts of animal advocates. The memo suggests animal researchers should be "working in concert with patient groups, voluntary health organizations, the American Medical Association, and other groups of health professionals...research institutions should leave the 'out front' activities to the other groups...agencies should find some acceptable way to provide funding for some of these efforts and technical support for others." Dr. Goodwin asserts that this politically aggressive posture should have two areas of focus. First, says Goodwin, the animal research community "should draw liberally from those health areas that already enjoy wide public and congressional support, i.e., AIDS, dementia, schizophrenia, various childhood disorders, etc." Second, "A pro-active stance should include a vigorous focus on the fundamental philosophical underpinnings of the animal rights movement, namely the moral equivalence between human beings and animals...the movement's philosophy is based on a fundamental degradation of the concept of human nature," according to Goodwin.

The memo recommends allocation of public resources for the purpose of training media tacticians; "counter-educational" efforts in high schools; and distribution of brochures (at public expense) which espouse the animal re-



PETA's Ingrid Newkirk burns Goodwin's memo.

searchers' points of view. A group of animal rights movement leaders, concerned about the implications of these ideas, met with NIMH and ADAMHA officials recently in an attempt to determine whether or not Dr. Goodwin's memo (referred to on its accompanying routing slip as "the Department's response to the increasing activism of the animal rights movement") represented actual policy. According to the officials, Goodwin's memo was merely his own "reflections" and does not describe a policy of any government agency.

The emergence of this memo raises dis-

turbing questions about the interworkings of our government's public health agencies. Proposing the use of taxpayers' funds to fight a group of citizens working to advance a cause—without Congressional support, knowledge, or approval—indicates the lengths to which some in the governmental animal research sector are willing to go in order to maintain this largely-outmoded form of research. Not surprisingly, they are finding it necessary to resort to stereotyping animal rights advocates and misrepresenting the movement's philosophies in order to garner support for animal research.

Goodwin's memo was read aloud by Ingrid Newkirk of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals to attendees of the November 9, 1987 rally at NIMH organized by In Defense of Animals. The National Alliance for Animal Legislation has sent letters to all Members of Congress, informing them of the memo's contents and asserting that the Public Health Service "is abusing their role as steward of our nation's health system... The best interests of the American public are not served by these activities. When the Executive Branch usurps its authority in this manner, the Legislative Branch must intervene and challenge the cavalier attitudes of those who administer its laws." Goodwin is reportedly being considered for nomination to head ADAMHA, an appointment which would require Senate confirmation. Activists are urged to contact their Senators and Representatives to express their concerns about the memo and Goodwin's possible appointment.

—Leslie Pardue



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The Fur Industry's Snare Tactics

With news from England that fur sales are fizzling, anti-fur activists in the U.S. face up to the dire truth that, despite an upswing in anti-fur activity, fur sales on this side of the Atlantic are increasing. A bit of recent history is a source of even deeper depression: this very industry was struggling to keep itself viable in the early 1970s. In 1970, total retail sales added up to less than \$300 million a year. By contrast, in each of the past two years, the fur industry has grossed approximately \$2 billion annually. Not only is the industry resurrected, it's clicking its traps.

We should understand, however, as does the fur industry, that prosperity is often a temporary state. Though it will continue to decide the fate of so many animals, the industry cannot necessarily determine its own fate. Certain variables will inevitably play a part in that. Downturns in the economy may prompt consumers to delve more sparingly than usual into their purses. This is an ever-

more-worrisome issue for the fur industry because it now targets middle-class consumers, whose luxury purchases substantially decline in depressed economic times. Specifically, the single working woman of moderate means is now being courted and seduced by the industry. Also, the whims of fashion constantly threaten to make furs *passee*. A less cumbersome, better contoured, or more glamorous nonfur coat could land at any time on fashion runways.

But the factor the industry is most worried about, and aware it can combat, is anti-fur sentiment. According to the Fur Retailers Information Council (FRIC), a for-profit mouthpiece of the fur industry representing nearly 80 percent of U.S. retailers, a Gallup poll sponsored by the Fur Institute of Canada concluded that "the threat [from anti-fur activities] is serious." Thus, the high-volume sales are due to effective marketing to an increased number of less affluent consumers, and not to an impotent anti-fur message. And as paradoxical as it sounds, though the fur industry is enjoying record sales, more people than ever oppose fur-wearing.



Furs: an image of beauty concealing the violence.

In the long run, the industry, which cannot honestly claim as a defense that its job base is critical to the economy,

ANIMAL NEWSLINE

acknowledges its future relies on the ability to market not only a positive image of its product, but a negative image of those protesting its use. FRIC's strategy—motivated by the Gallup insight that "any time the animal is directly related to the coat in advertising or publicity, the most lasting impression is anti-fur"—is to discourage any coverage of the fur controversy, and, when coverage is inevitable, to direct attention to the broad philosophy and tactics of animal rights advocates and *away from furs*. FRIC rather unequivocally states that it does not want the ethical issue of fur-wearing debated in the press at all.

FRIC advises spare words from local furriers, who are encouraged to direct media persons to FRIC headquarters and not to write letters to the editor for publication. Committed to grounding any future coverage, FRIC representatives meet, when able, with newspaper editorial boards and encourage local retailers to do the same. A recent "confidential" letter sent out by FRIC to local retailers indicates that a meeting with the editorial board of *The Chicago Sun-Times* generated "a column providing accurate information about trapping and fur farming." FRIC adds that meetings "can best be arranged after a preliminary conversation between media management and area furriers who represent substantial advertising revenue."

And when a paper *does* cover anti-fur activity, FRIC criticizes the editor's judgment. In a letter to Lisa Connell, editor of *The Westport News* (Conn.), Thomas Riley, FRIC public relations counsel, said "Although a great many of the claims [of the New Haven-based Animal Rights Front] were inaccurate and misleading, which proved that statements of this group were never checked by the reporter, our greatest concern is your paper's encouragement to boycott a local business."

FRIC hasn't limited its attempts to curtail coverage to print media only. *The Larry King Show*, a popular television talk show that runs on major cable stations, intended to devote one of its half hours of airtime to the anti-fur issue, but had to plug in another theme when no representative of FRIC or any local retailer would agree to appear.

As their standard presentation to the media, industry spokespersons say that "the animal rights protest industry" is an extremist bunch that not only seeks to ban all animal experiments and meat-eating, but also routinely breaks the law to achieve its ends. In talking to the press, they class all anti-fur sympathizers as "animal rights fanatics" who damage

store-front windows, throw bombs, commit arson, and steal animals from labs.

To authenticate those charges, they claim that animal rights organizations are "being closely monitored by the U.S. Department of Justice [USDJ]." A spokesperson for the USDJ confirmed that representatives of the fur industry approached USDJ officials last spring, and have met with them at least twice since then. In a letter dated December 14, 1987, Joseph Morris, Office of Liaison Services of the USDJ, thanked Richard Parsons, FRIC executive director, for meeting with him to discuss "the recent spate of criminal activities directed against the fur industry," and assured him that "steps are already being taken to address your concerns."

A spokesperson for the USDJ maintained that no database or file was being established on activists, but did not reveal what "steps" in particular had been taken. He did state that an investigation of animal rights groups was "not on our top 50 list of priorities." While FRIC's claims about the interest of the USDJ in animal rights activists may be exaggerated, the industry has made good use of comments from USDJ officials and created the impression that the fur industry has raised some very legitimate concerns. Essentially, this strategy is designed to shift focus *away from the violence inherent in obtaining furs and toward the property damage which the industry refers to as "violent."*

It would be misleading though to charge that the fur industry has merely manipulated and taken out of context statements from the USDJ. Some clear statements from the USDJ demonstrate it is not merely brushing off the industry, but investing time and research into the issue. According to another "confidential" letter issued by FRIC to local retailers, Morris addressed the board of FRIC and cautioned, "Don't give these groups credibility by publicly responding to their misleading information." It went on to claim that because British furriers responded to the allegations of anti-fur activists, "The public in England believed that the anti's [sic] had a legitimate point of view so they were willing to accept violence as a means to an end." That analysis affirms Gallup's conclusions.

Dr. John Grandy of The Humane Society of the U. S. maintains that animal rights advocates "should not hesitate to publicize this information in the media, because the industry's failure or refusal to debate us really indicates... that they know their position in reference to animal cruelty is publicly indefensible."

—Wayne Pacelle

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ITALY— Hunting Frenzy

Some of the most desolate patches of countryside can be found today in Italy, where the population has for centuries, if not millennia, abused and taken for granted the land and its fauna.

Perhaps this happy-go-lucky, highly irresponsible attitude toward nature explains Italy's current status as Europe's most over-hunted nation. With a disproportionately long hunting season stretching from August 18 to March 20, the hills and woods resonate through those months with the popping of all sorts of guns, most of them blazing away at migratory birds (larger "game" animals have been nearly exterminated) from thousands of blinds resembling small fortresses. Experts estimate that more than 200 million creatures die each year during this season, including anywhere from 20 to 30 humans shot by avid hunters who confuse them for some of the few remaining wild boars.

Every hunter gets a logbook along with his license, but an acute shortage of game wardens and a cavalier attitude toward compliance with regulations make restraints illusory. Still, many Italians are embarrassed by the annual massacre. A recent poll showed that 56 percent of Italians oppose any kind of hunting, and the increasingly important Italian Greens have joined with other radical groups as well as international organizations such as Friends of the Earth and the World Wildlife Fund to press for a national referendum shortening the season and introducing rigorous bag limits. During a recent environmental congress at Assisi, Prince Philip—himself a bird hunter—complained that not a bird remained in the city of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals.

The road to reform may prove

Stockholm: Better treatment for farm animals.



Now persecuting wild horses, too.



EDITED BY PATRICE GREANVILLE

difficult. With 1.2 million members, the Federation of Italian Hunters remains a powerful lobby, and most local plebiscites favoring animals have thus far been ignored. Capping this unusually bad performance, Italy also enjoys the distinction of being Europe's main importer of kangaroo products, a fact reported in our previous column. *Main sources:* *The Globe & Mail (Toronto)*, and *The ANIMALS' AGENDA* correspondents.

SWEDEN— Advanced Factory Farm Legislation Proposed

On Dec. 2 last, Sweden's Agriculture Minister Mats Hellstrom unveiled the most revolutionary animal protection program affecting farm animals to date. According to a new farm package being introduced by the ruling Social Democrats, Swedish cows will henceforth enjoy the right to spend time outdoors, and pigs will have roomier and more pleasant pens. "Animal rearing will in the future be geared towards keeping animals healthy and happy," said Hellstrom.

The proposals resulted from a public outcry against factory farming methods led by Sweden's celebrated author Astrid Lindgren, a farmer's daughter whose children's books enjoy worldwide popularity.

In addition to insuring that cows are turned out to pasture several times a year (instead of keeping them in stalls all their lives), the bill calls for a permanent ban on the tethering of pigs, and separate sleeping and feeding areas. Hellstrom's reforms also extend to

chicken-farming methods, especially their confinement to small cages. "We cannot accept a form of husbandry which shows such little regard for the animals," he declared. The Minister added that slaughtering procedures will also be revamped and rigorously supervised to minimize suffering and terror, while the routine use of hormones and genetic engineering will be severely curtailed. The new law, to be introduced next July, is expected to reach full implementation over a 10-year period. According to Agriculture Ministry officials, approval by the parliament (or Riksdag) is practically certain. *Main source:* *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

AUSTRALIA— Wild Horse Slaughter in the Outback

With big box-office hits such as *Crocodile Dundee* portraying Australia as a country of unaffected charm and quaint individualism, many of its products—including beer, clothing, and motion pictures—are suddenly in great demand. Much of this charm might evaporate, however, if word got out to the public at large that Australia is also one of the world's worst animal abusing nations.

The persecution of kangaroos, one of the most vicious massacres of wildlife anywhere, has already provoked justifiable concern around the world. But now—in addition to this outrage—the international community is being confronted with the massive aerial extermination of Australia's wild horses (called "brumbies"), mostly from helicopters.

The wild horse population is

currently put at 350,000 by the Australian government, but Australians for Animals, the country's largest animal welfare group, believes this figure to be inflated. The group puts their actual number at less than 100,000.

The horses' brutal persecution by the government, farmers, and livestock handlers is ostensibly carried out to prevent the spread of brucellosis and tuberculosis, and "because they destroy fences," but the real reasons lie elsewhere. The brumbies' actual crime (much like that of kangaroos and American mustangs) is that they eat grass and drink water—thereby competing for these precious resources with the herdsmen's own animals. Australians for Animals estimates that feral horses constitute one-half of one percent of the domestic range animal population, which is 47 million, but the herdsmen seem unwilling to tolerate even this small percentage on their ranches.

The extermination methods are shameful even by Australia's barbaric standards. Wealthy ranchers and farmers have taken to hunting down the equines with helicopters, zooming down on groups of 10 to 15 panicked beasts, mowing them down with a hail of bullets, and then proceeding to the next batch. The speed of the helicopters and the nature of the moving targets make a clean shot impossible. The result is that horses are often "gut shot," their limbs shattered, and their jaws shot off. The opportunities for a mercy bullet are rare. Under these circumstances, horses often take days to die in the bush. On other properties, horses are simply rounded up by the hundreds and shot in corrals. In addition, many feral horses are also being caught to satisfy horsemeat demand in Belgium and Japan.

A particularly heinous method of elimination involves the running of horses—one at a time—through a fenced-off area called a "race"

lined with sheer blades along the sides. According to one witness, Sue Arnold, of Australians for Animals, as the horses were pushed through these "races," "the blades dug deep into their guts, tearing them out." At the end of the course, the animals were left to die of "shocking injuries." Despite the many witnesses of these cruelties—which have become quite common—including considerable documentary footage taken by Australian TV crews, not one farmer or cowhand indulging in these "pastimes" has ever been prosecuted for animal abuse. Letters of protest may be sent to: Mr. Robert Hawke, Prime Minister, Parliament House, 2600 Canberra, Australia. Australians for Animals may be reached at: Box C616, Clarence St. Post Office, Sydney 2000, New South Wales, Australia. *Main sources:* Bill Clark (FoA); United Animal Nations; Australians for Animals.

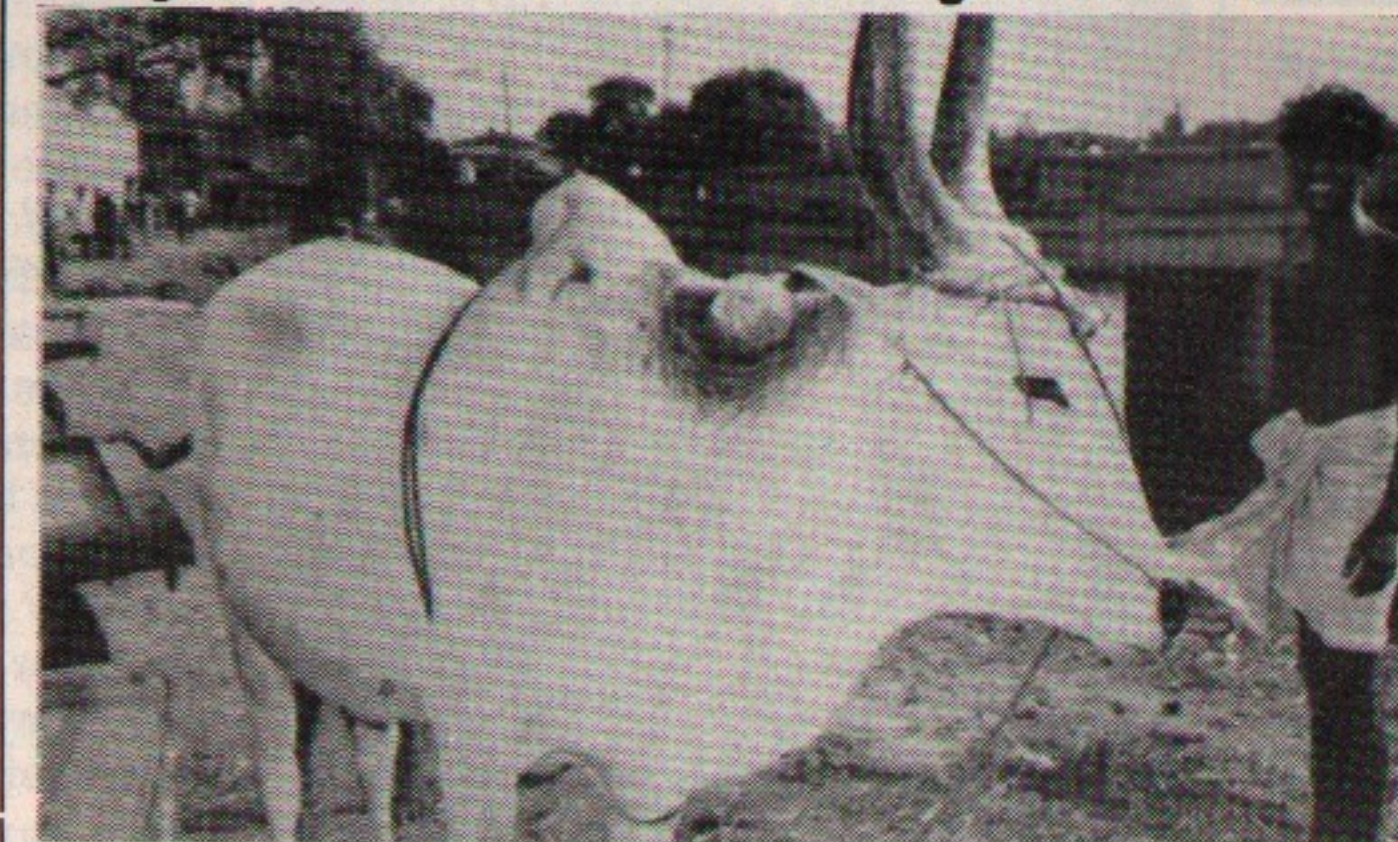
CHILE— Dolphins Under Attack

Over the last decade, king crab fishing off the coast of southern Chile has grown into one of the country's major export industries, often requiring the laying of as many as 30,000 traps. Unfortunately, the commercial success of the operation has now dragged other wildlife species into its cycle of exploitation, especially dolphins, seals and sea lions, all of which are being increasingly hunted down and killed by fishermen for use as crab bait.

Although it's difficult to ascertain the extent of the most recent kill, it is generally agreed that the industry was responsible for the death of nearly 4,000 dolphins during the 1978-79 crab-fishing season. The industry has expanded several-fold since. Chilean scientists themselves have acknowledged that marine mammal populations in the region are "currently exhibiting a strong reduction." Commerson's dolphin—a subspecies—appears particularly hard hit by the surge in crab-fishing activity.

The responsibility for this tragedy may go beyond Chile's borders. Only 15 percent of the international companies purchasing the crabs are willing to supply the fishermen with bait, but more than 99 percent of the crabs are being sold in the West, mainly the U.S., France, Germany and Holland. *Main source:* *Earth Island Journal*.

Malignant lesions are common among draft animals.



INDIA— The Plight of Draft Animals

With more than two billion people around the world depending on 400 million draft animals for ploughing and small-scale transportation, the humble bullock cart—a symbol of backwardness in the Third World—is not about to vanish overnight. In India alone, 15 million animal-drawn vehicles carry nearly two-thirds of rural goods; they are the backbone of the countryside economy.

But if poverty precludes retiring draft animal power any time soon, there may be, in the opinion of Professor N.S. Ramaswamy, head of the Indian Institute of Management at Bangalore, good economic and ethical reasons for a thorough redesign of these vehicles. Prof. Ramaswamy, a Hindu, Marxist, and vegetarian, has spent more than a decade at work improving the traditional cart. "I am a great animal lover; my whole interest is my love of animals and poor people," says Ramaswamy. "The way they are using animals now is most cruel and brutal. With an improved design, animals can work and live longer and they no longer have to be beaten and tortured."

The suffering endured by draft animals during their working life is substantial. Most survive on near-starvation diets during the off-season, and are made to work soon after the monsoon, precisely when they are least fit to do so. The animals are beaten mercilessly to make them haul loads well beyond their normal capacity. Quite often, sick and injured animals are forced to work because the owner cannot afford to keep them idle.

Prof. Ramaswamy thinks that switching to the simple technology

of smooth ball bearings and pneumatic tires can increase the output of the carts three times, while reducing damage to the roads caused by iron-rimmed wooden wheels. But perhaps the most important aspect of Ramaswamy's suggested reforms is an improved method of harnessing. On India's bullock carts, the third load-bearing point (the two wheels being the other points) is borne by a single wooden yoke on the animal's neck. This often causes constant chafing and leads to "yoke galls" and cancer. The solution, again, is simple: a double yoke, as used extensively in China, where the animal carries the weight on his or her back, which is protected by soft padding. Ramaswamy thinks that the more advanced cart would cost twice as much as the cheapest traditional model, but improved efficiency would allow most carts to be pulled by one animal instead of two. The Institute hopes to produce prototypes and mount a travelling exhibition to be displayed at cattle markets throughout India. If adopted, Prof. Ramaswamy's improvements might at least partially relieve hundreds of millions of animals from serious pain and overwork. *Main sources:* N.S. Ramaswamy, *Animal Liberation Magazine*, *New Scientist*.

JAPAN— Animal Rights Center Inaugurated

Last October, activists drawn chiefly from the Japan Anti-Vivisection Association (JAVA) and the local Green political movement formally organized the Japan Animal Rights Center.

The new organization hopes to promote animal rights throughout Japan by revealing the facts about animal experimentation, factory farming, the treatment accorded domestic and wild animals, including pets; and by educating the public about vegetarianism's benefits to animals and ecology. One of the Center's specific objectives is to increase international collaboration between the Japan-based Green movement and its counterparts in the U.S. and Western Europe. (Unlike the U.S., the Greens have been in the forefront of the struggle for animal rights in several countries of Western Europe.)

The Center, which issues a bimonthly letter on its activities, welcomes contacts with foreign activist groups. Its address is: 4C Kama Bldg., 16-5 Izumi-cho, Kanagawa, Yokohama City, Japan; telephone 045-324-7233. *Main source:* *Japan Animal Rights Center*.

CANADA— Seal Hunts: Victory at Last

Prompted by European threats of trade reprisals and a collapse in the demand for seal pelts, Canada has finally decided to ban all offshore commercial hunting of white-coated baby harp seals and blue-backed hooded seals. Native Canadians who depend on seals and other animals for their immediate subsistence were exempted from the ban, but the authorities have asked them to hunt only older seals. The European Economic Community (EEC) had threatened to boycott Canadian fish products if the hunting didn't stop. "We can't ignore that," said John Crosbie, Canada's Transport Minister, at a press conference on Dec. 30. "Anything that is going to affect the livelihood of 35,000 fishermen and all the processing workers has to be taken seriously."

The market for seal pelts suffered a fatal setback after extensive international protests in the early 1980s. Before that, up to 100,000 baby seals were clubbed to death each year on Canada's offshore ice. Last spring, in a move that dismayed pro-animal organizations, the government reauthorized the hunting of slightly older seals from ships and boats. That last killing spasm cost 42,000 animal lives. *Main sources:* *The New York Times* and *The ANIMALS' AGENDA* correspondents.

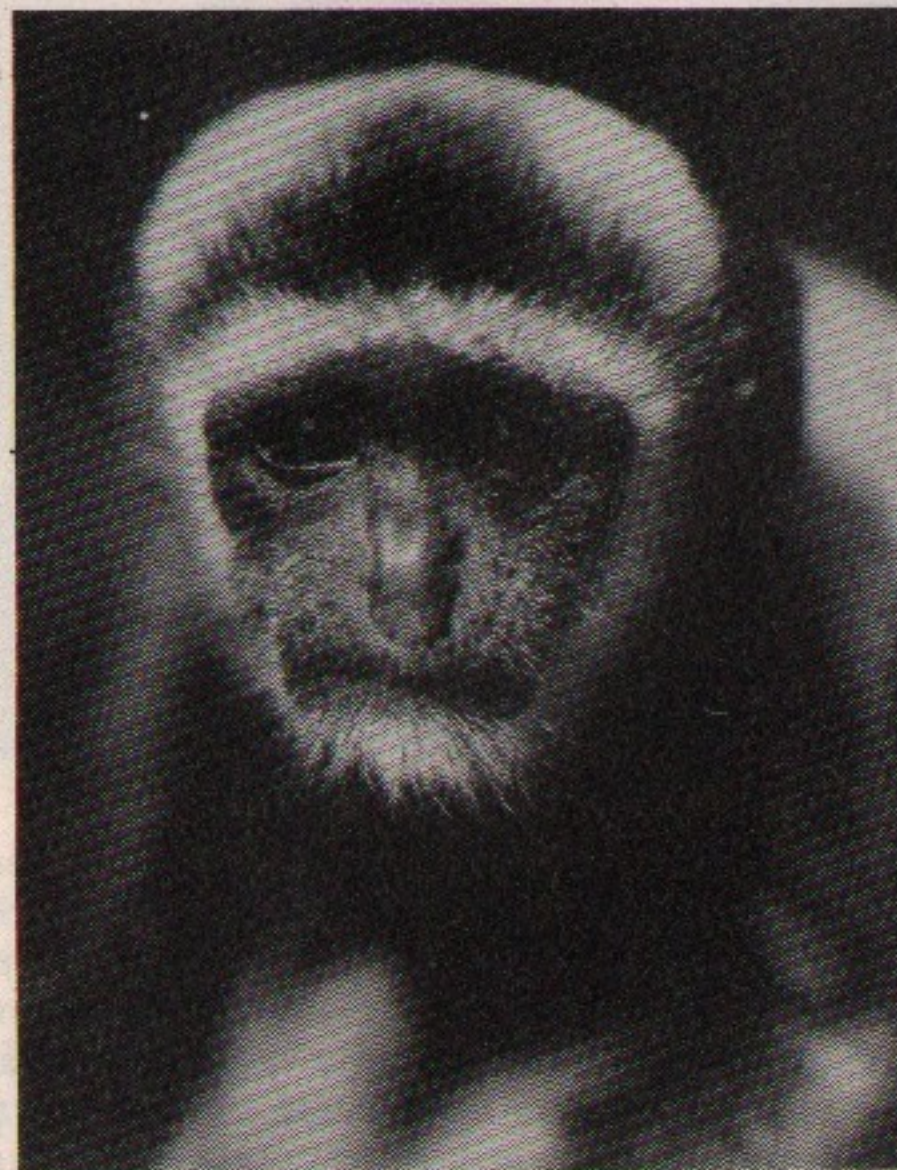
NEWS SHORTS

■ **Efforts by various groups** to reverse the decision by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to allow for the patenting of genetically-altered animals are ongoing (see our previous story on this issue on the July/August 1987 *Animal Newslines* section). Some 20 animal protection, environmental, and agricultural organizations have formed a coalition, and are seeking to reverse or delay the Patent Office's decision. Several hearings on the issue—and on H.R. 3119, which would establish a two-year moratorium on animal patents—were held by the House Judiciary Courts Subcommittee, chaired by Representative Robert Kastenmeier (D-WI). The Courts Subcommittee has not yet acted, and Kastenmeier has reportedly indicated that he is leaning toward seeking after-the-fact legislative solutions to alleviate problems that may result from animal patenting, rather than supporting the proposed moratorium. Senator Mark O. Hatfield (R-OR) has indicated that he will introduce a companion moratorium bill in the Senate, but has not yet done so. Activists are strongly urged to contact their own Representatives and Senators, as well as Kastenmeier and Hatfield, to express strong support for the two-year moratorium on the patenting of animals.

■ **Fur retailers** in Tucson, Ariz. and the Washington, D.C. area have been hit with a steady barrage of "attacks" directed at their establishments by unidentified animal rights activists, prompting at least one store to drop its fur sales entirely. Al Russek, owner of an exclusive boutique boutique in Tucson, announced that he would no longer sell furs in his store as a result of "constant harassment" by anti-fur activists, who allegedly splattered the store with red paint, put glue in the locks, billed magazine subscriptions to the store's address, and listed the store's number as the one to call for refunds to "cancelled" city events. This past November, several furriers in Washington, D.C. and neighboring Bethesda, Md. had their windows shot out with projectiles believed to have been fired from slingshots. Fred the Furrier's Fur Vault, a national chain of fur stores, claims to have paid some \$50,000 for repairs as a result of vandalism directed against several of its establishments. No arrests have been made in connection with the incidents.

I hold that flesh food is unsuited to our species. We err in copying the lower animal world if we are superior to it.
—Mohandas K. Gandhi

EDITED BY LESLIE PARDUE



Happy Anniversary.

■ **The Indian export ban on monkeys** is eleven years old this year. The ban came into force on April 1, 1977. Even by conservative estimates, the ban has saved some one million monkeys' lives. India was exporting 30,000 monkeys per year at the time of the export ban, and two to three monkeys died for every one leaving India alive. The export ban was initiated by the International Primate Protection League (IPPL). India had entered into an agreement with the United States (which was supposed to be enforced by the National Institutes of Health) stipulating that exported monkeys were to be treated humanely and were to be used only for biomedical research and vaccine production. When IPPL learned that Indian monkeys were being used in radiation experiments at the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute, the group informed Indian authorities, animal protectionists, and the media. There was an immense public outcry, and the influential newspaper *The Times of India* denounced the monkey trade in an editorial. Shortly thereafter, Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai announced the ban on exports, and in spite of foreign pressures, the ban has remained in place. IPPL continues to work on behalf of chimps, gorillas, and other nonhuman primates captured and bred for research. For more information, write to: IPPL, P.O. Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484.

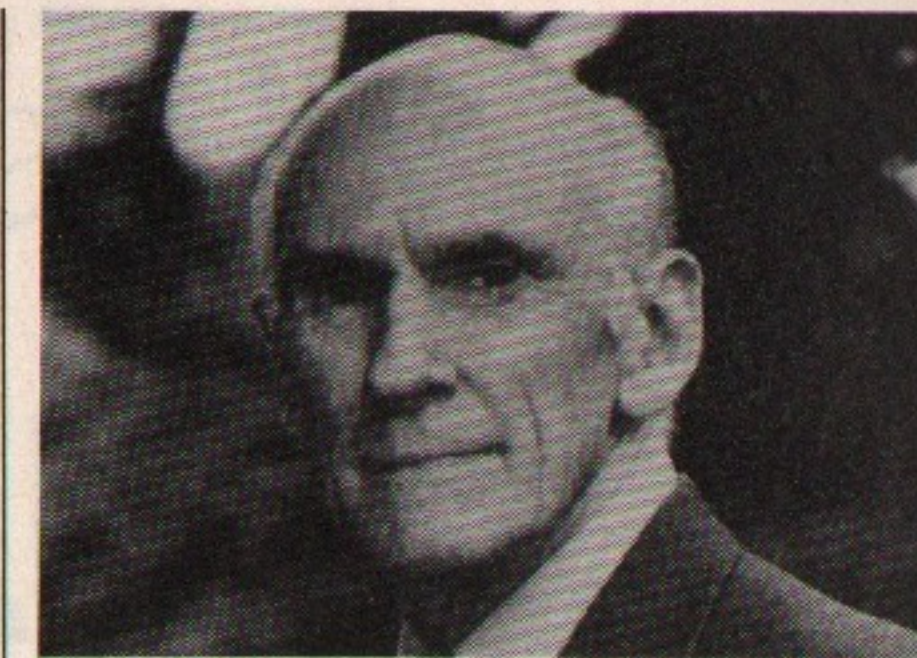
■ **A growing body of evidence** confirms what many doctors have known for decades: newborn and premature human infants *do* feel pain, and should be given anesthesia during surgery. In the past, infants (like many laboratory animals) were given muscle-paralyzing drugs which kept them from thrashing around during surgery, but did not in any way diminish their capacity to feel pain. Most hospitals are now moving toward anesthesia use for major surgery in infants, though many still deny painkilling drugs to infants undergoing minor surgical procedures such as circumcision. Like nonhuman animals, human newborn babies have traditionally been thought to be "too primitive" to feel pain. However, growing numbers of doctors are acknowledging that the screams and hormonal surges of infants undergoing surgery without anesthesia are strong indicators of their ability to fully perceive pain. In a recent article on the subject in *The New York Times*, writer Philip M. Boffey notes that "Only after parents and other laymen raised a cry about needless suffering, and some filed lawsuits, was there enough pressure to change. The long failure to provide anesthesia for newborns provides a salutary reminder that medical practices are sometimes based on flimsy science and erroneous beliefs, and that outside critics can bring an important perspective."



Outcry over unrelieved infant pain.

■ **The Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals** (PSPCA), targeted last year by activists attempting to win control of the 120-year-old organization's board of directors, has replaced its open-membership policy with a screening process designed to weed out animal rights proponents. Activists who have been pushing for reforms

NEWS SHORTS



Sen. Alan Cranston (D-CA).

of the environmental group Greenpeace. The PSPCA has reportedly spent in excess of \$100,000 over the last year to thwart activists' attempts to oust the old-guard management. The people seeking to make the PSPCA a more progressive force for animals are urging activists to become members (memberships are \$10 and may be sent to: PSPCA, 350 E. Erie Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19134—questions about organizational affiliations need not be answered) in the hopes of eventually putting the organization's \$16 million in assets into forward-thinking programs of animal advocacy.

■ **Senator Alan Cranston (D-CA)** has introduced a resolution in Congress which, if enacted, would spell relief for millions of scavengers and predators on our nation's public lands. Introduced on January 6, Cranston's Senate Joint Resolution 12 would prohibit the killing of predatory and scavenging species of birds and mammals on public lands unless interested parties obtain prior permission from Federal authorities well in advance and after a period of public comment. All requests for such action would have to be submitted in writing and approved by the appropriate cabinet Secretary, and must "maintain the indispensable relationship between predator and prey species and the ecosystem, and be in the overall public interest." If passed, this resolution would make predator and "nuisance" control activities on Federal lands substantially more difficult to carry out. Another Cranston bill, the California Desert Protection Act (S. 7), would create several new Wilderness Areas and National Parks in Southern California, affording greater protection to wild species in those areas.

Continued on next page



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Continued from previous page

■ **Hot-iron face branding of cattle** is the target of a petition filed with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) by a coalition of five major animal protection organizations in January. The coalition—consisting of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Animal Protection Institute, the Fund for Animals, the Humane Society of the U.S., and the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals—is asking the USDA to strike an archaic regulation (dating from 1934) which requires as many as 175,000 cattle infected with or exposed to the disease brucellosis to be branded across their faces with hot irons as a means of identification. In 1986, the petitioning organizations succeeded in obtaining a preliminary injunction barring hot-iron branding of cows scheduled to be killed under the USDA's Dairy Termination Program. The organizations are advocating the less-painful freeze branding method as an alternative to the hot-iron brand.

■ **Northwestern University** launched a major fundraising drive recently to bankroll a huge new medical and life sciences facility, much of which will be devoted to animal research. Aiming to raise \$65 million over five years, the university's Campaign for Medical Research already has received some \$40.5 million in pre-campaign donations from private contributors who each gave at least \$250,000 for the project. The university plans to solicit the remainder from the public, especially Northwestern alumni. Activists are urged to contact the president of the university and the dean of the medical school to register their opposition to the expansion of Northwestern's animal research activities, and to request that the university develop a program of alternatives to the use of animals in research. Contact: Dr. Harry N. Beaty, Dean of Northwestern University McGaw Medical Center, 303 E. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60611; (312) 908-8186; and: Arnold R. Weber, President, Northwestern University, 633 Clark St., Evanston, IL 60201; (312) 491-7456.



The MMPA: a whale of a law.

■ **The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)** is up for Congressional reauthorization in 1988, and needs the strong support of animal advocates. The MMPA, passed in 1972, is the most comprehensive marine mammal conservation legislation in the world—protecting whales, porpoises, seals, walruses, sea otters, polar bears, and manatees. Since the MMPA was signed into law, several of these species have made dramatic comebacks from dangerously low population levels. However, 16 marine mammal species are listed as endangered or threatened, and continuation of the MMPA is essential for their survival. Hearings on the reauthorization are expected to be scheduled soon; Congress must agree to renew the law and the President must sign it by October 1, 1988. Activists are urged to contact their Senators and Representatives (and President Reagan) expressing support for reauthorization. Specifically, letters should ask Congress to: continue the prohibition on the commercial sale of fur seal skins from the Pribilof Islands of Alaska; reject any weakening of provisions protecting marine mammals; and reject any proposals calling for the killing of marine mammals in the name of predator or "nuisance" control.

Correction

In the January/February issue's account of the rally at the National Institute of Mental Health, we neglected to mention that four of the arrestees (Susan Brebner, Ingrid Newkirk, Larry Shute, and Betsy Swart) opted for a jury trial, with a fifth (Helen Jones) opting for a trial before a U.S. Magistrate. As we go to press, the activists' trial is scheduled for February 22.



The death of The Rainbow Warrior.

■ **The environmental organization Greenpeace**, after some two years of arbitration, will be paid a total of \$8.16 million in compensation, aggravated damages, legal fees and other costs by the government of France—the responsible party in the July 1985 bombing of Greenpeace's flagship, *The Rainbow Warrior*, which claimed the life of photographer Fernando Pereira. The ship was attacked in New Zealand while conducting a six-month campaign highlighting environmental issues in the Pacific, including France's nuclear testing program. At first, France denied any involvement in the bombings, but later admitted to having ordered two French security service agents to blow up the ship. France also paid \$7 million to New Zealand to compensate for expenses incurred in that nation's criminal investigation of the bombing, and settled privately with Fernando Pereira's family. Greenpeace will use the \$8.16 million to support the remaining ships in their fleet, establish an environmental photography and film fund in Pereira's memory, and continue environmental projects in the Pacific.

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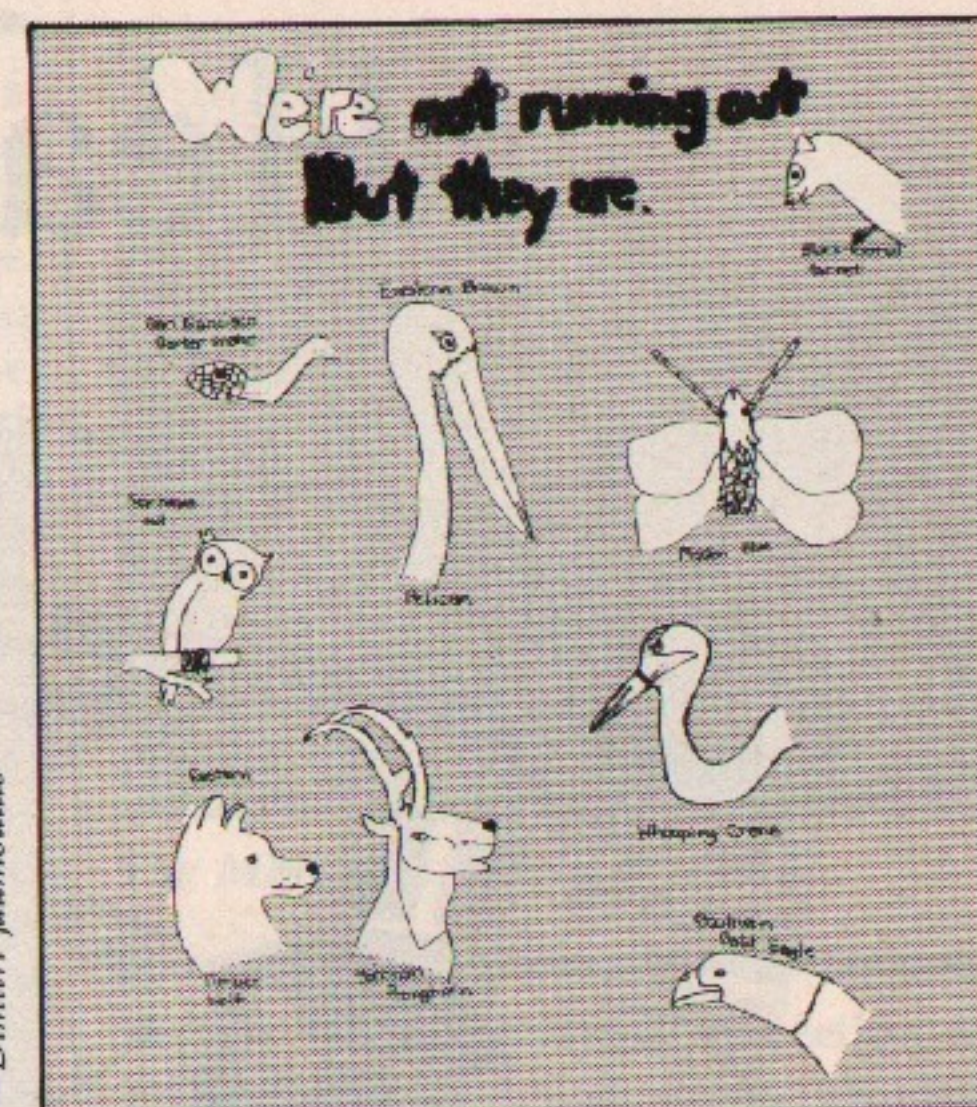
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Young people's natural enthusiasm, energy, and idealism can add a positive dimension to animal rights campaigns and projects.

Helping Children Help Animals

BY BILL DeROSA

I believe that animals have rights—the right to have life, freedom, and happiness. But we the people have violated those rights. The only reason there are still animals is because of people who still care. I would like to be one of those people. Is there anything I could do now, as a 14-year-old, to help?”

This heartfelt plea, excerpted from a California student's recent letter to The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), is representative of thousands of children's letters received by local and national animal protection organizations every year. Though writing ability and understanding of the issues varies, the theme is often the same: “What can I do to help animals?”

Educating children about the problems animals face has always been viewed as a means for insuring that they grow up to be humane adults. But there has been relatively little recognition by the animal rights movement of the positive contribution that children themselves can make for animals. There are numerous examples of ways young people have already made a difference. California high-school student, Jenifer Graham, by refusing to dissect, has brought national attention to the issue of animal exploitation in schools. Twelve-year-old Colin Kapelovitz from North Dakota succeeded in convincing that state's legislature to ban the use of Rozol, a slow-acting poison used to kill bats. A Hollister, California elementary class raised \$200 for their local wildlife rehabilitation center. The list could go on and on. The important point is that children can succeed in efforts to help animals if given the chance. They are often capable of much more than we give them credit for. According to Beverly Lowe, a humane education specialist for the San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SFSPCA), today's children are demonstrating a remarkable level of knowledge about animal rights issues. “In addition to their traditional concern about the mistreatment of dogs and cats, children are now reflecting a growing awareness of broader issues involving people's relationship to animals—issues such as hunting and trapping, global species extinction, and vegetarianism.” Lowe, who is in charge of the

SFSPCA's Animal Awareness Club, gives much of the credit for children's growing awareness to teachers and others involved in humane education efforts.

The benefits of involving children in pro-animal projects and activities reach beyond the direct help they can give to animals and animal defense organizations. Children can sometimes succeed in influencing adult attitudes and behavior where more traditional, adult-oriented approaches and campaigns may fail. Patty Finch, director of the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education (NAAHE), realized this several years ago after taking a group of school children from a low-income area in Nevada on a tour of a new veterinary clinic. “Up until that time the clinic wasn't doing too well. After the kids went through and learned about the need for spaying and neutering and pet health care, the number of patients increased substantially. According to the vet, many of the pet owners explained that their kids made them come!”

Providing young people with the opportunity to put

NO COMMENT

Texas House Speaker Gib Lewis has hunted wild goats in Russia, elk in Arizona, and the rare ibex in Pakistan. But this month a group of Panhandle ranchers called on Lewis for a hunting expedition of a decidedly different sort—killing coyotes from the air in Texas. The coyotes were [allegedly] harassing cattle herds and killing newborn calves. Lewis, armed with a shotgun, swooped down on the coyotes in an airplane, firing at will. “It was like a strafing mission,” said Lewis, who killed 90. Asked why the ranchers had called him to join the shooting party, the speaker smiled. “Because they know I like to kill,” he said.

—The Dallas Morning News
January 2, 1988



A young artist expresses his opposition to hunting with this entry in a recent poster contest sponsored by the San Francisco SPCA.

their concern about animals into action can also benefit the children themselves by bolstering their self-esteem and confidence—helping them realize that they, as individuals, have the power to make a difference in our society. Participating in a pro-animal project can also teach children important lessons on the value of teamwork and cooperation when striving to achieve a common goal.

There are many ways to help children express their concern for animals through animal rights activities and projects. Here are a few suggestions:

1. Approach children's organizations (such as boys' and girls' clubs or scout troupes, church groups, or animal shelter-sponsored clubs) with ideas for projects to help animals. Or, initiate your own neighborhood animal rights club. Club projects and programs can include activities such as: writing letters to legislators and local officials on particular issues; cleaning up litter in parks, wildlife areas, or on beaches; fund-raising events such as bake sales, car washes, and dog washes and walks; and public education activities such as setting up booths at public events to distribute animal rights literature, making and displaying posters, and writing and distributing public service announcements for local radio and television stations. For a complete guide to organizing a children's animal rights club, write to NAAHE, P.O. Box 362, East Haddam, CT 06423.

2. If you're holding a rally or similar event, encourage participants to bring their children. Organize a mini-rally with speakers and activities just for the kids.

3. Participate in the “Adopt-A-Teacher” program, through which teachers and students receive monthly publications containing ideas for direct action campaigns for children. For details, write to NAAHE at the above address.

4. Contact area teachers. Do they have students who seem particularly concerned about animals? Such teachers might appreciate a list of student projects, especially ones that involve traditional subject and skill areas such as writing, art, and citizenship.

5. Sponsor school or community-wide poster or essay contests to generate publicity for animal rights or for a particular issue.

Bill DeRosa is the Assistant Director of NAAHE, a division of HSUS.

The Power of Nonviolent Direct Action

“Let your life be a counter-friction to stop the machine.” —Henry David Thoreau

BY BETSY SWART

The history of nonviolent direct action in the U.S. animal rights movement began a new chapter on April 24, 1984. Fifteen activists sat down at the University of California (UC) at Davis Primate Center and blocked the entrance to the building. They risked arrest to show UC administrators that they would not tolerate animal abuse funded by tax dollars. Their implicit message to researchers was clear: no “business as usual” here today; no animal abuse unless you go over our bodies.

In the summer of 1984, nonviolent direct action continued at UC Berkeley. That time, 27 people risked arrest to protest the construction of a \$40 million animal research laboratory on the Berkeley campus. Since then, the number of people participating in direct actions for animal rights has steadily increased. Over 100 people joined in the sit-in at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in 1985 which ultimately led to the closing of the infamous head-injury lab at the University of Pennsylvania. Last year on April 24, several hundred demonstrators were arrested in non-violent civil disobedient actions on more than 74 campuses around the nation. Since then, civil disobedience has been used as a tool for change in many types of struggles for animal rights: in fur campaigns, in hunting and trapping demonstrations, and in factory-farm protests.

Nonviolent civil disobedience offers particular features that make it an effective tool for promoting change in our movement. First, nonviolent direct action externalizes conflicts; it makes them visible for all to see. When people sit down in front of a laboratory door or block a truck carrying animals to a research center, they not only temporarily slow down or stop the research “machine,” but also make the machine visible to the general public and the media.

Because nonviolent protest externalizes conflicts, it necessarily opens up dialogue by attracting attention. And dialogue that begins on the pages of the local newspaper often continues behind the scenes in negotiations and communications between protestors and members of the research establishment.

It is important to remember that we have power to affect those who stand against us. Last year on April 24, for example, a researcher at the University of San Francisco talked to a group of demonstrators who were holding a sit-in in the Chancellor's office. Later, this same researcher wrote, “I was impressed by your statements and your depth of commitment. I'm beginning to question my own part in this system. I've always loved my pets. But I didn't think of research animals as deserving the same kind of treatment—until today.” Clearly, meaningful actions can attract those generally not inclined to sympathize with our ideas. Their minds can be challenged by conversation as well as by example.

This year on April 24, World Day for Laboratory Animals, join in the spirit of nonviolent civil disobedience at a university or research center in your community. The power to create change flows from individuals. Its momentum mounts when those individuals unite in saying no to animal abuse.

Betsy Swart is campaign director for In Defense of Animals.

Disease Prevention or Medical Research?

BY STEVEN TIGER

If research is essential to the betterment of human health, and the use of animals is essential to research, then animal research is—according to some people—a “necessary evil.” Otherwise, if animal research is unnecessary, then it is merely evil. Let’s pretend that there are no humane or ethical concerns and concentrate solely on the supposed benefits of animal experimentation to see if this “necessary evil” is really necessary.

The nature of research

Animal research comprises two broad categories: basic and applied. Basic research investigates physiologic mechanisms in the normal and abnormal state, without regard for any specific clinical utilization; it involves inflicting a variety of physical and psychological stresses on animals to study their microscopic and gross physiological and behavioral responses. Applied research tests specific therapeutic techniques prior to use in humans; it involves studies of the safety and efficacy of drugs, vaccines, surgical procedures, and other forms of intervention. It includes product development and safety testing.

Scientists engaged in basic research state openly that clinical applicability is not their goal, but society condones such research only because of the hope for eventual clinical applicability. Since cruelty to animals is against the law, scientists must be granted special permission to perform acts for which anyone else would be arrested. Such permission is granted because society believes that allowing a scientist to experiment on animals is likely to result in something of practical benefit to human health, whereas allowing a curious accountant or electrician or airline pilot to experiment on animals is unlikely to have positive results.

The applicability of animal data

Researchers themselves acknowledge that what occurs in nonhuman animals may have no relation to what occurs in humans. The growing list of drugs deemed safe after animal testing and later found to be toxic, carcinogenic, or mutagenic in humans is just one example of the inherent unreliability of animal studies. Yet researchers maintain that while the animal model is flawed, it is the best model available.

What the researchers do not say is that experimenting on animals violates a cardinal rule of proper scientific technique: the observer should not intrude upon the test subject. Naturalists who observe animals in the wild are painstakingly careful not to intrude on their subjects’ normal life patterns. The extreme invasiveness and artificiality of the laboratory environment—in which animals are regarded as mere tools—represents such gross intrusion upon the subjects’ lives that the data obtained are not even reliably applicable to *that* species, much less to humans. That is why every animal research paper published includes a stock disclaimer: “Results in animals do not necessarily apply to humans.”

Stress alters a patient’s response to illness and injury, and that

applies to everything from warts to cancer. Therefore, apart from the physiologic differences from humans, the laboratory environment is so stressful that the animal can never serve as a model for any human experience.

The real goal

Now let’s look at what should be the goal of our medical care system: to achieve the greatest health benefit for the greatest number of people. Any other goal suggests that one person or one group of people is more important than some other person or group. If we cannot judge one person or group more important than another, all we can do is try to help the greatest number.

Medicine is, inevitably, a game of numbers. We’re allowed to use drugs that occasionally kill people, as long as they help more people than they kill. We use screening tests that miss some patients, as long as they identify more patients than they miss. We care about those who are lost, but we also care about the greater number saved.

The goal of helping the greatest number must be the basis for any restructured medical care system. By reducing the number of avoidable medical problems, we would dramatically improve the nation’s health, while cutting costs and providing better care for those who really need medical services.

For example, just three changes in lifestyle—reductions in cigarette use and alcohol consumption, and a better diet—would significantly reduce the incidence of all of the three leading medical killers: heart disease, cancer, and diabetes.

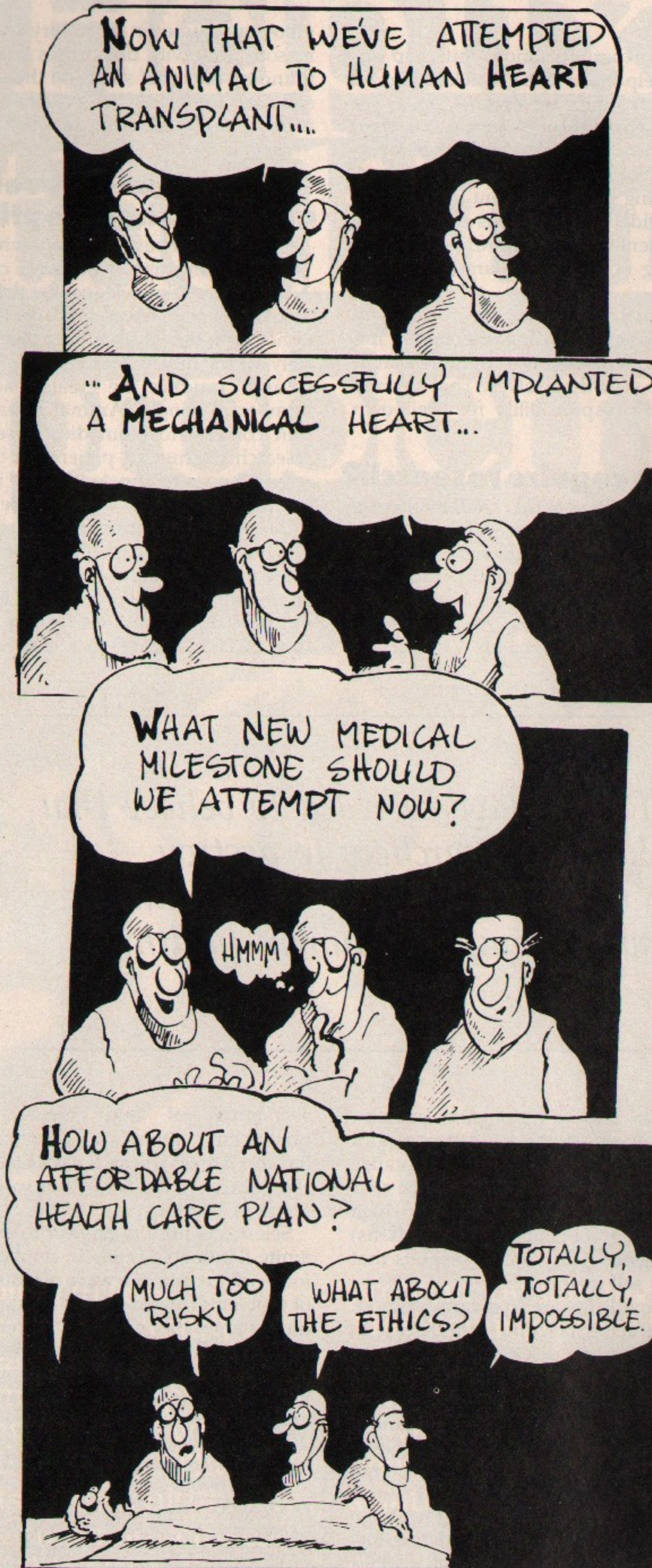
So a sensible system would be based on prevention, not research to find cures. It would teach people to take responsibility for their own well-being—to stop treating their irreplaceable bodies in a way equivalent to driving the family car in a demolition derby and then expecting miraculous repairs.

Ironically, the medical profession, oriented around pathology, cannot take the lead in establishing a sensible health-oriented system. Depending on physicians to direct national health policy on the basis of their clinical skills is like depending on garage mechanics to direct national transportation policy on the basis of their automotive-repair training (but at least mechanics are not addicted to using ever-costlier tools when a simple wrench will do the job).

The determinants of health

Four factors determine one’s state of health. In order of importance, they are: lifestyle, environment, genetic inheritance or familial predisposition, and medical treatment. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control has estimated the relative importance of these factors in the 10 leading causes of death in this country as follows: behavior and lifestyle, 51 percent; physical environment, 20 percent; heredity, 19 percent; and medical services, 10 percent. There are individual cases in which this order of importance is altered, but the ranking is accurate for the vast majority of the population. For example, heart disease (still the number one killer in the U.S.) definitely shows a familial pattern. Other factors being equal, Mr. A, whose parents both died young from heart disease, is at greater risk for developing heart disease than Mr. B, whose parents are both still active and healthy in their 80s. However, if Mr. A is a slim, athletic, vegetarian non-smoker, and Mr. B is an obese, sedentary, meat-eating smoker, then it is Mr. B who is at higher risk—despite his more favorable family history. Then, when Mr. B does develop heart disease, medical therapy will not be able to control his condition unless he changes his lifestyle. In fact, a favorable change in lifestyle might (depending on the nature and severity of the disease) make medical or surgical intervention unnecessary.

Since treatment is the least important of the four factors that determine health, it is not surprising to learn how small a role medicine has played in the improvement of health over the past century. The British physician T.



—Kathryn LeMieux

McKeown 1.) has analyzed the contribution of medical science to the increase in lifespan in Britain, and concludes that it was minimal; most of the increase was due to improvements in nutrition and public sanitation. Similar studies in the U.S., conducted by scholars John and Sonia McKinlay 2.) show comparable results—almost all of the increase in lifespan since the year 1900 is due to reductions in infectious disease mortality, with medical intervention accounting for only about three percent of that reduction.

The contradiction

Every dollar society invests in animal research is a dollar unavailable for investment in prevention. And each dollar spent on treatment is a dollar that cannot be spent on fostering adjustments in lifestyle and environment. Since the goal of our medical system should be to produce the greatest health benefit for the greatest number of people, animal research represents a misdirection of resources. For every person who might be helped by research, we lose some number of people whose lives were just as important and who could have been saved had we invested instead in prevention. We don’t see those people—the news media prefers more sensational stories of “medical miracles” and individuals dying of incurable diseases, not the greater number dying of easily preventable causes illnesses and accidents.

So, the question is not “dogs or babies,” but whether we should support research that might save one life or put the same resources into preventive efforts that would save many.

Continued on next page

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Can't we eliminate frivolous experimentation, but keep doing serious research that may help those who get sick or injured despite a redirection of resources into prevention? Dollar for dollar, we can still help more people through prevention than through research. It's like splitting one's savings between two bank accounts: a "preventive" account offering 8 percent interest, and a "research" account offering 0.00002 percent interest. No matter how the principal is divided, the return is smaller than it would be with a total investment in the "preventive" account. And, of course, we are talking not about dollars earned but human lives saved.

Furthermore, supporting animal research focuses society's attention (apart from its resources) in the wrong direction; it implies that the best way to deal with disease is through research, and that people are helpless to save themselves. That actually discourages people from taking responsibility for their own well-being.

Doesn't prevention require research?

Yes, epidemiologic research. It was the epidemiologists (doctors who trace patterns of disease prevalence and incidence) who discovered the relationships between cigarette smoking and lung disease, between improper diet and cancer, between lack of exercise and heart disease, between environmental toxicity and death from poisoning. Animal models followed, duplicating what was already obvious.

Researchers often mention toxicity testing as an example of "preventive" animal experimentation. The facts are that: 1) the results of animal tests are hit-or-miss, sometimes resembling the results in humans and sometimes not; 2) *in vitro* methods already exist to take the place of much testing on live animals; and 3) new chemicals should not be mass-produced when we cannot even deal with the environmental damage caused by those already in use.

Testing drugs on animals is also a hit-or-miss process. Moreover, the great majority of new drugs are just copies of already existing drugs. New drugs are marketed not because there is a clinical need for them, but because they can be sold at enormous profit by the pharmaceutical manufacturers—which (like their parent companies, the giant chemical corporations) think nothing of dumping drugs on Third World markets that are too toxic and/or useless to sell in the U.S.

As for vaccines, few areas of medicine are so misunderstood. Vaccines played little role in reducing mortality from disease in the U.S., since the death rates from the diseases they were intended to prevent were already declining prior to the introduction of the various vaccines in current use. However, they did reduce the incidence of certain diseases. But while we want to prevent disease, we don't want to trade one disease now for a more serious one later on. And that is the crux of the matter. No one has the slightest idea of the long-term clinical consequences of mass vaccination in infancy. What it might be doing to the immune system years later is impossible to determine, since there is no unvaccinated group that is being followed for a lifetime to compare with the vaccinated population. Long-term

follow-up studies in laboratory animals are impossible for many reasons (longevity, differences in immune function, and the confounding effects of stress on the immune system). Animals are still used for testing batches of some vaccines, but that process is being replaced by more reliable *in vitro* methods.

Hasn't animal research accomplished anything?

Some members of the anti-vivisection movement deny that anything useful has ever come out of animal research. Others acknowledge that there have been certain beneficial results, though fewer than most people would suspect. But rather than debate about the past, we should be planning sensibly for the future. Starting now, how can resources be invested so as to produce the greatest health benefit for the greatest number of people? Animal research is *not* the answer.

In contrast to biomedical research using animals, clinical research on human patients is tremendously valuable. Such research goes on constantly, and is the source of most clinically useful discoveries. Animal models are often created simply to duplicate the observed results of clinical research.

When researchers point to a list of accomplishments that have come out of animal experimentation, it is like announcing that an investment is good because it has produced a profit of \$1,000. But to evaluate that profit, some perspective is needed: going from \$2,000 to \$3,000 in a year is good; going from \$1,000,000 to \$1,001,000 in a century is pathetic—and that is the type of "profit" that comes out of animal research.

People have been led to believe that hiring researchers to destroy animals in the laboratory is the best way to improve human health.

The slogan of the Salk Research Institute—"Basic Research, The Key to Health"—reveals the fundamental flaw of the research orientation. It implies that good health is an artificial state that must be created in the laboratory, that the natural state is illness, and that with a few megabucks for research, scientists can correct

the errors of God, nature, and evolution. Reliance on that kind of thinking has consistently placed the U.S., which has the largest research establishment in the world, at or near the bottom of the list of the world's industrialized nations in terms of health.

Science is not the answer to everything. Hiring chemists to ignite flammable fluids in the laboratory would be a silly way for a city to combat a wave of arson. Yet, while the vast majority of problems treated by doctors can be traced directly to such factors as smoking, drinking, improper diet, drug abuse, lack of exercise, and gross carelessness leading to accidents, people have been led to believe that hiring researchers to destroy animals in the laboratory is the best way to improve human health.

Steven Tiger is a Certified Physician's Assistant who now works as a medical writer and lecturer in medical physiology.

FOOTNOTES:

- 1 T. McKeown, R.G. Record, R.D. Turner: *An Interpretation of the Decline in Mortality in England and Wales During the Twentieth Century*. Population Studies 1975; 29:391.
- 2 J.B. McKinlay, S.M. McKinlay: *The Questionable Contribution of Medical Measures to the Decline of Mortality in the United States in the Twentieth Century*. Health and Society Summer 1977; 405-428.

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THE DOLE DILEMMA:

GOING FOR THE QUICK FIX?

BY PATRICE GREANVILLE



Senator Robert Dole

Of the Republican candidates for president, Dole's candidacy is the only one that even deserves consideration. The records of the other Republicans are barely short of atrocious.

Yearning for a friend in high places

Changing deeply-held social attitudes is a difficult job. That's why patience, as much as courage, intelligence, and compassion, are indispensable qualities of those who attempt to transform society. Frustration with the slow pace of events, however, is understandable, and it is frustration that causes some to grope for a formula which can accelerate historical processes. I mention this because the last few months have witnessed an aggressive effort on the part of some prominent activists to unite the animal defense community behind Republican Senator Bob Dole's presidential candidacy.

Is this a good idea? I rather doubt it. Despite the excellent intentions of its proponents, the "Dole for President" drive by animal activists is in some respects seriously misguided. It's not only that overreliance on a powerful friend may distract from the indispensable task of building a mass social base. That's almost secondary. It's that the underlying premise is flawed. For here we are being asked to support a presidential candidate *solely* on the strength of his performance on one issue—lab animals—and to ignore the rest of his political baggage. Won't this animal rights "endorsement" of the Dole/GOP ticket damage our political credibility with other social change constituencies—blacks, feminists, environmentalists, labor, peace and Third World activists—and confirm the notion, already uncomfortably widespread, that we're simply a bunch of white, upper middle-class, misanthropic loonies?

Looking at the whole picture

What kind of a record does Bob Dole really have? After almost thirty years on Capitol Hill his contributions on Capitol Hill shouldn't be exaggerated. Animal defenders are rightly indebted to him for the 1985 Brown/Dole amendments to the Animal Welfare Act which, weak as they are, nonetheless improved the pre- and post-experiment treatment of lab animals, and for his support, ten years ago, for the Federal Humane Slaughter Act. And he's to be warmly commended for introducing a resolution to establish this April as "National Adopt-A-Litter Month," a potentially helpful instrument to awaken the public about the pet overpopulation issue. But that's about all. On the other hand, on the minus side, there's Dole's long-standing coziness with agribusiness, and the intensive animal exploitation methods it implies. Some activists feel this position alone is enough to disqualify him, but they may be asking too much. As a Kansan, Dole's power base is rooted in the farmbelt, and, whatever he may really think about the issue, his support for big farm subsidies is the inevitable price he may have to pay to stay in business.

But whatever Dole's contributions to animal welfare, his moral stature must also be judged by his record on people, and here problems abound. A war hero and self-styled "conservative populist" from the "hard-time heartlands," Dole was first elected to the House in 1960, and soon established himself as one of Congress's most recalcitrant conservatives. A member of the party's Barry Goldwater wing, he voted against nearly every social relief measure proposed by the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, including Medicare.

Over the years, with his Kansas home base more secure, and partly to expand the GOP's narrow social base, Dole has softened his hardline attitudes somewhat, and compiled a record at home which is perhaps mediocre but not damning. Indeed, the real problem begins with his stance on two important moral issues of our time: South African apartheid, and U.S. efforts to overthrow the Nicaraguan government through its surrogate forces, the contras—a strategy of military harassment and economic strangulation which is also being applied to Angola and Mozambique.

In Nicaragua, Dole has consistently led the anti-Sandinista charge on Capitol Hill, but has moved farther to the right as he has watched the political winds within his party shift. Many in the U.S.—and the majority of world opinion, including the World Court—condemn the contras as an illegitimate force with little or no political backing inside Nicaragua, and with no political program except sapping the strength of the country. Amply supplied by the U.S., on whom they remain totally dependent, the contras are responsible for an extraordinarily high number of savage attacks on Nicaraguan civilians, especially those working on farm cooperatives, education and health projects. The lethal magnitude of this policy of terrorism (for don't we call terrorists those who attack civilians?) is better comprehended by the 40,000 casualties already inflicted, many of them children. In American population terms, that would be the equivalent of almost four million people dead and wounded—more than all the people living in the state of Connecticut.

As is the case with all criminal policies, contra apologists have justified the assault on Nicaragua through a constant barrage of inflammatory lies, attempts at frame-ups, and self-righteous proclamations, and by subjecting that country to a double standard of compliance with democratic rules that we wouldn't dream of applying to any of our client states. The chiseling has debased the American government, subverted the Constitution (Irangate was, after all, an attempt to circumvent the will of the people by setting up a shadow foreign policy/military apparatus accountable to no one but a tiny circle of zealots deeply ensconced in the White House), and divided the

nation. Has Dole learned from these mistakes? Hardly. After Congress narrowly defeated a contra aid request in early February, he was soon back in action helping to set up a private fund to keep the rebels going.

Dole's shabby posture on Nicaragua is rivaled by his position on Southern Africa. A long-time apologist for apartheid, Dole has led the Senate fight against the imposition of sanctions against South Africa; pleaded for the continuance of normal diplomatic relations with Pretoria, and served as point man for the contra-like forces operating in Angola and Mozambique. In this he's had the unswerving support of fellow Republicans Jack Kemp and Jesse Helms. As in Nicaragua, the rebels (which are also being supplied and militarily supported by South Africa as part of its *own* program of regional havoc) have concentrated on "soft targets"—farm projects, incipient industries, roads, hospitals and schools. Their only accomplishments have been the massacre, starvation, and mutilation of tens of thousands of innocent people, and the transformation of these two desperately poor nations into countries of refugees. Both rebel organizations, Unita (operating in Angola), and Renamo (Mozambique), have little in the way of a serious political agenda or popular backing. Yet the policy of slow military terrorism and economic strangulation they facilitate *is* working.

Robert Dole's backing for Renamo is particularly galling. Consider the following account of the 12-year-old conflict published in *The New York Times*—certainly no Bolshevik rag—and authenticated through CARE International and a group of leading international journalists:

War with no foreseeable end has affected at least 115 of the country's 140 or so districts. It has no front line but ebbs and flows through the countryside like an ocean's tide...The war, which pits the anti-Communist Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) against the Marxist Government of President Joaquim A. Chissano, has made survival tenuous for millions of Mozambicans, whose levels of malnutrition and infant mortality are among the highest in the world...Scenes of devastation and accounts of blood-stained inhumanity abound. A 14-year-old boy, speaking barely above a whisper, recalled how he had been kidnapped by rebels, held for four years and forced to kill two people to show that he could use a gun.

Relief workers described the ordeal of another child whom rebels coerced into killing his father. The boy's refusal to kill again cost him an ear and several finger tips. ("Seemingly Endless War Is Strangling Mozambique," Jan. 25, 1988)

Wounded by association?

These are the "freedom fighters" Dole finds so admirable. But, of course, some may claim this is not entirely Dole's fault; that it's Reagan's policy, too. So what about that? What of the GOP

ticket itself? Here the Dole bid may be wounded by association, which is unfair, but too much has happened during the Reagan years. As a key GOP insider, can Dole claim to be an innocent bystander during this entire period?

While the Democrats are no prize, the GOP record under Reagan is one of stupefying greed, insensitivity to the poor (many social programs were eliminated or cut to the bone while trillions of dollars were transferred to the biggest arms buildup in recent memory), lawlessness, and cynicism in the conduct of foreign policy. By last count 110 Reagan Administration officials had been accused or convicted of unethical or illegal conduct, and, as an editorialist for *The New York Times* correctly noted, "Attorney General Edwin Meese 3rd seems to be busier as a defendant than a prosecutor."

Also, the Reagan/GOP years have been marked by a determined attempt to cripple the enforcement capability of most federal agencies charged with the protection and safety of consumers, workers and the environment. In an area of particular interest to us, Reagan appointees literally gutted the Environmental Protection Agency, thereby allowing the spread of water and air pollution to continue unimpeded; they opened more public lands to the ravages of commercial, hunting, and trapping use; had to be sued to force them to press sanctions against Japan for its continued whaling; and repeatedly refused to budget funds for the enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act. Need we say more?

The Dole endorsement drive may be a test of our moral fiber. For the crux of the matter is whether or not the animal rights movement really gives a hoot about *human animal* victims of exploitation and oppression. Joining the Dole for President bandwagon could only be interpreted as a betrayal of what the animal rights idea is supposed to be—an *expansion* of the realm of moral consideration, not a crass attempt at substituting one class of victims for another.

Justice and fellowship—it bears repeating—are not advanced by abandoning our fellows to their fate when it's expedient to do so. Justice for some can never be built on a platform of injustice for others. The weak, the poor, the exploited, the discriminated, those who can't speak for themselves, the faceless subjects of brutal death and persecution—they are all members of the same community. The tragedy of a six-year-old child, blind and covered with phosphorus burns in Nicaragua, is as sad as that of a veal calf, unable to move in his stall, awaiting slaughter. For whether the victim of injustice is human or nonhuman is irrelevant: an injury to one is an injury to all. After all, as we always say, they can all suffer, can't they?

My special thanks to Mark Sommer for his invaluable help with this column.

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Justice and fellowship are not advanced by abandoning our fellows to their fate when it's expedient to do so. Justice for some can never be built on a platform of injustice for others.

PART I

The Media: Making an Impact

BY RENEE BLAKE

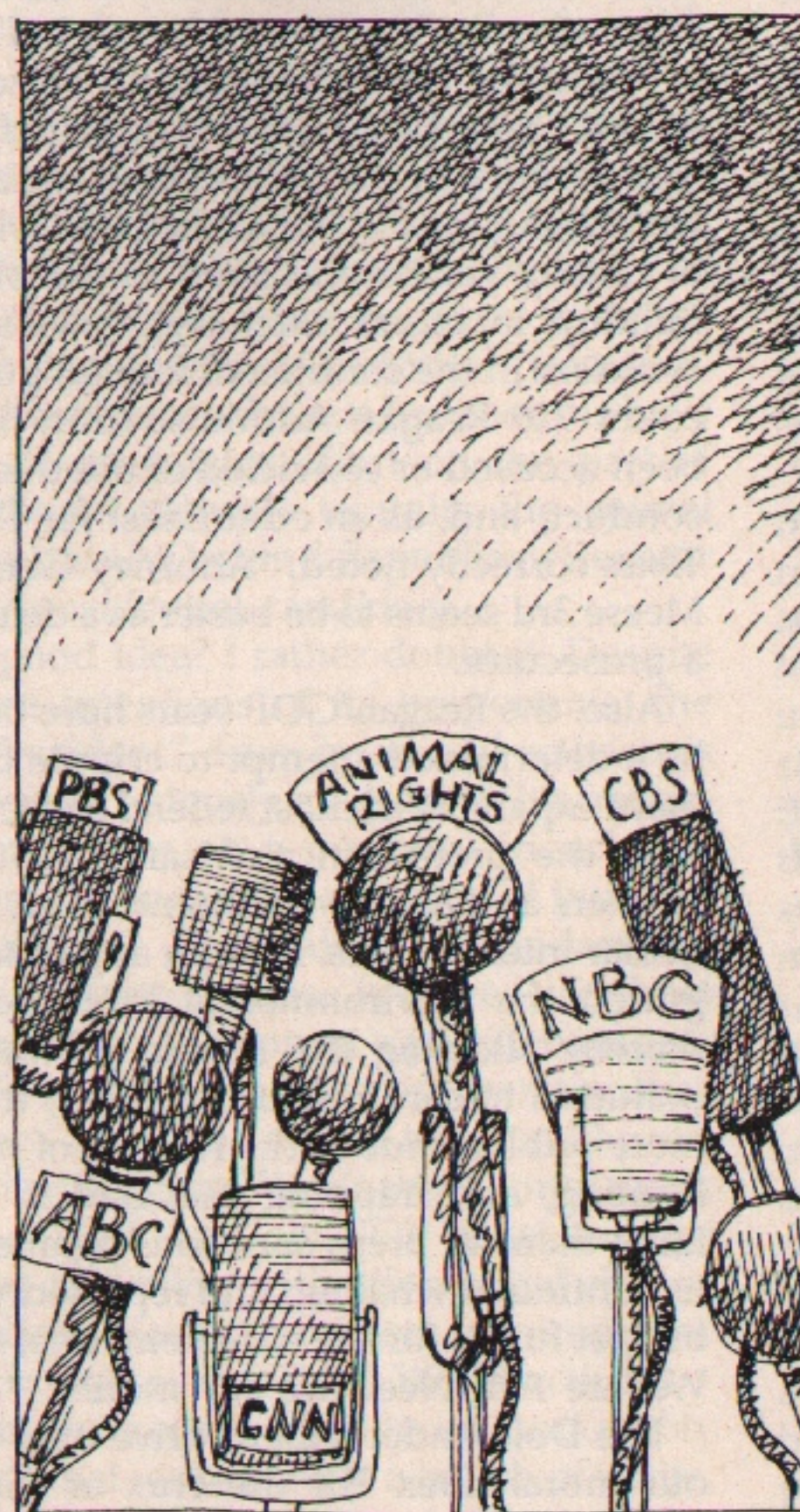
I had just changed jobs. A handwritten letter in a stack of mail had arrived requesting a public service announcement about spaying and neutering dogs and cats. It was one of maybe 10 or 15 that had arrived that day. When I started to prepare it for broadcast, I noticed it had no telephone number listed to call for verification. If I hadn't already been predisposed to broadcast the message, I would have probably laid it aside or thrown it away, and spent my time instead on the announcements that were complete and easy to understand.

While we may be "turned off" by the superficiality of the media, we must concede that it is being used—and used effectively—to maintain the animal-abusing status quo. For example, when a syndicated rock program is sponsored by a pork producers' association, when 60 Minutes can get away with producing a program on animal rights that sets doctors' "testimony" against that of an actress, when CBS News portrays animal rights activists as guerrilla fighters, and when Trapper John, M.D. presents two dogs whose hearts have been exchanged as a viable means of saving a little boy's life, we get a glimpse of the potency of the media as a tool for opposing animal rights ideas.

It is the general public's basic decision-making process that is affected by this sort of exposure. To combat it, we must be equally convincing. There are plenty of things animal rights groups can do to use the media to project the right message—even without the benefit of a public relations expert or a marketing and development team. Creativity and media sophistication are the two major elements of any P.R. campaign, whether a professional or volunteer effort.

Marketing animal rights

There is free publicity available from a wide variety of sources: television, radio, daily and weekly newspapers, throw-away supermarket bargain papers, and house organs of churches, corpora-



—Walt Taylor

tions, and schools. Tapping those sources effectively requires some research and organization. The following is a list of things to find out:

1. The names and call letters of all television stations.
 - a. The correct name, gender, title, address and phone number of the program director, public affairs director, news director, and public service director at each station.
 - b. The names of any talk shows, news or public affairs programs, or call-in shows that originate at each station, and the names of the producers.
2. The same information for all radio stations.
3. The names of all the newspapers (daily and weekly) that cover the area.
 - a. The correct name, gender, title, address and phone number of the editor, city editor, features editor, science editor, outdoor editor, political editor, cooking/food editor, calendar editor, financial

editor, etc. Find out if there is a column about animals (probably "pet" care), or a writer who specializes in animal stories.

4. Find out who is in charge of publications and public relations at corporations, churches, universities, or other organizations that may have a high community profile.

5. Determine if there is a local office or contact for Associated Press (AP), United Press International (UPI), or Reuters Wire Services. This extra step can prove valuable in increasing your coverage. State wires can spread your story statewide, and, if a story is of national consequence, it may be picked up on the national newsfeed—blanket coverage that a single reporter could never achieve alone. If you are unable to access the wire service yourself, ask your local news contact if he or she will write your story for the wire and/or news network and try to get it published or broadcast. For this, the story needs a strong angle and a sympathetic reporter.

Compile all the information into an organized system (Rolodex, card file, or computer). Then familiarize yourself with the media market by perusing all the publications, and sampling the TV and radio programs. Try to get a feel for attitudes. Are there announcers, moderators, reporters, or writers who seem sympathetic to animals? Do any seem to oppose animal rights? Sometimes those who champion animal rights don't fit into any of the aforementioned title categories, but add them to your list. Consider approaching unsympathetic persons (with tact and reason) to make your points.

When your initial research is finished, begin making contacts. Compose an introductory letter to each person on your list, making it look as professional as possible. If you can do it on letterhead, so much the better—but be sure to type and sign it, and give a phone number and address. Introduce yourself and discuss an issue or two. You may enclose a photograph or a pamphlet, but don't weigh the letter down with too much material or literature.

Wait a week after sending the letter, and then follow up with a telephone call asking for an appointment. Many times, the object of your attention will not have time

to talk, and will want to get right to the point. Oblige him or her by being prepared with a news story or a suggestion of a speaker or interviewee. Be ready for someone to want to schedule interview time or a story at a moment's notice, and call with that in mind.

Public service announcements

There's a garage sale coming up to benefit the local spay/neuter clinic. This is your first chance to work with the public service director, to whom you will send a public service announcement (PSA).

Write a brief message telling what, where, when, and who (who will be benefitted, and who to contact for verification or more information). Indicate if a name and phone number should be used in the announcement. The preferred length of a PSA is 30 seconds, but notices of 10, 15, 20, and 60-second lengths are also acceptable. Time your message by reading it aloud, using the second hand of a watch, and mark the length at the top of the page. If you are holding a workshop or event with a fee, be sure to mention that your group is nonprofit; include your tax identification number if you have one.

Keep in mind that hundreds of PSAs reach the desk of the person handling this task each week. Many of them will be thrown away. It is to your benefit to correctly spell the name of the addressee, to type the message, to keep it simple and short, to put it on letterhead, to note nonprofit status, and to tell him or her how to reach you. Check your copy thoroughly. Be sure it tells the whole story, and that you didn't forget the date, time, place, directions, cost, or who will benefit by this announcement.

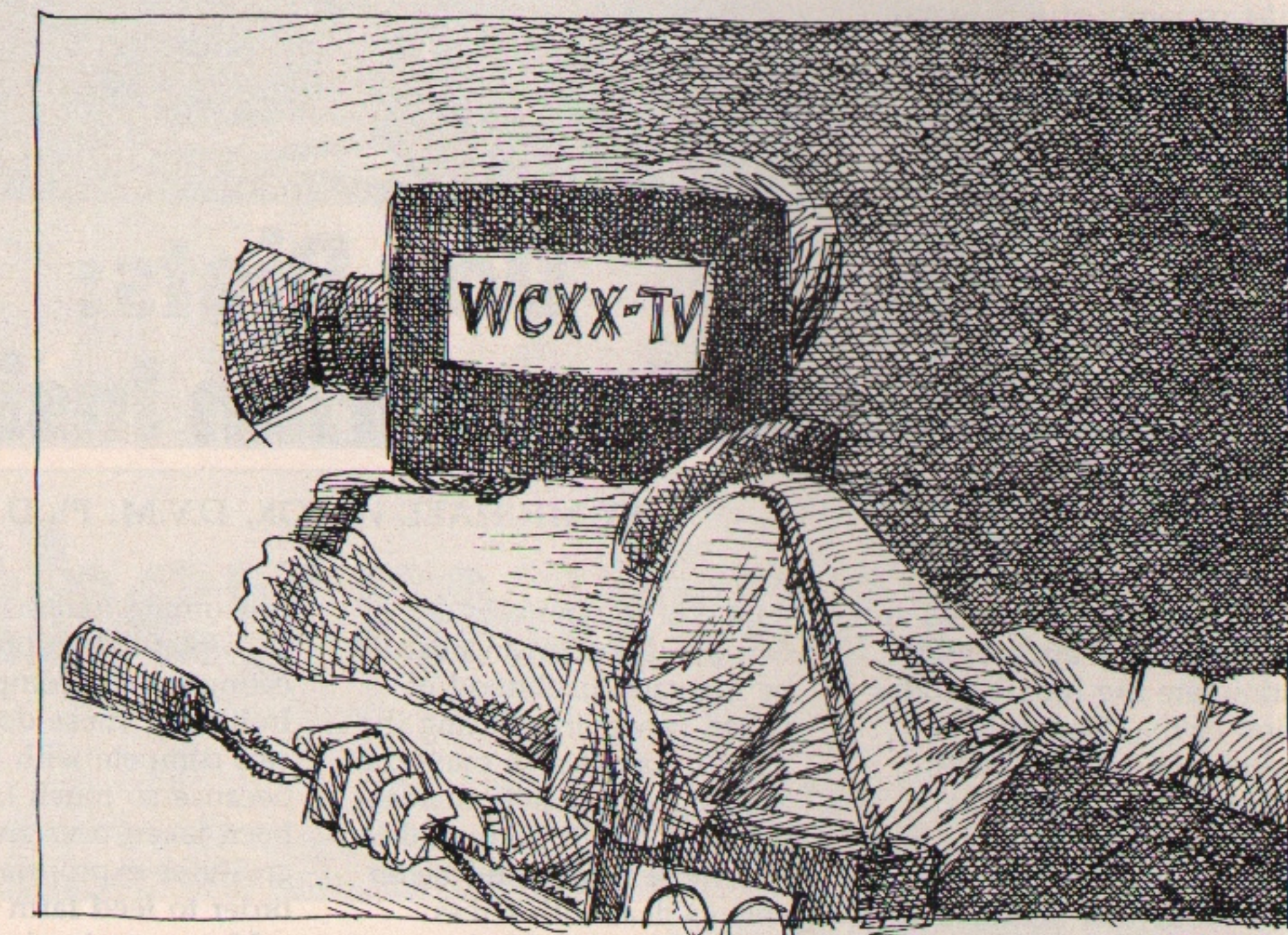
Newspapers have a different way of handling community announcements. They often print a weekly schedule of upcoming events in the area. You will send a notice to the calendar editor, including all the information suggested for PSAs.

It is advisable to have PSAs for television reach their destination three weeks in advance of the date of broadcast. For radio, the length of lead time is generally two weeks. Print media deadlines vary, so check with the newspaper or magazine.

The appeal of celebrities

One of the best ways to get attention is to use a celebrity as your mouthpiece. Sometimes celebrities are willing to voice or appear in PSAs. Choose your celebrity on the basis of what audience you want to reach. For example, if you're

There are plenty of things animal rights groups can do to use the media to project the right message—even without the benefit of a public relations expert or a marketing and development team.



—Walt Taylor

going for the younger set, consider a popular rock musician.

There may be local celebrities in your community who would fill the bill (socialites, civic leaders, popular newscasters, or talk show hosts), and they should be relatively easy to contact. For the more famous, such as movie stars, a copy of the Studio Blu-Book will be helpful in tracking down their talent agents and personal managers. To order one, contact The Hollywood Reporter at 6715 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028; (213) 464-7411. The price is currently \$46.10 including tax and shipping. If you don't want to go to that expense, begin your quest by contacting the celebrity's production company, publisher, etc. Be prepared to make a number of telephone calls before you reach the right person. You may also wish to contact Actors and Others for Animals (5510 Cahuenga Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601) for advice and suggestions.

The person who represents the celebrity will want to know who you are, who you represent, why you are calling, what you will pay for the service you want, and what doing something for you will mean for his or her client or employer. Explain

that this is a charitable act, remembering that celebrities are attention-grabbers. They speak for all sorts of causes; they hold benefits. Why shouldn't one of their efforts be on behalf of animals? Celebrities on their way up or making a comeback may be more interested in a cause that will give them visibility. Never expect someone to do a service—request it.

And be sure to point out to the agent or manager all possible benefits to the celebrity. Give him or her some options, if possible. There might be a number of things this person can do to help your group or project (sing a song, write a story, speak to a group, join a demonstration, perform a benefit, autograph some photographs for auction, or merely lend his or her name to your organization for prestige). Know what you want, but if you can't get it, have a back-up request for something else you might expect to obtain from a compassionate but very busy celebrity.

Coming Next Month: Making the News

Renee Blake has been a professional radio broadcaster since 1974. She is presently Program Director of WKXL-FM in Concord, N.H.

Nutritional scientists are now discovering what our body wisdom has always known: namely that what we eat can affect our moods and temperament. I have known a handful of veterinarians over my 25 years of practice who insist that such body wisdom is evident in animals and that diet certainly affects mood and temperament—especially in dogs. Dogs, who are naturally more omnivorous than cats and thus more like humans, often become less aggressive when put on a high carbohydrate diet.

In *Managing Your Mind and Mood Through Food*, Dr. Judith J. Wurtman of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has made similar observations in humans. Carbohydrate foods are relaxing, reducing stress and anxiety. They apparently stimulate the brain's production of the chemical serotonin, which causes "feel good" changes in mood and behavior. Lean meat, in contrast, is one of the foods that stimulates brain chemicals dopamine and norepinephrine, which have long been known to be linked with fright, flight or fight reactions, and with increased alertness. That some dogs become terrified when meat (particularly lamb) is being cooked, may be due to some of these chemicals (possibly pheromones) associated with fear reactions prior to slaughter being released from the meat.



Betty Provell

Dog Diets: A Vegetarian Insight

BY MICHAEL W. FOX, D.V.M. Ph.D.

One of the benefits of world vegetarianism might be a greater likelihood of world peace, if reducing the amount of meat in one's diet and proportionately increasing the plant content makes one more pacific and better able to deal with stress. Such a diet would also greatly reduce the risks of cancer, strokes, heart attacks, and other common diseases and disorders. Some believe that such a dietary change would help bring peace between humankind and the environment, since meat-based agriculture is destructive of ecosystems and contributes to the extinction of wildlife and plants. It is ironic that the over-affluent, high-meat-

consuming nations have a high population of meat-eating animal companions. Indirectly, these dogs and cats compete with wildlife because so much land has been taken over and wild creatures expropriated in order to feed farm animals.

More veterinarians today feel that a high-meat diet is unnecessary and often bad for dogs, just as human nutritionists now believe it is so for humans also. Years ago as a veterinary student, I studied the care and health problems of British sheep dogs. These hard-working dogs were fed by most shepherds on a diet made up almost exclusively of cereal (corn flakes and hot water). They had some nutritional problems on this diet, but far less than one might have expected. What this study suggests is that the average dog will do well on a well-formulated vegetarian diet. I would encourage pet food manufacturers to rely less on agribusiness's cheap meat and poultry byproducts and condemned body parts, and instead focus on better non-meat diets. Dogs would benefit in health and temperament worldwide. And the 1.5 to 2 million oc-

currences of people being bitten by dogs in the U.S. alone might also be significantly reduced since dogs might be less aggressive.

The economic, ecological, and health benefits of people and their dogs adopting vegetarian diets are gaining public recognition and scientific validation. Dry and canned vegetarian dogfood is already available by special order. One major U.S. pet food company has recently publicized its finding that dogs digest and assimilate soy protein more efficiently and completely than animal protein. The trend toward less and less meat and poultry by-products in commercial pet foods should be welcomed by dog guardians and encouraged by all concerned. And so informed, should we not also consider the nutritional wisdom of adopting vegetarianism for the whole family as well as for our dogs?

We should not, however, make up a vegetarian diet for our dogs without first seeking professional advice. Obesity is becoming a serious problem in dogs as it is with humans. More activity and a lower calorie diet are essential. Less fat is better than less carbohydrate since fat is not only a contributing factor in obesity, but can cause dietary imbalances since it interferes with the digestion and assimilation of essential nutrients.

The old truism "everything in moderation" holds true for what we eat and feed to our dogs. We have gone overboard with meat and animal fat in our diets and theirs. And now there is sufficient evidence from many points of concern to support a dietary change: the consumption of fewer animal products—if any at all—by humans and canines alike.

Dr. Fox is a vice president of The Humane Society of the United States.

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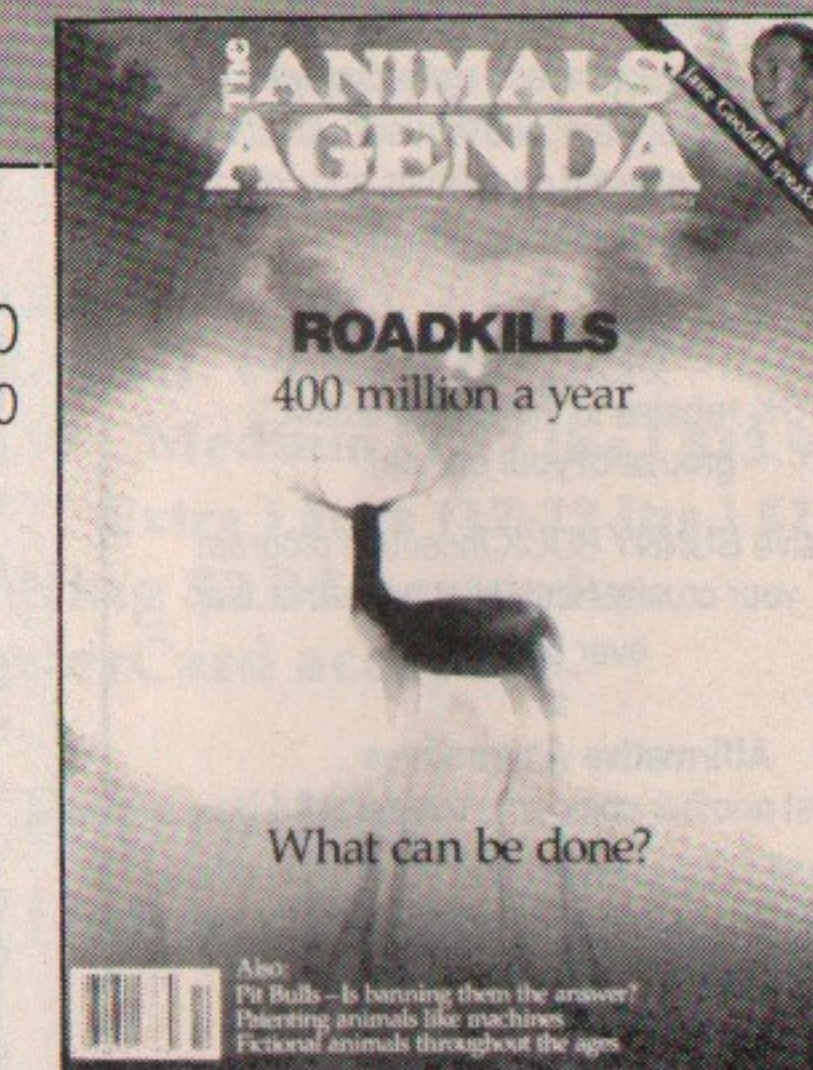
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COMPASSIONATE LIVING The Write Stuff

BY VICTORIA MORAN

There is a simple way to make an impact on the state of the animal world today, something that a person can do who has very little time—or very little money. This thing is, of course, letter writing. Each issue of *The ANIMALS' AGENDA* is replete with letter-writing opportunities. I see activists' letters as falling into three categories: 1) those to people, companies, universities, or other entities that are abusing animals; 2) those to people or institutions who have done something good for animals or have ceased doing something harmful; and 3) those to people who aren't directly involved in a particular situation, but who might be able to help. Letters to legislators generally fit into the third category, as do letters to editors. Letters can be helpful in very practical ways: in some cases, letter-writing campaigns by themselves have effected major policy changes both by businesses and government agencies.

Veteran letter-writers often set aside a block of time each week for correspondence. They keep informational material in an accessible place, and write for an hour or two—or whatever they've committed themselves to. Other stalwarts of the "stamp brigade" gather in letter-writing groups on a weekly or biweekly basis. Jennifer Holmes of Milwaukee has been involved with such a group for years now, and finds that it gives people a chance to work together. Everyone brings letter ideas and information along with their writing materials.

Form is secondary to content in the letters game, but a good-looking missive will be better received than a sloppy one. If you're serious about this sort of activism, investing in nice letterhead stationery and a typing course can pay off. Even without a letterhead, a neatly typed letter on white bond paper (heavy 20-pound stock is best) makes an excellent impression. Whether you type or write by hand, though, avoid using notebook paper.

At times, a simple postcard will suffice to get your message across. The postcards that some groups send out with the message already printed (their members only need sign and mail them) carry much less impact than original words, but they're better than nothing at all.

Much of the correspondence generated by desk-and-dictionary activists is to government officials, often Senators and Representatives in Washington, D.C. or

state capitols. The following guidelines from the League of Women Voters apply specifically to this type of letter-writing, but many of the suggestions can be applied to other pro-animal correspondence.

- Address the individual properly (the correct form of address is *The Honorable Jane Doe*; for the salutation, write *Dear Senator Doe* or *Dear Representative Doe*).
- Be brief and to-the-point—try to stick to one issue per letter.
- Identify bills by title and number.
- Be courteous and reasonable, not rude or threatening.
- Include pertinent editorials from local papers.
- Write early in the Congressional session, before a bill has been introduced, if you have ideas you would like to see incorporated into legislation.
- Write to the chair or members of a committee holding hearings on legislation if you have facts that might influence their thinking.
- Don't apologize for taking the addressee's time—constituent input is vital to the democratic process.
- Don't say, "I hope this gets by your secretary."
- Don't be vague.
- Don't write to a legislator from another district or state just because you disagree politically with your own; the letter will probably be forwarded to your representative.

In personal correspondence, the use of postcards, notes, or stationery from animal rights organizations with printed messages, eye-catching photos, or charming illustrations can help to open the eyes and sensitivities of relatives and friends. There are many sources for these items, but some of the best can be purchased from: Gentle World (P.O. Box 1418, Umatilla, FL 32784); Harbingers of a New Age (P.O. Box 146, Swisshome, OR 97480); Robert Walmire (R.R. 2, Rochester, IL 62563); and Baltimore Vegetarians (P.O. Box 1463, Baltimore, MD 21203), which has great postcards with recipes—why, even my mother makes their vegan blueberry muffins!

Readers may write to Ms. Moran in care of *The ANIMALS' AGENDA*. Questions of general interest may be answered in future columns.

Echoes of a Lab Animal

I bleed like you
I cry inside
I was born with a will
to live not die.

Who are you to play God with my fate?
To shock my feet with electric grates.
I only want to breathe and be free
But prison you made my destiny.

To make your Ph.D. come true
You'll insert a wire, maybe two.
A probe here, a shock there
You watch me with no despair.

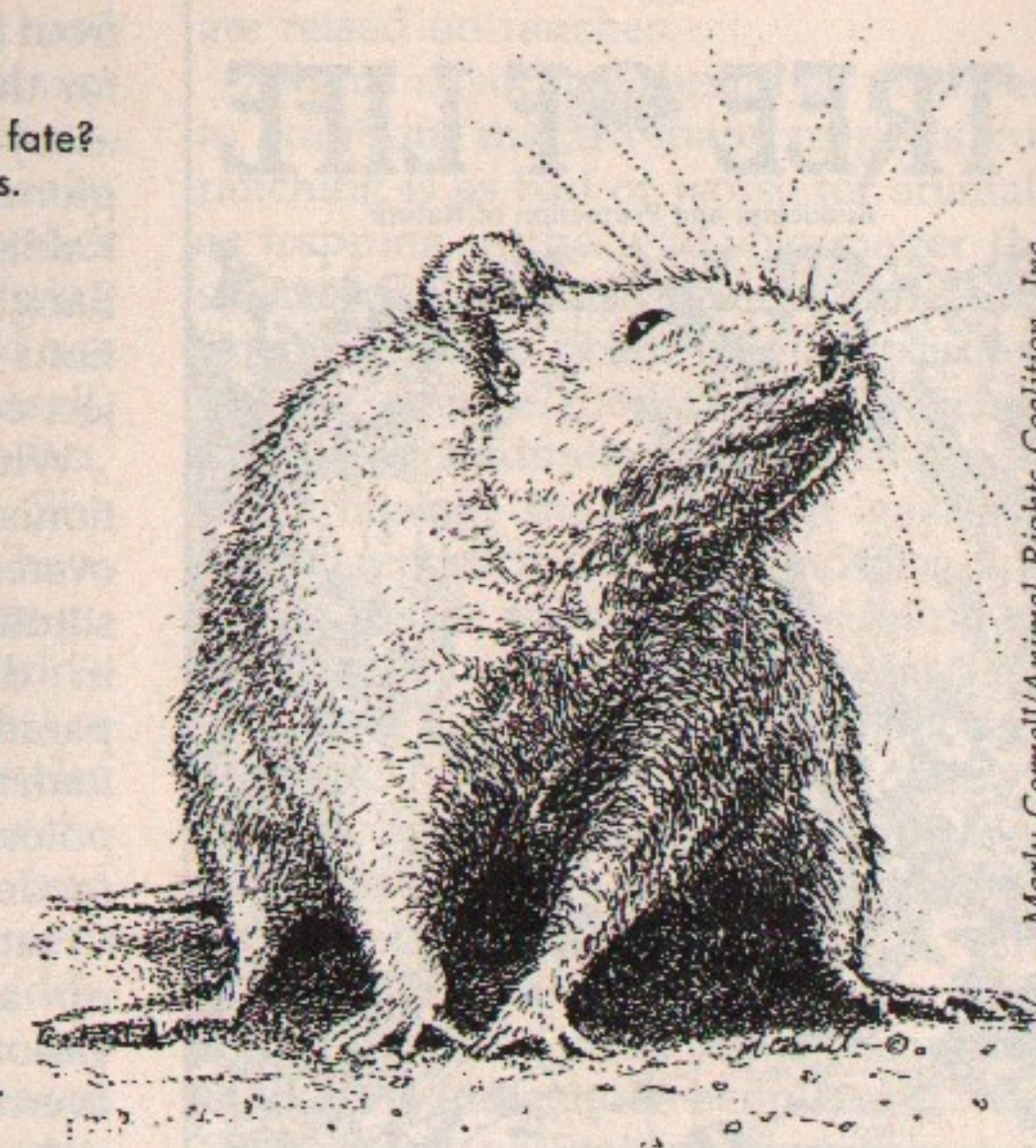
You hear my yells
You hear my cries
Unflinching you write
You theorize.

I cannot build with hammer or nail
But nor can I set war bombs a sail.
I can however feel the pain
That you inject through my veins.

The conclusions you draw
Are they worth my life?
"Subject given 220 volts,
in his throat we place a knife.
Subject convulsing, crying the same.
We conclude this causes pain."

Oh, someone, please, someone, hear my cry.
If this is life I rather die.
With each unthinking daily plan
Another is tortured by the hands of man.

—Fran Capo



—Marly Cornell/Animal Rights Coalition, Inc.

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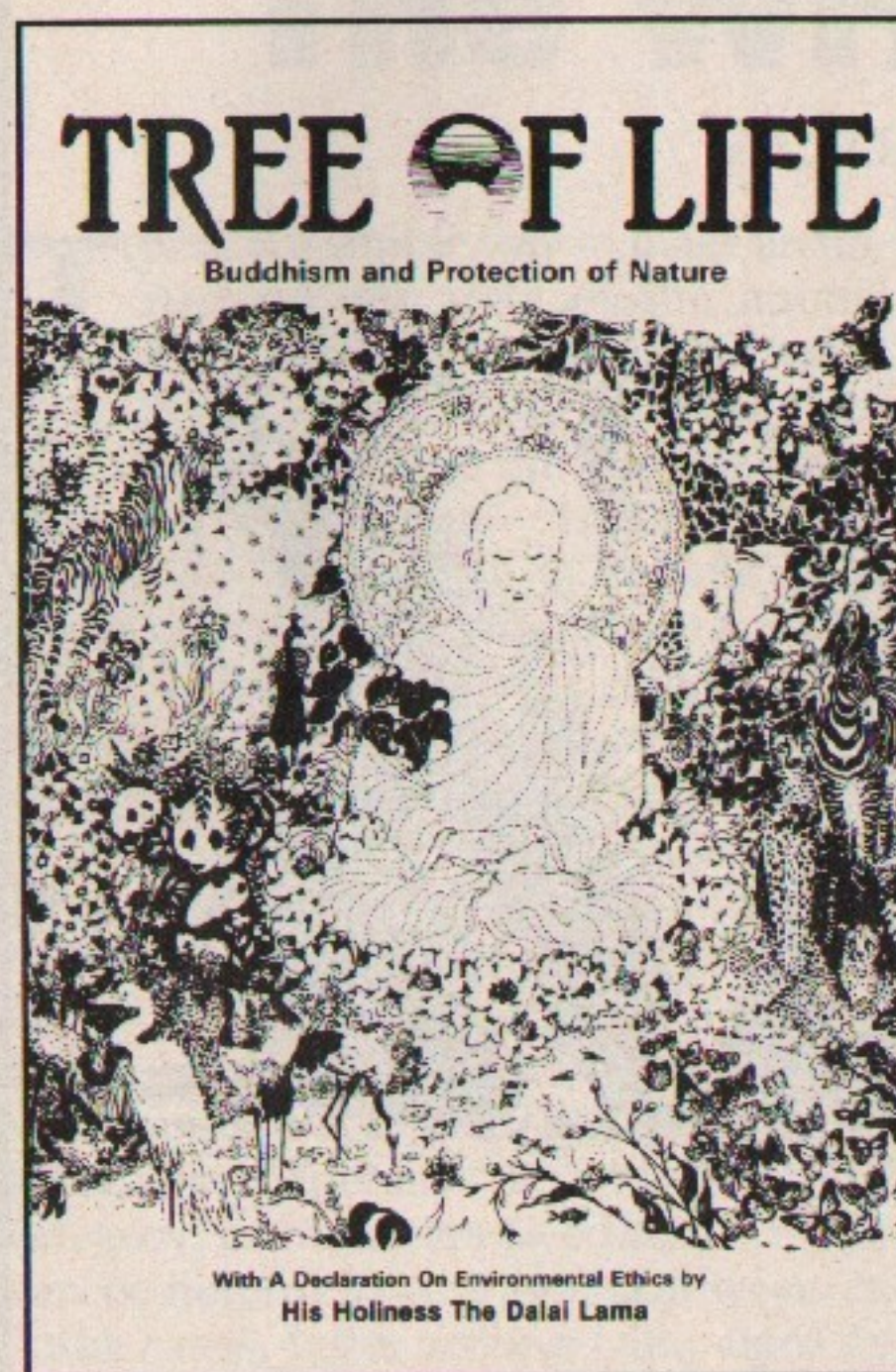
To Save the Sacred Banyan

Tree of Life

Edited by Shann Davies
Buddhist Perception of Nature, 1987
\$6.00 paperback, 100 pages

Working as a consultant to the World Wildlife Fund in 1979, Nancy Nash proposed that the worldwide conservation movement begin to reach out to the major religious traditions for help in protecting the Earth and its plant and animal inhabitants from ruin. Six years later, her idea began to bloom as the Buddhist Perception of Nature project, which published *Tree of Life* in 1987. Because of its core doctrine of compassion for all life and its influence in many parts of Asia that have rare species, Buddhism was selected for the pilot of the "religion-to-help-conservation project."

Less a definitive work than an introduction to the multifaceted program, *Tree of Life* is composed of three translations (English, Tibetan, and Thai) of five essays.



The Dalai Lama of Tibet—who, as spiritual leader of many of the world's half billion Buddhists, is the book's most celebrated contributor—sums up the project's theme: "Peace and survival of life on earth as we know it are threatened by human activities which lack a commitment to humanitarian values. Destruction

of nature and natural resources results from ignorance, greed and lack of respect for the earth's living things." The other essayists are: international conservation pioneer Sir Peter Scott, Dr. Chatsumarn Kabilsingh of Thammasat University in Bangkok, Nay Htun of the United Nations Environment Programme, and project coordinator Nancy Nash.

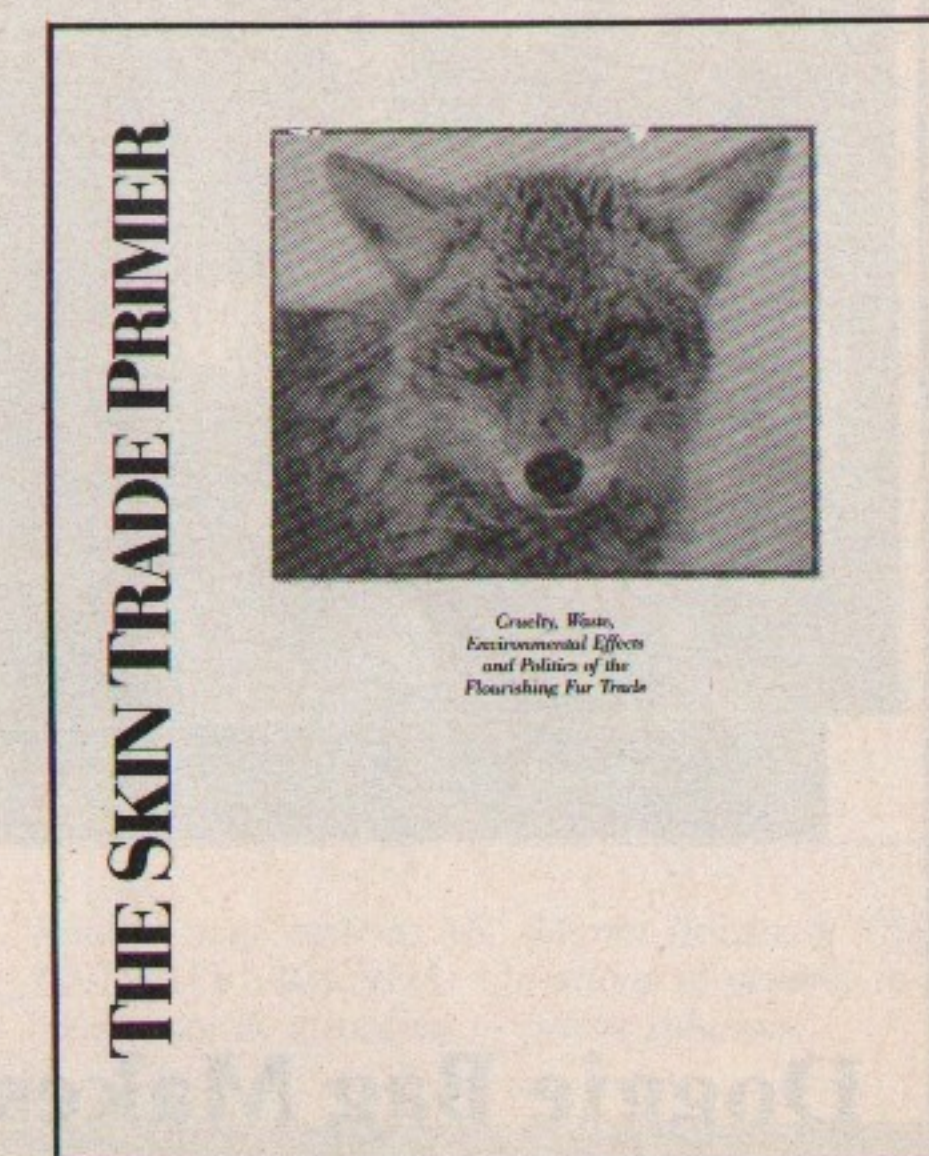
While it is important that conservationists and animal welfarists alike do not overestimate the chances for involving institutionalized religion in a leadership role in dismantling the anthropocentric paradigm, it is equally important not to underestimate religion's slumbering potential for creating a more thoughtful model of human "stewardship" of nature. Creative activism is essential to opening up a meaningful dialogue with the various religious communities, but such overtures will be most successful with the right scholastic accompaniment. It is, therefore, encouraging that 1987 saw the publication of a number of tracts on religion and animals. *Tree of Life* is short, but the message should reach far.

—Kim Bartlett

Tree of Life is available for \$6.00 from the Center for Respect of Life and the Environment, 2100 L Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

ing off the backs of other creatures.

Up to now, attempts to ban the steel-jaw leghold trap in state legislatures have represented the most persistent attack on a segment of the fur industry. To counter that offensive, industry strategists have come up with a nifty idea: offer a seeming compromise—a rubber-padded steel



Furs as Frivolous

The Skin Trade Primer: Cruelty, Waste, Environmental Effects and Politics of the Flourishing Fur Trade

By Susan Russell
Friends of Animals (Order from One Pine St., Neptune, NJ 07753), 1987
\$9.00, softcover, 76 pp.

Taking the pulse of fur retailers, suppliers, and propagandists, Susan Russell, executive vice president of Friends of Animals, has compiled a brief but rich resource manual on the fur controversy. If Russell sends off an implicit message, it is that the animal rights movement must wake up to the new look and style of the fur industry—not to its longer mink coats, but to its slick propaganda and 1980s marketing.

Russell rehashes arguments against leghold traps and snares—such as their nonselectivity and waste—that every wildlife advocate should understand. But

the fur industry is not just an industry of trappers, but of one of retailers, manufacturers, fur ranchers, and public relations. In dollars and cents, it's a multinational enterprise which has, for the moment at least, successfully cultivated a broad consumer base in the U.S.

Anti-fur activities present the most significant long-term threat to brisk fur sales, and the industry has organized itself to deflect that challenge. A polemic from beginning to end, Russell's *Skin Trade Primer* identifies and rebuts the tactics and strategies of those making a liv-

trap in place of the traditional all-steel trap—and convince people, by citing hard scientific evidence, that the modified version is a step in the humane direction.

Claiming the padded trap is a sneaky diversion, Russell has gathered together existing "scientific" literature supporting the idea that the trap is humane, and has challenged its methodology. To Russell, the shoddy science is no accident; in fact, it is a product of biased studies. She points out that most of these studies have been sponsored by industry groups (e.g., Woodstream Corporation, the world's largest manufacturer of leghold traps) or state or Federal fish and game agencies (e.g., the Fur Resources Committee of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies). Russell argues that "a major problem with these traps, in addition to the heinous suffering in any leghold, has always been the increased damage to teeth and jaws [of the animals]." In sum, any steel-jaw leghold trap—no matter if it has a little rubber on it—is a deadly device for an animal.

Padded traps are only one of the devices the industry has pulled out of its magician's hat. Russell points out that Fur is For Life (now the Fur Retailers Information Council), an industry public relations outfit, "depended on the public believing the fur garment center in New York operates for altruistic reasons: to protect the public from wildlife epizootics [sic] like rabies, and to protect wildlife itself from 'overpopulating.'" Again, Russell offers convincing evidence that "prophets of doom" have presented little proof to support these claims. Citing studies concluding that "trapping to control rabies is considered to be an exercise in futility," Russell points out that the industry's position on rabies has virtually no disinterested scientific supporters. The claims about overpopulation would seem to have little support as well when one considers that decimating factors (e.g., exposure to heat and cold, predation) constantly and persistently work to check animal populations.

Such arguments from the furriers, while striking a sympathetic chord in many observers, have not reversed an intensifying anti-trapping sentiment among the public. Facing up to that reality, the industry is testing the idea that the public will accept the killing of purpose-bred furbearers housed on fur farms or ranches. Banking on their judgment, industry spokespersons falsely claim that a large majority of the skins sold by retailers come from ranch-raised animals. Though the trend in the industry is more toward fur ranching, Russell notes that, right now, approximately four times as

many animals are trapped in the wild as are raised on ranches.

Animal advocates should be prepared to point out that, in many respects, fur ranching is as bad or worse for animals as trapping in the wild. No matter the species, fur ranching means a life of confinement and a death by electrocution, gassing, strangulation, or neck-breaking. One breeder admitted that "most people start [raising] them in their garages." Russell reports that foxes, chinchillas, and minks are the primary species found on farms, but now some ranchers have taken to raising and pelting wolves, bobcats, cougars, and lynx. The industry's strategic use of fur ranching defense is as easy to see through as the wire cages the fur-bearers are imprisoned in.

Assertions that the furriers provide much-needed jobs, offer economic markets to indigenous people, and work "in harmony with nature" are other stock

themes that the industry develops in its fictional tales. But amidst the death and suffering behind these rationalizations, Russell shows that there is room for optimism. She cites some real evidence that public attitudes are increasingly hostile to the idea of killing animals for luxury coats.

While her introduction to all these issues is a valuable tool for any activist, Russell has attempted to cover too much ground with too few words. The many sections of *The Skin Trade Primer*, while brief and to the point, could use fewer quotations and more interpretation and analysis. Even with that problem, the book—overpriced in this first printing due to a printing complication—is highly recommended and can serve as a useful tool in changing the image of fur from status icon to symbol of barbarism.

—Wayne Pacelle

Animal Liberation for Beginners

Animal Liberation: A Graphic Guide

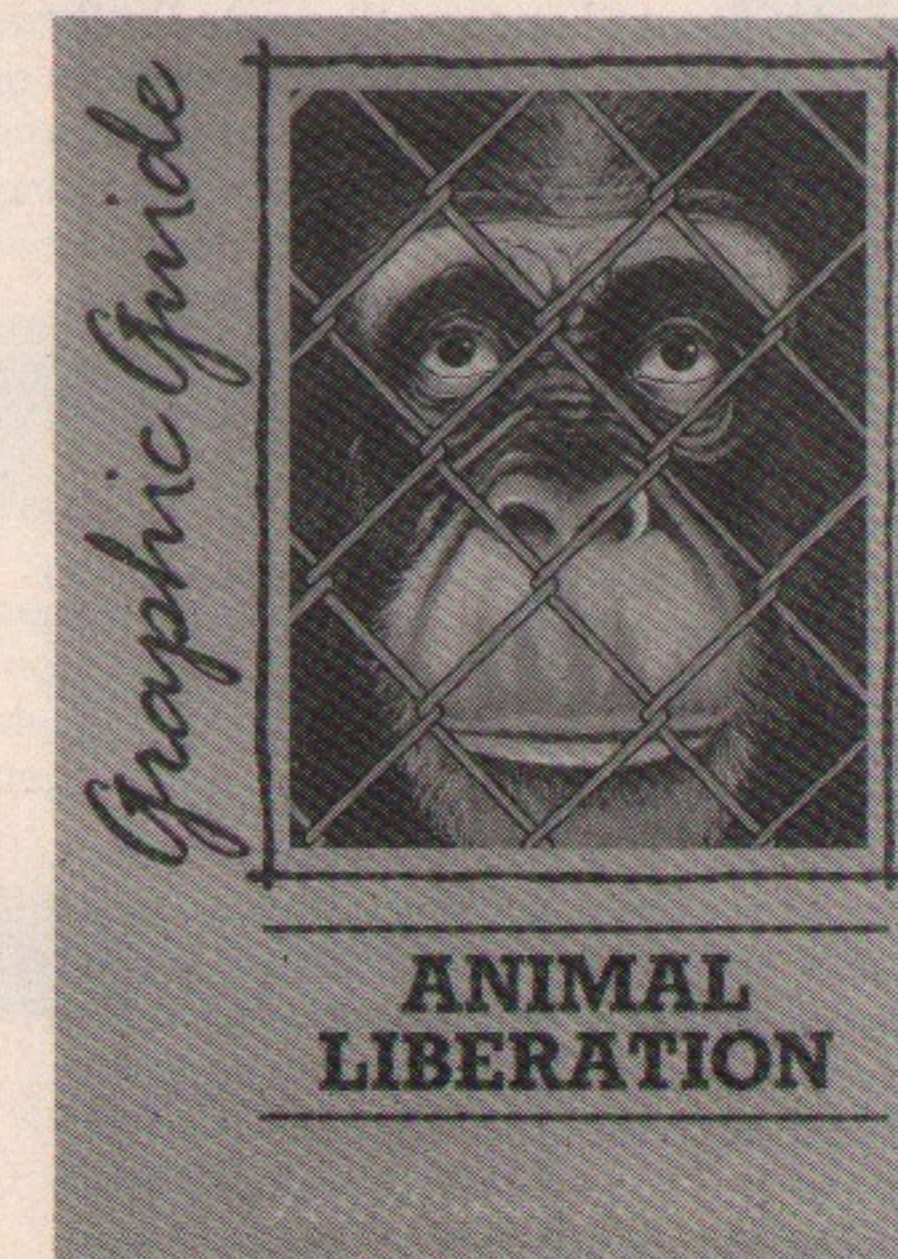
By Lori Gruen, Peter Singer, and David Hines
Camden Press, (order from 43 Camden Passage, London N1 8EB, England), 1987
£ 4.95, paperback, 159 pp.

This book can be read from cover to cover in just over an hour and a half. It contains no difficult parts, and yet it concisely and accurately outlines, summarizes, and expands each

of the major issues of Peter Singer's incredibly effective 1975 publication, *Animal Liberation*. Singer's present collaboration was not so much an attempt to bring new ideas to the fore, but an effort to simplify his basic philosophical tenets and to link these concepts with modern strategies and tactics so well understood by Lori Gruen, the book's major author. In a very real sense, the authors tacitly demonstrate that the reader need not understand the differences between hedonistic and preferential utilitarianism and rights theories in order to work for the shared goals of the animal rights movement. The movement can only profit from the promotion of this book.

The few factual "errors" are open to interpretation (with the exception of a faulty mention that the steel-jaw leghold trap has "serrated" jaws) and have no real effect on the validity of its major theses. For example, the authors state, "The number [of vegetarians] is growing by 30% each year..." While I realize that such a figure has been cited for England in the last couple of years, I am hard-pressed to accept its validity, particularly in the United

Continued on next page



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REVIEWS

Continued from previous page

States and other countries. I do, however, heartily applaud the optimism evidence by the inclusion of these data.

I predict a very mixed response to the cartoon-like illustrations provided by David Hines. Though there are several illustrations that are in need of modification, I find the majority well done, and, most likely, of powerful assistance to the naive reader in understanding the scope

of the problem. The primary question, "Are the illustrations necessary?" may be better answered by a member of the targeted audience. Suffice to say that my 16-year-old daughter picked up the book, skimmed the illustrations, and then began reading in earnest. She later expressed her strong recommendation of the book; I concur.

—Donald J. Barnes

Towards a Nonviolent Diet

For The Vegetarian In You

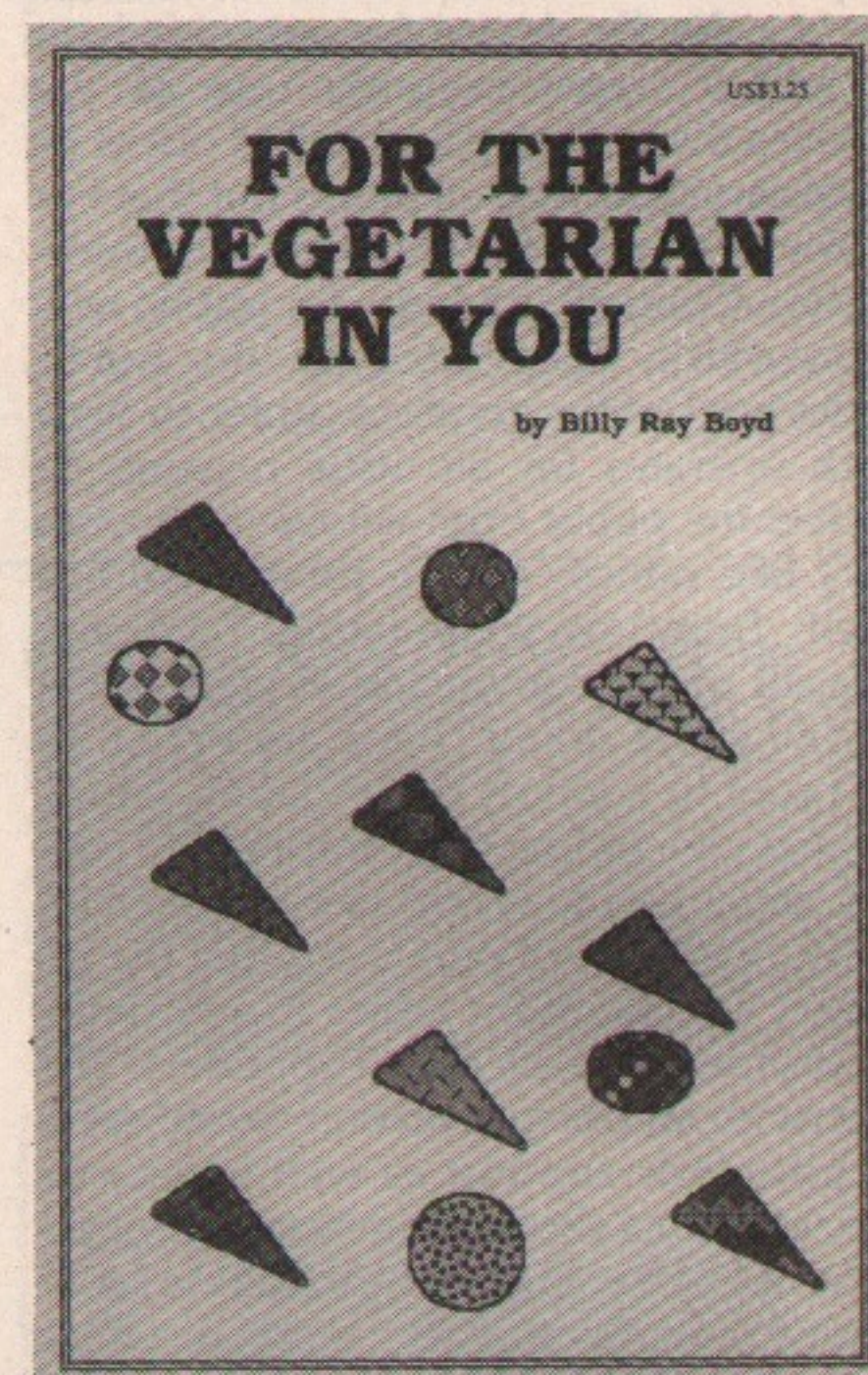
By Billy Ray Boyd
Taterhill Press, 1987
\$3.25, paperback, 64 pp.

When humane people become vegetarians, they lay to rest a tremendous contradiction: that of empathizing with the suffering of animals but contributing to their suffering by eating them. Hypocrisy overcome, neophyte vegetarians usually feel, to varying degrees, a sense of empowerment. They have taken a tangible step for themselves and other animals, and serve, very importantly, as models for personal change. Moreover, a feeling of ethical consistency fills the gut much more comfortably than do animal products.

Billy Ray Boyd, a long-time animal rights campaigner now living in San Francisco, abandoned animal products two decades ago and apparently wrote *For the Vegetarian in You* to catalyze that process in others. Not intending to present a thorough treatment of how animal agriculture affects animals, human health, or the environment, Boyd, instead, offers interested consumers a literary hors d'oeuvre in each of those areas.

Only 40 pages of large-type text, *For the Vegetarian in You* takes little more time to read than an average cover story in *Time* or *Newsweek*. Boyd designed the package that way, to pique the interest of those unable or unwilling to pick up any of the more lengthy books on vegetarianism. Amidst the library of vegetarian advocacy works, *For the Vegetarian in You* admirably contributes to a thinly-stocked shelf of quick, accessible, and easy-to-read books.

Boyd accounts for his cursory examination of the issues by compiling a fairly detailed set of appendices—including in-



formation on other books, cookbooks, audio-visual resources, animal protection organizations, and periodicals—for those wanting more substantial information. Though it is useful for initiates of any age who are short on time, *For the Vegetarian in You* seems particularly well-suited to late elementary, middle, and secondary school student readers.

—Wayne Pacelle

For the Vegetarian in You is available from *The ANIMALS' AGENDA* for \$3.25 plus \$2.00 postage and handling.

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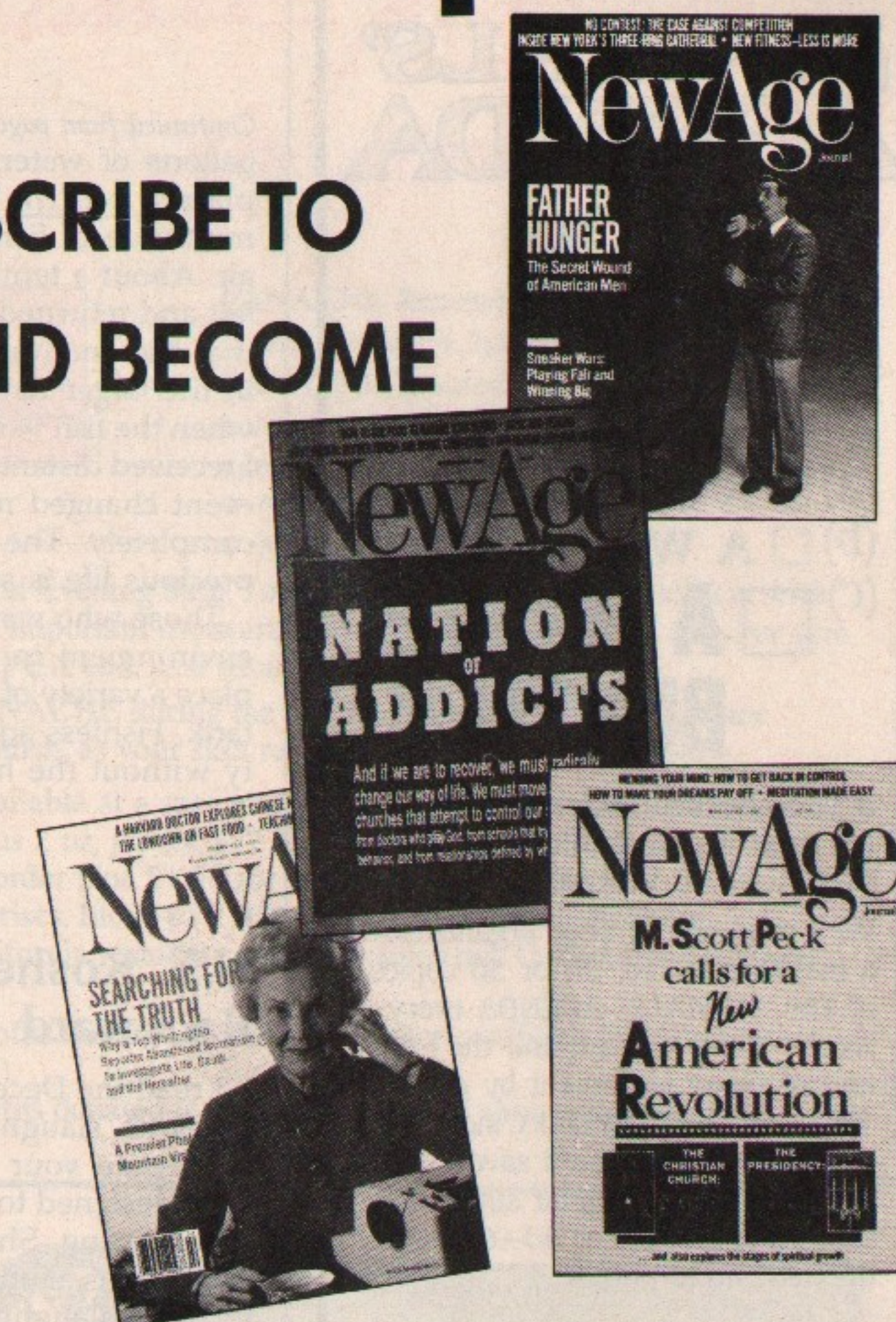
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LETTERS

Continued from page 5

gallons of water. When the bags were placed on the floor, I observed a multitude of fish gasping feverishly for air. About a tenth of them were dead. I left and returned two hours later, and in that time not one fish had been placed in the larger tank. On asking salesmen when the fish would be put into the tank, I received distant looks and a shrug. This event changed my views on pet shops completely. The buying and selling of precious life is simply wrong.

Those who want the beauty of a water environment in their homes need only place a variety of aquatic plants in a glass tank. Fishless aquariums can give beauty without the horrors of abused fish.

—William Duarte
Fremont, CA

U.S. Kosher Slaughtering Backward and Cruel

I read the December 1987 *Comment* on religious slaughter with interest, and appreciate your reference to systems I have designed to replace cruel shackling and hoisting. Shackling and hoisting of a conscious animal by one back foot prior to ritual slaughter is *not* part of Jewish ritual. It causes pain which is in violation of religious teachings. In addition, religious law states that the animal must be unblemished prior to slaughter; hoisting bruises and blemishes the animal. This horrible method of pre-slaughter restraint occurs because some slaughter plants refuse to spend the money to install restraint equipment that would bring slaughter operations into compliance with the humane intent of religious teachings.

Cruelty to animals aside, employee safety alone should be sufficient justification to ban shackling and hoisting. Plant employees have been severely injured by struggling animals swinging in the air.

Shackling and hoisting as a method of pre-slaughter restraint is banned in Canada, England, New Zealand, Australia, and many European countries. The U.S. is very backward to allow this cruel practice to continue.

—Temple Grandin
Urbana, IL

As a caring Jew, I gave up eating "Kosher" meat long before I graduated to vegetarianism, since I became convinced that "Kosher" meat is not really Kosher because of the suffering of the animals in modern slaughterhouses. I refrained from eating "Kosher" meat as a protest against

this perversion of the original intent and practice of Jewish law.

I do not feel that Genesis 9:1 is a defense of meat-eating. As the story goes, God saw that humans were imperfect and lusted after flesh, and so he granted Noah a *provisional* and *transitional* compromise until humans could evolve beyond this flaw. But they were to be always reminded of the unnaturalness of shedding blood—any blood—and so there was a ritual (a reminder) connected with the slaughter and eating of animals.

As humans, with more possibilities of free choice than other animals, we can hasten the messianic prophecy of Isaiah. Each one of us can do it with a personal conscious commitment to vegetarianism which, according to the Bible, is our natural state. This personal transformation will lead to a more gentle world. I am convinced that conversion to vegetarianism is the action necessary for the evolution of our species and the bringing into being of the "peaceable kingdom."

—Batya Bauman
New York, NY

A Wrestling Bear

I work as a photographer in a local nightclub which featured a wrestling bear show last November. What I witnessed shocked and saddened me. The bear, who was named Ginger, had been disabled in every possible way. She was muzzled and declawed, and though her owners said she had a cataract in one eye, it was obvious that she was totally blind.

\$500 had been offered to anyone who could put Ginger on her back and pin her to the floor, but no one ever accomplished this. I could hear her moans of distress when she was brought out to fight. She was clearly being forced to fight against her will and was reluctant to participate, but after much aggravation she would begin trying to defend herself. One of her owners stood beside her and controlled her with a chain. He encouraged those wrestling with her by saying things such as, "You can do it—knock her on her rear end." He also joked about her being in heat.

The owner of the club said that he had not realized how cruel bear wrestling was when he booked the show. Afterwards, he agreed with me that it was inhumane. I cried on the way home from the show, did not sleep that night, and spent the next day trying to find someone who could stop the bear wrestling shows—with no success.

Ginger's owners have already pur-

chased a baby bear to replace her because she is old and will soon have to be "retired." I wish there were a way to help bears like Ginger and put bear owners out of business.

—Kate Kunze
Columbus, GA

Ways to Spread the Word

I am attending the orthodontics clinic at the University of Pennsylvania, and was asked by the receptionist to bring in any old magazines I had for the waiting room. So I brought in the September 1987 issue of The ANIMALS' AGENDA. As soon as it put it down, a woman picked it up and became completely engrossed—she didn't look up during the time I waited for my appointment.

Today, a month later, I had to go back. I thought for sure the magazine would be gone, but it was still there. I saw a man pick it up and become involved in the article about the egg industry. He even turned to his son and said, "Look at what they do to the chicks—this is so cruel." I wanted to jump out of my seat! Imagine how many more people have seen that issue in the month it's been on the waiting room table.

—Janet L. Romano
Atco, NJ

I found an inexpensive way to spread the word about The ANIMALS' AGENDA: with a \$1.29 paper punch, I punched a hole in the upper left-hand corner of the subscription flyers you provided me with, and pinned quantities of them to bulletin boards in schools, stores, supermarket pet food departments, libraries, and similar places.

—J.K. Bullette
Citizens Committee for Animal Rights
P.O. Box 483
Jackson Heights, NY 11372

Editor's Note: Readers can phone or write our Conn. office for a supply of subscription flyers. Sample magazines can also be ordered for \$2.00 each (less for large quantities).

The ANIMALS' AGENDA welcomes letters from readers, but brief succinctly-worded messages are more likely to get published. Please try to restrict letters to 250 words (one double-spaced, typed page). We reserve the right to edit all letters. Address them to LETTERS, The ANIMALS' AGENDA, P.O. Box 5234, Westport, CT 06881.

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Alice Walker

Continued from page 9

were not supposed to care, only to take care of business—to see that “Suki” was beaten and “John” had his foot chopped off. This made the white woman’s enslavement that much more profound. She couldn’t even be herself in that situation.

A brave white woman looking at slavery would have had to try to see herself as one of the people enslaved. She would have had to know from her own suffering that there was a connection between herself and the slaves. She would have had to bond with the slaves and not with her husband.

That is what it seems to me we have to ask ourselves in bonding with animals rather than with the killer. What permits us to be who we are? I think the animals give us much more freedom to be who we are than people who are oppressing all of us.

Why do you think that people who care about nonhuman animals are often called sentimental, and why does it seem that the word “sentimental” has a negative connotation rather than a positive one?




— Robert Allen

The people who call us sentimental have destroyed great tracts of feeling in themselves, and what else can they do but say that we’re sentimental? We are talking about people who have big holes in themselves that were probably punched out when they were children. Now when they meet other people who don’t have the holes, they feel they have to say something. They have to project onto us.

I think some people think of sentimentality as negative because they associate it with women. To say that someone is sentimental, in the sense of being like women is, of course, a positive thing. It means you still have your sentiments, your capacity to care.

In your essay, “Only Justice Can Stop A Curse,” you wrote, “But if by some miracle in all our struggle the earth is spared from a nuclear holocaust, only justice to every living thing will save humankind.” What’s your vision of that justice?

Obvious things like an end to hunger, an end to illiteracy. To put it another way, the beginning of health for everyone, food for everyone, education for everyone, respect for everything.

Part of what justice means for nonhuman animals is that there will just have to be fewer people, because I think the insistence of people to cover the Earth is itself a grievous insult to the nonhuman animals whose space is squeezed into nonexistence. Just because people can have three, four, and five children does not mean that that’s the best thing for all creation. It definitely is not. Helping people to see that is an early project which has to go along with animal rights. 

Ellen Bring is an animal rights activist living in Oakland, Calif.

Urban Animals

Continued from page 19

areas where humans feed them. Often the problem is not the presence of wild animals, but their numbers. Feeding encourages animals to stay in areas where they normally wouldn’t, building up their population to a level the habitat couldn’t otherwise support. Eliminating sources of food is one of the most important steps that can be taken to animal-proof neighborhoods.

Not only do some animals accept handouts, they eat food found in refuse containers and use inedible items as nesting material. Wildlife visit city parks, trash dumps, and the parking lots of fast-food restaurants. Often people can reduce the number of wild prowlers in their neighborhoods just



— John Shaw

Opossums cause little real trouble, but their rat-like appearance sometimes alarms citydwellers.

by taking steps to assure the proper storage, collection, and disposal of refuse.

Garbage and trash cans should be secured with tight-fitting lids. Raccoons can be discouraged from prying the lids off the cans by a strap or chain stretched across the lid and clipped onto the handles. Raccoons and opossums can often be discouraged from scavenging in a garbage can by hanging mothballs from the handles, placing a rag dampened with ammonia in the can each time it is emptied, or sprinkling the contents with black pepper.

Some of these recommendations may seem repugnant to animal activists. The mission of the animal rights movement is, after all, to en-


courage humans to live peacefully with animals—not to teach them ways to harass wild creatures. But when animals’ lives are at stake, it is preferable to chase them out of the neighborhood rather than have them fall prey to the deadly schemes of irate homeowners.

Is there an animal in the house?

Problems also arise when animals such as bats and squirrels wander inside a building. In most instances, the animals are as eager to escape as the people are to have them depart.

The animal should be “corralled” into a room where there is a window or door opening to the outdoors. If the animal is small, a towel or rag should be wedged under the base of the door to prevent flight to another part of the building. Then, the exterior door can be opened from outside the building. It is important to stand by, out of sight, to make sure the animal departs.

It should be remembered that the animal is frightened and confused, and may need a few minutes of searching to discover the escape route. In some cases, animals may hide under furniture rather than try to escape. But given the opportunity and enough time, they will eventually make their exit.

In practice, wildlife-proofing an area is as much an art as a science. Success depends upon a mixture of skill, timing, ingenuity, diligence, and a degree of tolerance. But a more important lesson involves learning to coexist, whenever possible, with the nonhuman beings who have as much right to satisfy their survival needs as we do. 


—Guy Hodge is Director of Data and Information Services for HSUS.

Extra Information

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) has published a series of articles on the humane control of “nuisance wildlife.” Readers can obtain single copies of the literature at no charge by writing to: Data and Information Services, HSUS, 2100 L Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

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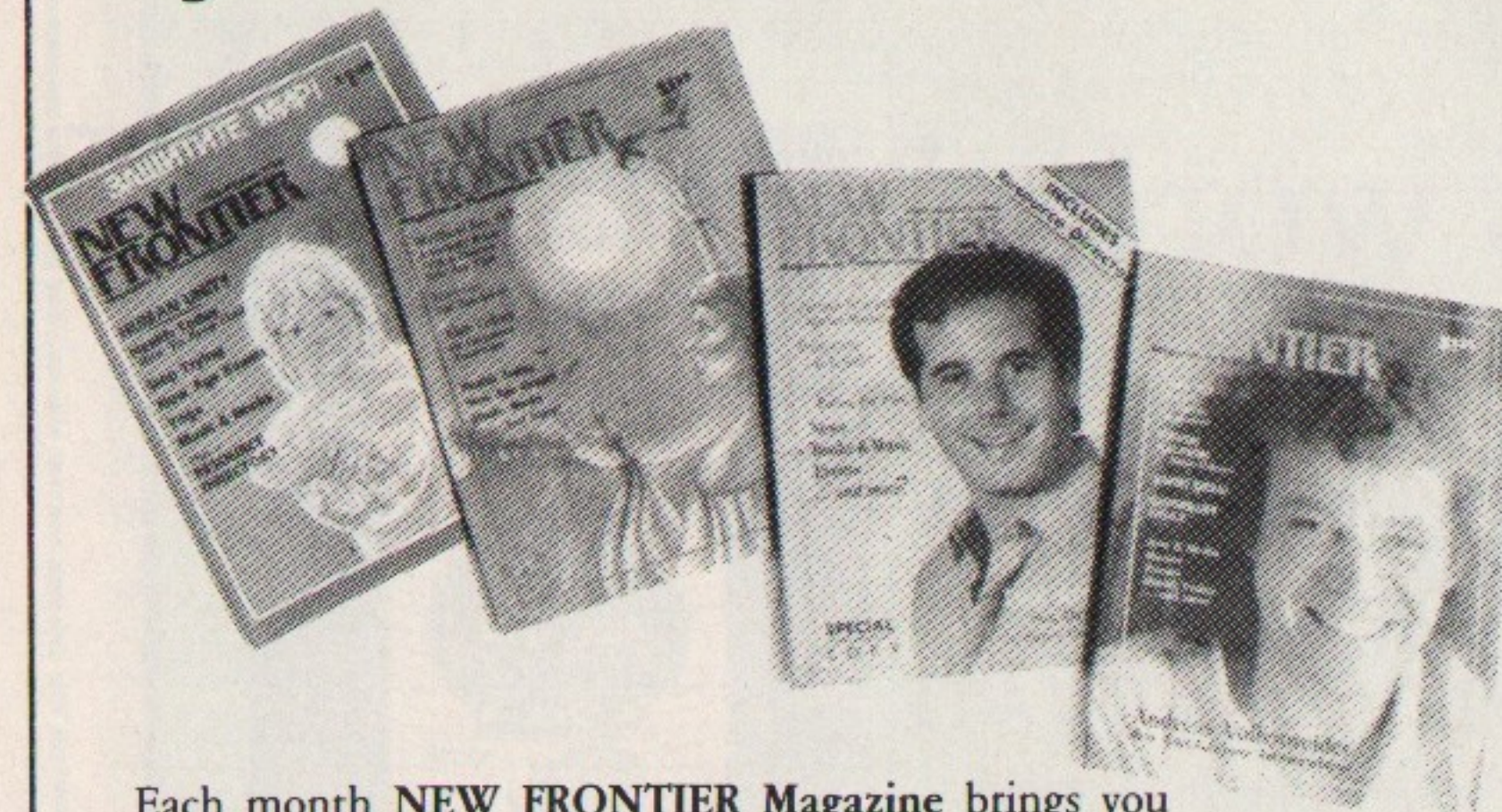
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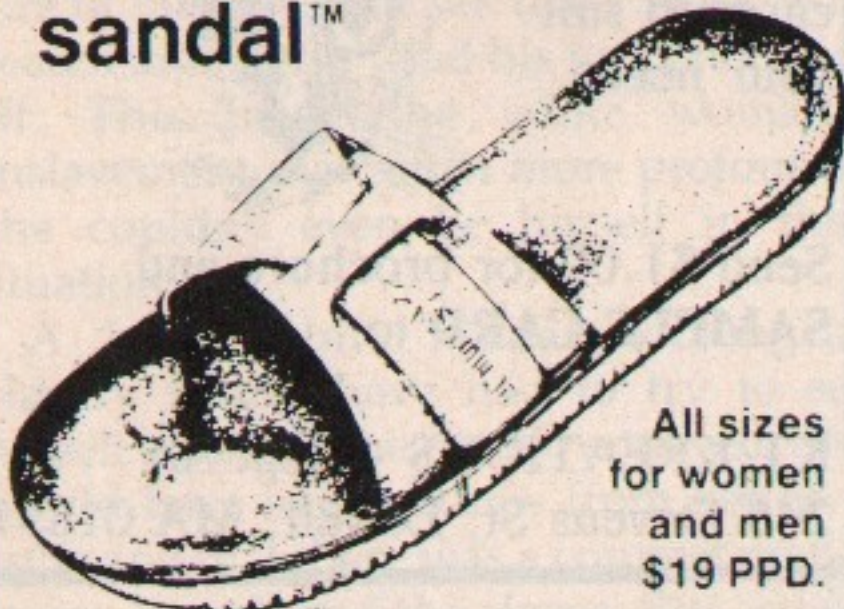
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