First to Hear Their Cries: Animal Defenders and Abused Children

The ANIMALS' AGENDA

HELPING ANIMALS AND THE EARTH • December 1991

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The ANIMALS' AGENDA

DECEMBER 1991 VOLUME XI NO.10

12: If You Can Grow It, You Can Show It–A Guide to Animal "Fancies" in America

BY PHIL MAGGITTI

At dog, horse, cat, pigeon, poultry, ferret, budgie, rabbit, fish, mice, miniature pig, and other animal shows, you'll witness curious rituals that appear to have more to do with people than the animals on display.

42: Who Helps The Helpless Child?

BY MERRITT CLIFTON

Humane groups have been at the forefront of child protection since child protection began–and still are.

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Cover Illustration by: *Richard Martin*

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PAGE TWO

Where Dollars Do the Most Good

Times are hard. When you make your holiday gifts on behalf of animals, you need to know your dollars are going where they'll do the most good—to the organizations that accomplish the most with every cent received.

One of them is The ANIMALS' AGENDA. We need your help.

We go wherever animals are exploited or abused, enabling you to choose your priorities for action and donations from an informed perspective. During 1991, our investigative writers took you inside all aspects of the meat industry, revealed the cruelty and corruption inherent in the international wildlife trade, took a deep look at pet overpopulation, probed fur farming, and exposed canned hunts. We looked at the cultural, political, and ecological contexts of current events involving animals. We ripped the cloak of sanctimonious pretense away from individuals and organizations whose objective is to undermine and discredit animal defenders.

In our April and July/August issues, we published the budgets, assets, and administrative salaries of virtually every national organization concerned with animal rights, animal welfare, and animal habitat. You got a glimpse of where your dollars go. Through our news sections, meanwhile, we let you know ten times a year what organizations both large and small are achieving. We took you into courtrooms, legislatures, pounds and shelters, protests ... everywhere people are working to stop animal suffering and build a humane, ecological way of life.

We gave you what you need, besides your own dedication, to help animals effectively. And we'll be doing even more in the coming year.

But, once again, we need your help to keep our work going. You, our readers, are The ANIMALS' AGENDA's only significant source of support. We have no endowment, no securities, no cash reserves. Without your generous contributions, The ANIMALS' AGENDA cannot exist.

Times are hard. Because of loss of grant support, we've had to cancel thousands of complimentary subscriptions we've been sending to high school and college libraries and members of Congress. Despite a huge increase in postal rates, we managed to trim our 1991 operating budget significantly from previous budgets. We pay the lowest salary scale of any national animal protection organization that doesn't provide housing for staffers—and we publish with a staff of just four full-timers (one of whom works for part-time pay), plus two part-time consultants, and no professional fundraisers.

Times are hard—but with your support, we'll create better times for animals, and a healthier earth.

Please help us now, as generously as you can.

Thanks.

Tom Kelly

The staff of The ANIMALS' AGENDA from the upper left, clockwise: Mary Jean Bernabucci, Peter Hoyt, Kim Bartlett holding Wolf Clifton, Zooky, Alice Fox holding Alana Fox, Merritt Clifton. Not pictured: David Patrice Greanville.

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The ANIMALS' AGENDA is published by the Animal Rights Network, Inc., a nonprofit charitable organization incorporated in Connecticut. We offer a broad range of materials and information about animals and environmental issues, and provide a forum for discussion of problems and ideas. We try to reach people at all levels of consciousness and commitment to inspire a deep regard for, and greater activism on behalf of, animals and nature.

LETTERS

IFAW Mailings Needed

I would like to reply to the letter from Andrew Rowan (Sept. 1991) in which he refers to the mailing policy of the International Fund for Animal Welfare. I have been responsible for our work in East Asia since 1986 and have just returned from a visit to the region. I am surprised Dr. Rowan has received three newsletters on South Korea as it is a subject we have not dealt with more than once a year in the ten newsletters we send out each year. I think at least one of the mailings received by Dr. Rowan must have referred to our campaign in the Philippines where the subject, the cruel abuse of dogs for human consumption, was similar.

In Korea dog meat was and still is eaten in large quantities. IFAW's objective has never been to end dog-eating as such, but to oppose the excessively cruel killing and restraining methods. With this objective we have worked on two strategies to relieve the animals' suffering: *1)* to have anti-cruelty laws passed by the government; and *2)* to persuade the people to take a different, more humane view of all animals, but especially dogs and cats (who are also eaten). The persuasion aspect comes under the general umbrella of education, but we also aimed to provide more direct aid through a local organization, once one was set up.

Both these objectives are now being fulfilled. On May 7, 1991, the Korean National Assembly passed an Animal Protection Act. This is already being enforced in a small way and, although not perfect, at least outlaws the worst abuses we were protesting: the slow hanging of dogs and the boiling alive of cats.

IFAW played a substantial role in the development and progress of this Act. We provided translations of foreign acts, hired a Korean law firm to study each draft of the Act and make submissions for improvements on our behalf, and dealt directly with the government departments and committees responsible for drafting the Act.

I do not believe groups like ours should be too self-congratulatory, but we also have a duty to show our supporters and interested people that the money is being well spent. So I will say what I know to be true in this case: without IFAW and its large mailing list of regular supporters (about 650,000 at the moment), the Korean Animal Protection Act would not have been considered, let alone drafted and passed. A major part of the success of this campaign was the hundreds of thousands of letters written by our supporters over an eight-year period to Korean embassies, businesses, and government officials. All these actions were a direct result of newsletters. We also took direct action when the Korean President came to Europe, via a special "Action Volunteers" list, collected through our newsletters. And finally, it was the money raised through the newsletter that enabled IFAW staff to investigate the situation thoroughly and spend long periods in Korea, negotiating with government and building up support inside Korea. We have opened an office in Seoul with a full-time Korean national as manager, and have set up and now support the Korea Animal Protection Society, which already has more than 200 members, runs the first and only animal sanctuary in the country, and has a humane education program underway. And we have gone from a period of total confrontation with the authorities to a stage where we are working constructively together to end cruelty to animals.

In the Philippines we already have a direct education program going on, having paid for the production of a basic Pet Care and Kindness manual and also run a scholarship scheme jointly with the Philippine Animal Welfare Society, which we support as a group. We train and support veterinarians to work in poor rural areas (eight, at the moment), and we provide free anti-rabies vaccines in poor areas and emergency aid to animals and people in times of disaster. Since we first went to the Philippines in 1982, the once thriving and notoriously cruel trade in dogs for flesh has diminished by at least 80 and probably 90 percent. There are ordinances banning the use of dogs for food in the main cities, and a bill awaiting final approval which will ban the dog trade all over the Philippines.

Finally, I know that sometimes our newsletters must seem offensive, but then so are the abuses we deal with. If there is a better way of raising the funds, the protests, and the persuasive power than by direct mail, we would be delighted to try it! As someone working in the field for IFAW, I believe we make the best use of the funds and distribute them in a responsible and effective way. The results support this view.

—David Dawson
S.E. Asia Coordinator
IFAW
Tubwell House, New Rd.
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U.K.

The future of **The ANIMALS' AGENDA** *depends on the generosity of its supporters. We are extremely grateful for the substantial financial assistance provided by these individuals and organizations during 1991.*

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For information on becoming a Benefactor, Patron, Sponsor, or Sustainer, please see page 8.

Editor's Note: *Due to a typographical error just discovered in the April 1991 article "Who Gets The Money?", our calculation of the IFAW budget breakdown was incorrectly reported in a footnote as 48 percent program, 52 percent overhead. It should have read 58 percent program, 42 percent overhead. Even so, IFAW disputes these figures. By listing direct mail expenses as education, as many charities do, IFAW's own budget figures for 1989 are 69 percent program, 31 percent overhead.*

The Elusive Fox

In the article "Feral Animals: Alien Menace?" [March 1991], Merritt Clifton claims that the red fox is not native to most of North America, that this species was restricted to the arctic and subarctic, and that it was the European red fox that colonized most of this continent.

According to *Mammals of North America*, by Hall and Kelson, eight races of red fox are recognized south of the subarctic. Archeological surveys of native settlements in central Ontario reveal that

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LETTERS

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the red fox was present in A.D. 1340. This is pre-European contact, and more than 400 years before the nominate race of the red fox was introduced.

The European foxes who were introduced into New England did extend their range and interbreed with native red foxes, but only in the eastern portion of North America.

Clifton asserts that "cross" foxes are red foxes with "obvious" gray traits. In reality, the cross fox is a color-phase of the red fox; the pelt has a cross-shaped band across the shoulders. In this case, "cross" does not mean crossbred. Such an ambiguous term can be easily misunderstood if the systematics of these canids are not understood.

Clifton claims that the red fox has hybridized with the gray fox; however *Vulpes* and *Urocyon* are different genera, for the red and gray, respectively. There are a few examples of mammalian species interbreeding and producing fertile young; this occurred between the coyote (*Canis latrans*) and the red wolf (*Canis rufus*). Hybridization is also suspected in the *Peromyscus* (deer mice) species in the Great Lakes area. But it must be noted that these interbreeding species share the same genus. Mammalian hybridization across the genus boundary is impossible, unless animals have been misclassified (in test conditions, *Bos/Bison* hybrids have been produced, yet this only led scientists to seriously question whether cattle and bison should be placed in the same genus). Clifton also claims that the alleged hybridization of gray and red foxes preserved the diminished gray fox gene pool and allowed them to survive in disrupted habitats. As such, he contends that foxes from different genera have not only interbred, but that the resultant young are fertile. This is impossible. Further, hybridization does not preserve a gene pool. Consider that hybridization between coyotes and red wolves (same genus) almost led to the extinction of the latter species.

—Todd Lawton, Mng. Ed.
Quagga Box 552
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3C 2J3

Merritt Clifton replies: According to *The Fox (Fact & Fiction)*, a publication of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, "It is generally accepted that the North American Red Fox, *Vulpes fulva*, was imported to the U.S. from Europe, although, being larger and having longer hair than its European counterpart, it is classed as a separate and distinct species. One early record dates the first import at 1730...It was not until 1789 that the first red fox was seen in Pennsylvania, and in Virginia, 1814 marked the first sighting. The species is now found throughout the U.S., extending into Canada and Alaska."

There is obviously considerable confusion about the term "cross fox." In Europe and among zoologists, "cross fox" tends to indicate the brant fox, which does have a cross-shaped marking. Among the trappers and fur traders of much of North America, however, "cross fox" most often means a fox with both red and black or silver fur. This is commonly, if perhaps inaccurately, believed to indicate that the fox is a crossbreed of red and "gray" (black and/or silver) parents. Undoubtedly the scarcity of true gray foxes in much of their former range has contributed to a general belief (which I picked up and shared, unaware of any error) that the recessive black and silver color phases of the familiar red fox are latent traits of gray foxes. This common impression is reinforced by the appearance of red fur about the ears, neck, and legs of true gray foxes.

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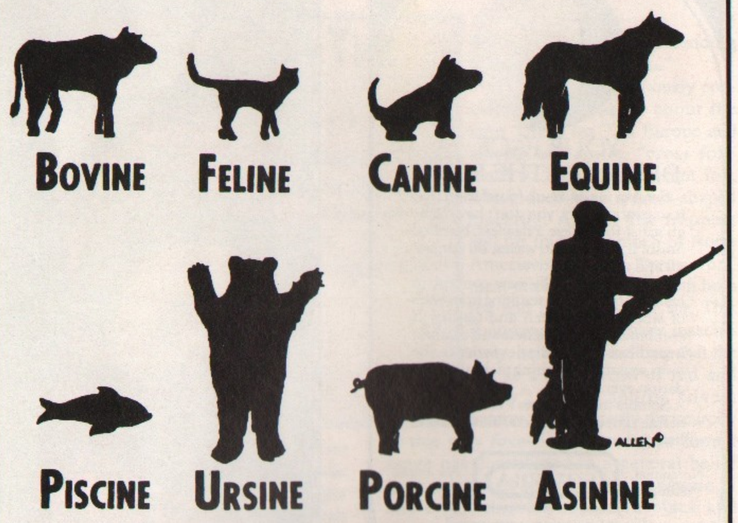

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The zoological classifications of foxes may be subject to change based on DNA analysis—as is already the case with red wolves. Contrary to Lawton's assertion that hybridization between red wolves and coyotes nearly wiped out the red wolf, molecular research at UCLA and the University of California at Berkeley indicates that red wolves are in fact a hybrid of coyotes and gray wolves to begin with. A parallel study of tissue from 72 Minnesota gray wolves indicates that these, too, have occasionally hybridized with coyotes.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is now reviewing whether hybrid animals should be protected under the Endangered Species Act, having recognized that hybridization has substantially contributed to preserving the gene pools of many species, particularly predators. The Dept. of the Interior withdrew a series of legal rulings that had excluded hybrids from protection in December 1990.

The Environmental Split

May I offer two comments about your well-written *Page Two* editorial in the September issue?

The current controversy, as your magazine (and letters to the editors of *Buzzworm* magazine) attests, is not between environmentalists and animal rights activists, but between *conservationists* and environmentalists. The environmental movement exhibits a schism similar to the one separating animal rights people from animal welfarists. In the former case it is old-line conservationists who want to be sure *their* water and air are pure, that *their* wildlife is managed "professionally," and that *their* nature lands remain pretty places to visit. The philosophical difference cuts across both movements.

The bottom line for all of us is that you cannot be an environmentalist and eat a burger! Grazing captive populations of animals for meat and wearables is as polluting as turning their carcasses into products. Anyone in the animal protection or environmental movements understands that the process of turning live, sentient creatures into food is a disaster for water, land, soil, atmosphere, animals, and human health—for the whole system and each of its parts.

The second comment is about your reference to New England Anti-Vivisection Society membership data about veganism and vegetarianism. "The 73 percent of the animal rights activists who are vegetarians" reflects only NEAVS members who responded to our most recent survey (1990) and characterized themselves thusly. Approximately 1500 NEAVS members from across the U.S. chose to fill out the full survey. We'd love to think that our

Continued on next page

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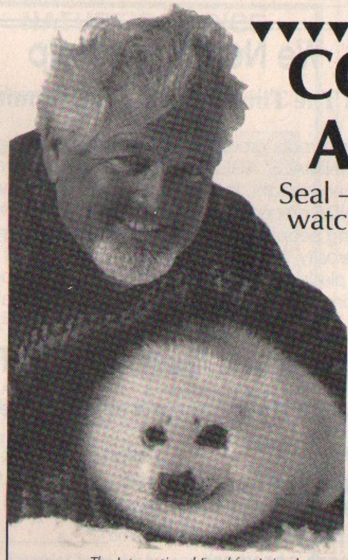

The International Fund for Animal Welfare founder, Brian Davies.

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sampling of the NEAVS membership indicates a percentage for the movement as a whole, but that speculation awaits more data.

—Frank Cullen, Exec. Dir.
NEAVS
333 Washington St., Ste. 850
Boston, MA 02108-5100

Fish Don't Matter?

The fact that your July/August cover story dealt with fish was very disappointing. Are you running out of story ideas? Whether or not fish can experience some sense of pain is not as important as winning major battles for the animals.

We must prioritize our goals to achieve the most we can for animal rights. That does *not* mean ignoring certain issues. It does mean, however, addressing them carefully and realistically, and considering—in this instance—the fact that the vast majority of fishers would never hunt or trap. Linking them all together is exactly what the hunters and trappers want, and only makes the general public more skeptical of our philosophies and more resistent to accepting our basic goals.

There are certainly enough animals whose suffering we still cannot alleviate, who have sentience and nervous systems more highly developed than fish. Stopping tuna fishers from killing dolphins and the environmental impact of driftnets are legitimate concerns. However, spending our energies fighting for fish and shellfish is opening another can of worms, so to speak, that should remain closed for the betterment of the movement.

—Craig Clifford
Stuart, FL

Editor's Note: *Fish are animals, too, a fact most people prefer to ignore. Yes, the animal protection movement must prioritize the issues on which it campaigns, but* The ANIMALS' AGENDA *is an educational vehicle. We concern ourselves not with achieving short-term victories but with effecting long-term, fundamental change in human attitudes about animals—all animals.*

Tribute to John Kullberg

Having worked with John Kullberg at the American SPCA for the last 13 years, I found that your September article "Kullberg Out at ASPCA" failed to enumerate the many accomplishments achieved under John's leadership.

During John's tenure at the ASPCA, the society, after many years of being dormant, finally took a stand on a variety of important humane issues and worked to secure needed changes for animals. For example, John established a legislative program resulting in accomplishments locally in New York City (passage of carriage horse and tenant/companion animal bills) and in New York State (repeal of pound seizure law and enactment of law to prohibit the transfer of pound and shelter animals for research, for instance). The ASPCA's Washington, D.C. office, opened just a few years ago as a result of John's persistence, was instrumental in getting veal calf and exhibition animal protection bills introduced, as well as a bill to require the USDA to enforce the Animal Welfare Act to include rats, mice, and birds. And as a result of ASPCA efforts, the USDA, at long last, agreed to include farm animals used for experimentation or exhibition under the AWA. Also, the low input sustainable agriculture program finally makes reference to the well-being of farm animals.

With respect to your portrayal of the alleged controversy surrounding the ASPCA's adoption program, it should be noted that before John took over, there was hardly any adoption program and little screening of potential adopters. Mistakes of judgment may be made by some adoption workers, but overall, the society has an adoption program that attempts to ensure a humane home for its animals.

—Elinor Molbegott
Sr. Legislative Atty.
ASPCA
441 East 92 St.
New York, NY 10128

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NETWORK

Edited By Merritt Clifton

People

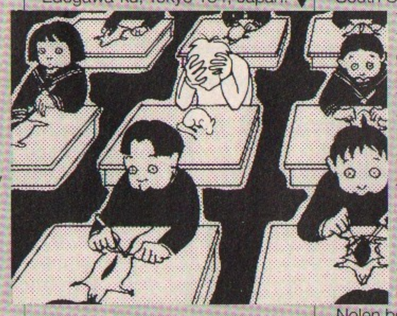
People magazine recently showed Madonna—who wore fur as recently as last winter—jogging in an antifur t-shirt. ◆ Doris Day will reportedly star as herself in a forthcoming episode of *Murphy Brown* with an animal rights theme. ◆ Raffi Cavoukian, best known for children's folk songs, is a pro-animal rights vegan. ◆ Donald Anthony, general manager of the Humane Society of Missouri, received the first annual Donald Anthony Award for unselfish service to animal welfare at the 1991 American Humane Assn. conference. Endowed by John Harlton of London, Ontario, the award will be given each year to a community leader in anti-cruelty work. ◆ The late Princess Grace Kelly was remembered recently for banning pigeon shoots in Monaco, over the objections of avid pigeon shooter Aristotle Onassis (who made his fortune in whaling).

Pet Overpopulation

Staffed by just four volunteers, Project 2000 Zero has neutered 300 animals in the first three months of a door-to-door anti-pet overpopulation push in low income areas of Los Angeles. "More volunteers are desperately needed," says coordinator Maureen Gorman. "Please call 213-477-5845 to volunteer Saturday mornings for two to three hours." ◆ Pet overpopulation costs U.S. taxpayers $500 million a year just for animal control services, estimates the Women's Humane Society. ◆ Maureen Koplow has formed a group called New Jersey Pet Overpopulation Solution to promote an animal breeding ordinance and distribute information about low-cost spay/neuter programs available to state residents. For info, send a stamped self-addressed envelope to 476 Warwick Rd., Deptford, NJ 08096. ◆ Ghislain Cyr, director of the Eastern Townships Society for Animal Protection in Sherbrooke, Quebec, notes that although her shelter has managed to cut the number of animals received by 33 percent since 1978, while doubling the number of lost animals returned to owners, 82 percent of cats received are still euthanized—mainly because most cats carry no identification markings. ◆ The newly formed American Assn. of Veterinarians for Animal Welfare promotes "neuter at adoption" from shelters. Membership is $15. Write P.O. Box 100136, Univ. of Fla., Gainesville, FL 32610.

Group News

The Ethical Science Education Coalition has formed to encourage the abolition of dissection in Connecticut schools: P.O. Box 16376, Stamford, CT 06905; 203-968-9280. ◆ Californians for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has set up a hotline for activists in the inland and desert areas of southern Calif.: 714-360-9310. ◆ The Japan Anti-Vivisection Assn. welcomes contact with U.S. groups: Rm. 602, High Rise Yoshino #2, 3-37-6 Nagasaki, Edogawa-ku, Tokyo 134, Japan. ▼



◆ Psychologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has moved to P.O. Box 1297, Washington Grove, MD 20880-1297; 301-963-4751. ◆ Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals at Trinity Univ. has moved to 715 Stadium Drive, Box 188, San Antonio, TX 78212-7200. ◆ The Mary Washington College Animal Protection Alliance may be reached c/o Patricia Lacey Metzger, Business Administration, MWC, 1301 College Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5358.

Dogs And Cats

Tracing back recent accusations by pet breeders' newsletters and on the CompuServe Pet Forum, The ANIMALS' AGENDA has found no evidence that animal rights activists have anywhere at any time released show animals from cages, let alone under circumstances that might put the animals at risk. Breeders seem to be circulating these stories wherever breeding bans are close to passage. ◆ Of 2,061 cats (of all ages) surveyed recently by the Morris Animal Foundation, 325 died within one year—94 from kidney disease, 39 from feline leukemia, and 21 from feline infectious peritonitis. Of 2,050 dogs, 625 died—97 from kidney disease, 66 from heart failure. Of 1,102 horses, 79 died—28 of colic.

Actions

Toni Conti, 52, of Albuquerque, recently staged a 17-day hunger strike to protest the appearance of the Tim Rivers Diving Mule Act at the New Mexico State Fair. Days earlier, the Upper South Carolina State Fair banned future appearances of the diving mule act, in exchange for Peaceable Kingdom's promise not to picket this year. ◆ About 50 protesters including Marion County sheriff John Butterworth joined Diana Nolen of Mansfield, Ohio, on Sept. 21 in her third of a series of demonstrations against animal testing by WIL Research Laboratories in nearby Ashland. Nolen began the demonstrations after obtaining USDA documents showing that dogs were subject to painful experiments at WIL without anesthesia, and that at least one primate had gone insane in a WIL holding cage. ◆ A trapper boy bit the head off a live pigeon and spat it at protesters from the Coalition to Ban Pigeon Shoots during the Sept. 29 Powderbourne Gun Club shoot in East Greenville, Pa. ◆ Members of Humane Services of Middle Georgia protested against an appearance of the Al Silah Shrine Circus in Macon, Ga.; the circus raises funds for burn research, often done on live animals. Shrine Circus animal trainer Ron Holiday denied that the circus itself involves cruelty. "I've been a vegetarian for 23 years," he said. "I have a rider on my contract that says if I see an animal being abused and it's not stopped, we leave." ◆ Protesters who took anti-meat placards and handouts into a Black Angus restaurant in Orange County, Calif., on Sept. 28 were reportedly roughed up by the management.

Education

The Claire Simmons Allan-Samson Memorial Scholarship, awarded annually to "an academically outstanding student who has demonstrated his or her commitment to animal rights," provides recipients with $1,000 a year for four years. Get details from Tom Regan, Dept. of Philosophy and Religion, North Carolina State Univ., Box 8103, Raleigh, NC 27695-8103. ◆ Grade school students are invited to enter a poster contest answering the question, "Should refuges protect animals?" Entries no larger than 18" x 22" are due, together with the entrant's name, address, and telephone number, by Dec. 31 at HSUS, 2100 L St., Washington, DC 20037. ◆ The Animals and Culture Studies program at the Wilson campus of the Miami-Dade Community College has moved to 300 Northeast 2nd Ave., Room 2201, Miami, FL 33132; 305-237-3427.

Campaigns

"Procter and Gamble has engaged in a high-profile disinformation campaign to mislead consumers about their environmental and animal testing polices," In Defense of Animals charged at a Sept. 12 press conference, presenting evidence that P&G plants are leading polluters in communities including Sacramento, Calif.; Corsicana, Tex.; Perry, Fla.; Kansas City, Kan.; Oglethorpe, Ga.; and Iowa City, Iowa. ◆ The Elsa Wild Animal Appeal is organizing a boycott of Ekco housewares to convince the firm to stop making leghold traps through its Woodstream subsidiary. For details, write P.O. Box 675, Elmhurst, IL 60126; or call 708-833-8896. Letters to Ekco Group president Robert Stein may be addressed to 98 Spit Brook Road, Nashua, NH 03062. ◆ Prevent Unwanted Pet Population, already running the Valley Oak SPCA, has replaced the Tulare County Humane Society as the official

NOTES

county animal control service contractor. TCHS came under fire last summer after a staffer suggested that feral cats at the county landfill should be clubbed to death. The suggestion was rescinded five days later.

Letters

Rep. Major Owens (D-NY) has introduced a bill to make charities disclose their gross income, program costs, and fundraising expenses in direct mail and televised appeals. Ask your Congressional representatives to support the Owens bill, and ask that the House Committee on Post Office and Civil Service schedule hearings on it: 309 Cannon Bldg., Washington, DC 20515-0001. ◆ Pan Am is the last major U.S. airline that accepts cargos of wild-caught birds. Protest to 200 Park Ave., New York, NY 10166-0071. ◆ The Cocoa Beach, Fla., Chamber of Commerce holds power boat races in sea turtle habitat each May (the middle of nesting season). At least one turtle was killed last spring. Protest to the Chamber of Commerce, 400 Fortenberry Rd., Merritt Island, FL 32952. ◆ Protest the sale of Grow-A-Frog kits to Wonder Works, 280 West Coleman Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464. Raised in isolation, the mail-order tadpoles rarely live a normal lifespan. ◆ Bob Evans Farms, which earlier announced the end of its annual Chicken Flying Meet, actually just moved it from spring to fall. The meet consists of contestants pushing chickens out of an open-ended mailbox with a toilet plunger, to see which one flies farthest. Protest to 3776 S. High St., Columbus, OH 43214. ◆ Oklahomans for the Ethical Treatment of Animals asks that letters protesting against rattlesnake roundups be sent to Tourism and Recreation Dept., 500 Will Rogers Parkway, Memorial Office Bldg., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4492.

Offerings

The Status Of Animal Protection In Central And Eastern Europe, a 95-page report by the World Society for the Protection of Animals, covers animal protection laws, groups, and species numbers in each of the former Iron Curtain nations, including the USSR; reviews the role of Communism in promoting factory farming and animal-based research; describes zoo conditions; and assesses attitudes toward companion animals. Copies are $20 from P.O. Box 190, 29 Perkins St., Boston, MA 02130-9904. ◆ *The Philosophy of Animal Rights*, a question-and-answer handbook by Tom Regan, is $2.00 from the Culture and Animals Foundation, 3509 Eden Croft Drive, Raleigh, NC 27612. ◆ The Wisconsin Animal Educational Network has distributed a set of three 12-page papers on dissection to 3,000 state schools. *Issues Surrounding Dissection, Alternatives in Biology Education,* and *Additional Alternatives* are available from P.O. Box 1503, Appleton, WI 54913. ◆ The New England Anti-Vivisection Society will send a free campaign organizing kit to campus activists: write 333 Washington St., Suite 850, Boston, MA 02108; or call 617-523-6020. ◆ *The HSUS Student Action Guide* for students in grades 7-12 is free from 67 Salem Rd., East Haddam, CT 06423-0362; 203-434-8666. ◆ The Assn. for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals has released a new video, *America's Shame*, narrated by Kim Basinger. Get details from 2235 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, B.C., V5N 4B6, Canada; 604-255-0411. ◆ The 1991 Cat Lovers Against The Bomb calendar is $7.95, from Nebraskans for Peace, Suite 426, 129 N. 10th St., Lincoln, NE 68508-3627.

Art

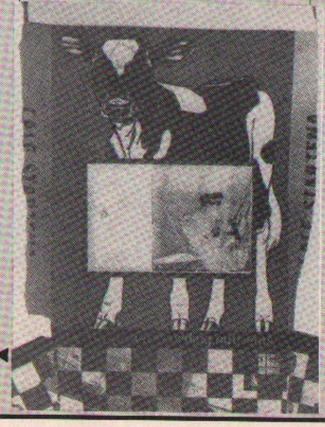
Sue Coe's nationally acclaimed exhibit *Porkopolis: Animals and Industry* will be available for viewing until Dec. 10 at the InterAmerican Art Gallery, 627 S.W. 27th Ave., Miami, Florida. ◆ The Sept. 14 opening of Robert Rauschenberg's show *Animals and Other Themes* drew 2,800 people to the City Gallery in Raleigh, N.C. Rauschenberg is a member of the Culture and Animals Foundation Advisory Board.

Victories

Nancy Sleeper of Urbana, Illinois, stopped a scheduled bear-wrestling event by persuading the Champaign County Health Dept. to adopt an ordinance stating, "No licensee where food or beverage is served shall for amusement or gain cause any animal to engage in combat." ◆ Revere, Mass., on Sept. 30 became the third U.S. city to ban animal displays. The ordinance, adopted by unanimous vote of the city council, was authored by activist Susan Carbone.

Tactics

Animal Rights Intl. on Sept. 25 placed a full-page ad in *The Washington Times*, rebutting U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan's claim that animal rights activists are "terrorists," and pointing out the failure of the biomedical establishment to provide most Americans with affordable, quality health care. ARI is allowing other groups to run the ad under their names (contact ARI at Box 214, Planetarium Station, NY, NY 10024). On Sept. 11, ARI published a full-page ad in *The Diamondback* (the student newspaper at the Univ. of Maryland), exposing chicken baron Frank Perdue's dubious business record. Perdue serves on the UM board of regents. ◆ Univ. of Calif. biochemistry professor J.B. Neilands and Berkeley Faculty and Staff to Advance Alternatives took out an ad in the Sept. issue of *California Monthly*, the campus alumni magazine, attacking



delays in starting a center to seek alternatives to animal-based biomedical research, which was promised by the chancellor back in 1989. ◆ The Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine on Oct. 1 held a press conference in San Francisco to describe how switching to a low-fat diet, low in animal products, can prevent breast cancer. October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The disease now hits one woman in nine, up from one in 20 circa 1960. ◆ The Tri-State Humane Assn. is documenting the fate of animals bred by puppy mills with a two-page questionnaire, provided to veterinarians, members of the Pa. Federation of Dog Clubs, dog training and rescue groups, and humane society members. For a copy, send a stamped self-addressed envelope to Consumer Complaint Division, 350 E. Erie Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19134. ◆ While solicitations are generally getting longer, on the advice of professional fundraisers who claim that the longer an appeal holds the recipient's attention, the more likely it is to bring in bucks, the Animal Welfare League of Charlotte County, Fla., recently went the other way. The AWL appeal read simply, "Your donation is particularly important right now, as the shelter needs a new roof."

Warning

The Dragonette Society for the Preservation of Endangered Animals, which solicits funds through ads in various national media, has not responded to ANIMALS' AGENDA requests for documentation of group activities.

Coming Events

HSUS will lead protests against deer hunting at the Great Swamp Natl. Wildlife Refuge in New Jersey on Dec. 5 and Dec. 14. For details, call Barbara Dyer, 201-927-5611. ◆ Feminists for Animal Rights, Friends of Animals, and *On The Issues* magazine will co-host a Conference on Women and Animals in Washington D.C. on June 25, 1992. Get details from Christina Alexandre, 155 E. 26th St., #2-C, New York, NY 10010.

If You Can Grow It, You Can Show It— A Guide to Animal Fancies in America

BY PHIL MAGGITTI

Are weekends no longer the carefree revels they used to be? Has the wind gone out of the yard sales? Have flea markets lost their bite? Is the local nature center for the birds? Did orienteering leave you disoriented? Have you shopped until you've dropped one too many bundles? Are you adrift from Friday until Monday because all the interesting support groups meet during the week?

If that's what's curdling your soy milk, cousin, allow me to present the most curious diversion of them all: the animal show. A strange, intoxicating ritual that's equal parts religion, social gathering, art form, irrational urge, therapeutic exercise, declaration of self, and near-clinical preoccupation all rolled, crimped, primped, styled, trimmed, trained, fluffed-up, combed-down, and blow-dried into one gosh-almighty show-and-tell. At horse, dog, cat, pigeon, poultry, ferret, budgie, rabbit, fish, mice, miniature pig, and other livestock extravaganzas, you'll see people and animals not even the Mind of Minolta could imagine.

The American Horse Show Association (AHSA), population 56,000, puts its imprimatur on 2,500 shows a year at which 18,000 horses compete in performance and conformation classes for the greater honor and glory of their owners, trainers, and riders. The American Kennel Club (AKC), the dog world's liturgical leader, is composed of 3,500 licensed clubs and another 450 member clubs, which are not only licensed but which also get a vote in association affairs. AKC registers 1.2 million puppies and sanctions 10,000 events each year. Nearly 1,600 are beauty pageants wherein dogs are judged on the basis of their conformation and on the reputation of their handlers. The remaining 8,400 events are tests of temperament, instinct, and talent such as hunting, herding, tracking, obedience, and lure coursing.

In the cat world, six North American registries license a total of 850 shows a year, wherein entries are judged on conformation and presentation only. (No self-respecting cat would consent to being pranced about a ring on the wrong end of a lead.)

According to show listings in the American Pigeon Journal (circulation 8,000), pigeon lovers take a flyer on close to 150 shows a year, most of them occurring from mid-August through early February. The American Poultry Association, proudly hailed by one of its directors as "The greatest thing that ever happened to a chicken," listed nearly 2,250 members in its 406-page 1989 yearbook. The American Bantam Association has a population of 2,750 and sanctions more than 100 shows a year.

Birds of a different feather—budgerigars, finches, canaries, lovebirds, cockatiels, and other varieties—attract their own flocks of adherents, judges, standards, and show calendars. So do rabbits, mice, ferrets, and well-schooled fish. In the land of the pedigreed, the golden rule is this: If you can grow it, you can show it. And many are the hard-driving show-offs who do.

A more cultivated term for a person who breeds and exhibits animals is "fancier," someone belonging to an extended family of like-minded individuals who participate in activities governed by an administrative body and whose *raison d'etre* includes personal aggrandizement, psychological and emotional fulfillment, love of competition, a desire for social interaction, and fealty to the welfare, promotion, and exhibition of a chosen species—though not necessarily in that order. The federations to which animal fanciers pledge their allegiance and their registration fees perform many functions. They catalog animals, record their lineage, charter clubs, sanction shows, license judges, enforce bylaws and show rules, approve breed standards, recognize new breeds and colors, reward the righteous, punish the miscreant, and produce newsletters, magazines, and yearbooks.

In its "purest" sense, animal fancier does not include persons who raise animals for profit and exhibit them solely to drive up their price. Most 4-H Club animal shows, therefore, would not be considered part of the animal fancies. 4-H Clubs are recruitment agencies that encourage the future factory farmers of America to curry, feed, and fuss over animals they'll exhibit in the afternoon and sell at auction that night. It would be difficult to overestimate the damage 4-H Club participation does to young people's attitudes toward animals.

Another exception to the pure-fancier definition is the person who breeds animals only to sell them as pets. Such people, no matter how much they profess to love their animals or how well they treat them, are not animal fanciers. They are commercial breeders, whether they mass produce hundreds of puppies a year and wholesale them to pet stores (in which case the ardent fancier sneeringly refers to them as puppy millers) or whether they breed two litters of kittens a year and sell them through the local newspaper (in which case the ardent fancier sneeringly refers to them as backyard breeders).

Though you couldn't prove it with pedigrees, it is not unreasonable to assume that the history of animal fancies parallels that of animal domestication. No sooner had humans begun domesticating dogs 12,000 to 14,000 years ago—give or take a few show seasons—than one loincloth probably said to another: "Fine dog you've got there, Thorg. But mine's better. Yours looks a little down in the pasterns."

"Sez who, Rotar? Your mother's down in the pasterns."

When the dust had settled, Rotar and Thorg went off in search of Butkus, who had more dogs than anyone in camp. They asked him to settle their dispute.

When he arrived at Thorg's campfire, Butkus scratched his chin, peered studiously at Thorg's dog, then said to Rotar, "Go fetch your mutt." When Rotar returned, Butkus lined the dogs up, walked around them a few times, checked their bites, and declared Thorg's dog the winner. Rotar promptly accused Thorg of bribing Butkus. Thus was the first animal show begat—along with the first complaint about biased judging.

With a few minor changes—the century, the animal, the names of the founding fathers, and the tavern where their first argument

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took place—the histories of various animal fancies began with a similar debate. Many of those debates occurred in England, which has always had a lot of taverns and a preoccupation with royal bloodlines.

Steeplechase racing was invented in 18th-century England when gentlemen began settling arguments about who had the fastest horse by racing cross country, using church steeples as reference points. The first recorded dog show was held at Newcastle-on-Tyne in 1859. There was a cat show at the St. Giles Fair in 1598, the year Shakespeare published *Much Ado About Nothing*, but the face-off that launched the modern-day cat fancy was the next cat show, which wasn't held until 1871 in London's Crystal Palace. By the turn of the century the rabbit and mouse fancies had also begun exhibiting signs of life.

Like the circus and other animal-intensive recreations, various animal fancies that had begun in England were exported to the United States. This country's oldest livestock fraternity, the American Poultry Association, was founded in 1873. The American Kennel Club was established in 1884. The American Cat Association, the oldest cat registry in the U.S., was founded in 1898. There was a run-up in the price of Belgian Hares in the U.S. that same year, but the first national rabbit association did not emerge until 1910.

With the exception of horses, dogs, and homing pigeons, most animals compete in conformation classes only, where they are judged according to a written standard; but there are some deviations from those customs—and from a normal person's sense of decorum. Recently the Northwest Miniature Potbelly Association in Portland, Oregon, held a Pig Pageant wherein potbellies decked out in bathing suits, evening gowns, and tutus were obliged to parade up and down a red carpet. (This brings to mind a comment—once made about horse shows—that all the horses' asses aren't in the ring.) Bizarre dress is also observed in Frederick's-of-Hollywood costume classes at Arabian horse shows and in the occasional kitty-dress-up class at cat shows, but serious fanciers do not encourage this sort of buffoonery.

The chap who crowed that the American Poultry Association is the greatest thing that ever happened to a chicken had it backwards. Fancies are the greatest thing that ever happened to their human participants. Animal fancies provide an escape from the real world, a sense of purpose in a lot of purposeless lives, a chance to play God by breeding animals, and a chance to play celebrity by showing them. Fancies offer status, camaraderie, an opportunity to meet ego needs and new people, something to look forward to during the week, an excuse for getting a vanity plate, and a reason to go traveling on the weekend. Indeed, the weekend forays of modern-day animal fanciers recall the nomadic excursions of the people who first domesticated animals, and the parking area for RVs and motor homes at a dog show has much in common with encampments during humankind's pre-agricultural phase.

Best of all, animal fancies provide what Cheers, the bar, provides in *Cheers*, the television series: the warm and womblike comfort of a place "where everybody knows your name, and you're always glad you came," a reassuring sense of community in a world in which communities are rapidly disintegrating.

"The dog fancy is a safe haven for people," says one longtime breeder. "We can fly anywhere in the country and know that there will be somebody to meet us at the airport. Their homes will be open to us; their cars will be at our disposal; just as if we lived next door."

A young grandprix-jumper rider elaborates on that theme. "When you're on a horse, you're isolated from everything. Your existence is totally secluded. Horse people live and breathe horses. It doesn't make any difference who the President is or whether there's a war going on—unless the tax situation changes and investors buy fewer horses. But even then, horse people aren't going to do things much differently.

Tina Hawkinson

"This will always be a business where everybody is familiar with everybody else, and there's a tremendous amount of comfort in that. I don't mean for this to come out the wrong way, but I'm probably one of the most recognizable people on the show circuit. I enjoy being recognized, and it would be easy for me to fool myself into believing that I'm a lot more important than I really am. I understand how people can get a very secure feeling from this business.

"The horse world provides this feeling because within that world you are somebody. To walk away from that—to lose the recognition and popularity—is a very, very hard thing to do. That's why horse people wake up at four in the morning, put their muddy old shoes on, their smelly old coats, and their dirty old blue jeans and go back out into the trenches."

Change the operative noun from horse to cat to classic car to whatever-suits-your-fancy, and you've got a seamless description of that fancy's appeal. To be sure, the motives that fuel animal fanciers' dreams—and jack up their phone bills—are no different from the ones that obsess tournament-bridge addicts, Wallace Nutting freaks, and people who register their Cabbage Patch dolls.

"Animal fanciers are brought together by the same reasons that Edsel collectors are," says Randall Lockwood, Ph.D., vice president/field services of the Humane Society of the United States. "There are obvious parallels between people who show animals and people who spend their time getting the Edsel in tip-top shape, polishing it, and dragging it around. The difference is, Edsels don't get tired and stressed out on the road, and they don't get lonely if you leave them out in the garage all the time."

The practices

For too many fanciers, says Lockwood, "the animal is reduced to the status of a commodity." And commodities, no matter how precious, are always disposable. In *Keeping Rabbits, a Complete Manual*, by Brian Leverett, there is a section called "Killing Rabbits," which details a "humane" method for disposing of excess stock, "whether or not you intend keeping rabbits for meat."

"The method favoured by experienced rabbit keepers is to pull the neck," writes Leverett. "This consists of holding the animal by the back legs with one hand and behind the skull with the other and giving a swift jerk. Another instant method of killing rabbits that anyone can use is to take a very strong piece of wood, about the size and thickness of the rung of a chair, and to strike the rabbit at the base of the skull with full force."

Yet the rabbit fancy is not alone in its cruel-to-be-kind philosophy. Dispatching excess animals, known as "culling," is discussed and endorsed on occasion in the *Pigeon Journal, Poultry Press*, and other animal-fancy publications. In *Encyclopedia of Pet Mice*, Tony Jones writes, "It is unfortunately a cruel necessity that if we are to ensure that our fancy mouse reaches its full potential of size and health, a reduction in the size of litters has to be carried out. This task is known as 'culling' and is a matter of destroying the smallest individuals of every litter until only the best three or four remain.

"The runts of the litter should be the first to go," Jones advises, "then any with thin or kinked tails or narrow skulls. The quickest and most humane method to destroy babies is to throw them hard upon a stone floor. This is not a pleasant task, but be assured they will die instantly." If you think a championship on a mouse could not possibly be worth this kind of barbarism, listen to Jones's closing argument: "Culling should be thought of not as destroying life but as helping those left [in the litter] to survive better."

As abhorrent as the image of Jones pitching it rough in his stone-floored mousery might be, we must acknowledge that he cleans up after himself. Cat fanciers and dog fanciers—while not above culling—have been content for a long time to let humane societies do their dirty work for them. But now that humane societies are getting their backs up about it—and some people are actually suggesting that animal breeding ought to be a licensed, regulated, taxable activity—apologists for the cat and dog fancies are howling and meowing about their "rights" being threatened.

"There is a growing array of people who are determined to remove, restrict, and impair our utilization and enjoyment of our dogs," wrote Herm David in the September 1989 issue of *Dog World*. The Cat Fanciers' Association (CFA), which not that long ago licensed a show wherein the owner of the highest-scoring cat received a $1,000 gift certificate at I. Magnum furrier, recently published a "Guide to Word Usage in the World of Animal Activism" in its monthly magazine. According to Joan Wastlhuber and Gayle A. Hand, coauthors of this piece, an "extremist" is anyone who has "a negative and unbending view of pedigreed cat breeding."

One wonders what they would call a cat club—purportedly devoted to the welfare of one furbearing species—that sees nothing wrong with using the skin of another species as a trophy? Or what they would call the CFA judge who was charged with cruelty to animals in 1990 by Santa Clara County (California) officials. The judge, A. David Bandy, had been officiating at CFA shows for almost 20 years and was a candidate for northwest regional director when extension cords strung from his residence to an attached shed, housing between 50 and 100 cats and kittens, started a fire. San Jose firemen reported Bandy because they were concerned about the pathetic condition of his cats: dehydration, malnutrition, chronic upper respiratory ailments, parasites of several kinds, and other maladies. The unfortunate cats had been living in foul, squalid, four-by-four-feet cages, two to five cats in a cage. This from a man who promised that if he was elected to office, he would publish a regional newsletter featuring "articles on feline health and welfare."

Dramatic irony aside, Bandy's case is instructive for two reasons: it is typical of more catteries, kennels, rabbitries, aviaries, and the like than fanciers would care to admit, and, even more disturbing, a resolution that would have made all CFA judges and elected officials subject to biannual cattery inspections was defeated at the CFA annual meeting last June.

An editorial in *Cat Tracks*, a Himalayan/Persian breed publication, charged that "delegates in the back of the meeting room called for a roll call vote on this resolution," after CFA president Don Williams, who was once suspended from the organization himself, had called the resolution failed even though "from the rear of the room the hands raised in favor of the resolution clearly outnumbered those against it." What's more, the editorial charged, CFA's parliamentarian failed to remind Williams that "when members ask for a roll call vote, the presiding officer must call for [one]."

Breeding limitations unwelcome

Despite the giddy tendency of animal fanciers to refer to their diversions as "sport," the doings of the animal world have been relegated to the "Style," "Living," or "Weekender" sections of most newspapers. For the last year, however, ordinances being considered by a number of municipalities across the country—ordinances that would limit and/or license cat and dog breeding—have made the

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The Horse Show

Paul A. Hein / Unicorn Stock Photos

No animal fanciers are so inventive in abusing the animals in their care as members of the horse world. Trainers, riders, and owners seeking to develop in their horses the gait or look of champions resort to drugs, whips, chains, surgery, scare tactics, and exhaustive training techniques.

The walking horse industry—the most abusive horse fancy of them all, according to Karl Yenser, former president of the American Walking Horse Association—rewards maximum reach and elevation in a horse's step. To produce this effect, trainers "sore" a horse by applying caustics to its forelegs, says Yenser. "Then they put chains on the horse's legs to irritate them further."

Walking horse lovers claim that soring is no more abrasive than wearing a watch, but seldom do we see people hoisting their Rolex arms high into the air whenever they want to see what time it is. Robin C. Lohnes, executive director of the American Horse Protection Association (AHPA), declares that soring is "more like wearing a loose-fitting watch over a third-degree sunburn and waving your wrist back and forth for 20 minutes." And the use of "leg chains" in training had become so excessive at one point, says Yenser, that "horses were entering the ring with blood running down their legs."

Meanwhile, in Quarter Horse classes, a low head set, a motionless tail lying close to the buttocks, and an easy, docile manner are blue-ribbon features acquired through black-hearted techniques. "We have had several reports alleging that Quarter Horses have had their heads tied up with their chins high above their withers all day," says Lohnes. "By the time the horse is untied, his neck muscles are so weak he will drop his head" until his nose is scarcely more than three inches off the ground.

AHPA and other groups have also received complaints alleging that some trainers work Quarter Horses excessively before classes, tranquilize them, bleed them, and withhold their food and water—all to achieve a quiet, slow-moving performance in the ring. Some humane groups have gotten complaints about trainers cutting the nerves in horses' necks to weaken neck muscles, which causes the head to drop down. Trainers have also been accused of severing their horses' tail muscles or using alcohol blocks to prevent horses from lifting their tails.

Arabian horses, too, have been enslaved to fashion. Because they have been bred for stamina, their admirers believe that Arabians should project a wild, untamed spirit. Unscrupulous trainers attempt to instill this attitude by whipping their horses just before taking them into the ring. Not for nothing do some Arabians come bursting into the ring on their hind legs.

Though whip abuse has been outlawed by the International Arabian Horse Association (IAHA) and the American Horse Show Association (AHSA), officials cannot control mistreatment off the show grounds. "Much of it is done at home," says Yenser, who is now a judge at Arabian shows. "They'll whip the horses with a blanket on. This doesn't leave marks, but it does frighten and excite the horses."

And it leaves a mark on their souls. When a horse wearing a blanket in his stall at a show sees his trainer coming with a whip, he reacts with conditioned excitement.

Some whippings, such as those administered to horses' legs, are more difficult to disguise—inside the ring or out. "I've seen horses drop to their knees in the show ring if the trainer happens to flick his whip toward the horses' cannon-bone area," says Yenser. "This tells me that that horse has suffered some hard whipping around the tendons."

Some trainers produce a fiery animation in their horses by setting off fire extinguishers behind them. "That's usually done on the ranch," says Grant Johnson, immediate past president of IAHA. "It isn't allowed on the show grounds. Yet some horses get to the point where their trainers will come up behind them and go 'whoosh, whoosh, whoosh' to get a conditioned response."

Arabian trainers also make "beauty cuts" in the corners of a horses' eyelids to make the eyes appear larger. There is some disagreement about how common and abusive this surgery is, but only a fool would argue that it's done for the horses' benefit. Nor does the horse derive any benefit from gingering, a method of producing a high tail carriage in Arabians and saddlebreds by grinding up ginger, mixing it with petroleum jelly, and shoving it into a horse's anus.

Owners and trainers motivated by greed are not the only people guilty of abusing horses. Rich Meyer, a staff associate at the American Humane Association, estimates that up to 90 percent of mistreatment occurs unintentionally: a young rider gallops a pony up and down a hill in 95-degree weather; a student bounces up and down on the horse's spine while learning to sit the trot; a weekend cowboy jerks on a horse's mouth too hard and too often; a new owner doesn't know enough about nutrition to provide adequate feed.

These "benign" abuses are difficult to eliminate, but equine associations have attempted to ride herd on cheating in the show ring. The American Quarter Horse Association now requires that condition and conformation account for at least 20 percent of the points in judging. According to Dan Delaney, director of shows for AQHA, bloodletting is just about history, and low head sets are falling from favor.

"We've taken many steps over the past four or five years," Delaney claims, "and we're beginning to see heads come back up to the horizontal and the noses back past the vertical." Tying a horse's head in an uncomfortable or stressful manner is already forbidden, and rules that became effective January 1, 1990, require that horses carry their heads "in a natural position, not too high or too low, not over flexed at the poll or excessively nosed out." (Delaney maintains that cutting neck nerves is possible but improbable.)

AQHA has opposed tail cutting and tail blocks since the mid-1970s, and in 1983 perfected a technique to identify surgically altered tail muscles. Four years later AQHA developed an electromyographic procedure to find nerve damage caused by tail blocks.

AQHA conducts its own drug tests, and underwrites drug testing by state Quarter Horse associations. Any exhibitor, owner, trainer, or other representative who violates AQHA rules can be barred from participating in AQHA shows. Furthermore, all animals registered in the suspended person's name may be prohibited from taking part in AQHA shows.

To halt whip abuse and gingering, the International Arabian Horse Association in 1985 enacted a requirement that all horses in halter classes enter a paddock area for 20 minutes prior to competition. This requirement was dropped three years later. IAHA claimed it was no longer necessary, but other observers suspect that show organizers balked at setting up and policing the necessary paddock area.

Drugs are a major concern to AHSA, which regulates competition involving 23 breeds and disciplines at 2,500 shows a year. "People want to be confident that they're not competing against the drug expertise of their peers or getting beaten by an illicitly drugged horse," explains veterinarian John Lengel, administrator of the Drugs and Medications Program. Thus, AHSA recently imposed a ban on methocarbamol, a depressant that had been widely used to calm Quarter Horses.

But AHSA drug bans have been instituted cautiously. "During a horse's life there will be times when it is sick or injured," says Lengel. "We don't want our rules to prevent people from dealing with those illnesses and injuries."

Not all breed groups are affiliated with AHSA. Quarter Horses, Appaloosas, and Paints have their own independent registries, and AHSA stopped regulating Tennessee Walkers in 1987 because fewer than 25 percent of the walker shows were applying for AHSA recognition. Walker, rocking horse, and spotted saddle horse shows are now sanctioned mainly by the National Horse Show Regulatory Committee. NHSRC judges, like those of the other associations, are required to uphold the regulatory requirements set forth by the United States Department of Agriculture under the Horse Protection Act. Despite a decade of increasingly stringent NHSRC pre- and post-show inspections, however, record numbers of walking horse trainers have been fined by the USDA for soring violations in each of the past three years, as federal regulations have been stiffened gradually.

In addition, problems persist in other breeds. "I know plantation horse people who claim that if the USDA shows up, 40 to 50 percent of the exhibitors withdraw," says Rich Meyer. Yet the USDA recently proposed relaxing some of its pre- and post-show inspection requirements.

"You can write all the rules and regulations you want," observes Meyer, "but if they're not enforced, they aren't going to prevent much."

Concerned individuals can help to curtail abuse by insisting that governing bodies take it seriously. People should make their concerns over mishandling known to breed registries and to show organizations. The major abuses of Quarter Horses were reported to AQHA by angry members, says Delaney.

"That's when you saw all the letters to the magazines, all the letters and phone calls to the AQHA and other breed groups. And that's when the AQHA committee began to address it."

—Marcia King

Continued from page 15

real-news pages.

In their rabid-sounding response to these ordinances, breeders appear to have taken lessons at the fur industry's school of hyperventilated rhetoric. "The push for breeder directed [sic] legislation seems to be part of an Animal Rights Activist agenda to eliminate pedigreed cats and dogs and eventually ALL companion animals," wrote Joan Wastlhuber and Karen Johnson in the August 1991 *NPA Gazette*, a publication of the National Pet Alliance. NPA, 95 members strong at press time, is dedicated to "the never ending [sic] battle to stop coercive legislation."

There are relatively few animal rights advocates who oppose the keeping of companion animals; and though it is true that most people in the animal rights movement consider breeding reprehensible, it is also true that many people in the animal *welfare* community agree. In fact, the "push" for limitations on breeding and on the number of animals per household has come from the welfare end of the animal protection spectrum. The Humane Society of the U.S., not the Animal Liberation Front, recently announced a campaign whose slogan wisely recommends, "Until there are none, adopt one."

That campaign, says Guy R. Hodge, director of data and information services for HSUS, "is not anti-breeding. There are many people within the humane community who have purebred animals. I don't know of anybody who's out to abolish dog or cat breeds in general. Our campaign is anti-euthanasia. It's focused on eliminating the indiscriminate killing of dogs and cats in animal shelters. It's not focused on eliminating the possession of purebred animals."

Breeders have responded to pet-limitation laws with unsolicited advice about how shelters might perform their functions better and with self-righteous claims that the majority of animals dying in shelters are mixed breed anyway. According to a study conducted by the American Humane Association in 1987, about 1.2 percent of the strayed or relinquished cats brought to shelters are purebred. Since there were, by AHA estimates, 5.9 to 9.8 million cats received at shelters in 1987, we can assume that 72,000 to 118,000 of those cats were purebred. These numbers are not the drop in the bucket cat breeders would pass them off to be.

Dog breeders—no less wont to play with statistics than cat breeders—can at least be applauded for starting breed-rescue clubs. These clubs (there are 1,555 in the U.S.) are generally devoted to the welfare of a single breed. Club members "adopt"

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The Dog Show

Although the American Kennel Club (AKC) and its disciples refer to canine beauty contests and other AKC events as "the sport of dogs"—and play the national anthem at the start of every show to prove it—the method of determining winners is too subjective and the skills required in presenting dogs are too minimal for most people to take this claim seriously.

The "sport" of dogs comprises several kinds of competition: conformation shows; obedience trials, which may be held separately or in conjunction with conformation shows; field trials; tracking, herding, or hunting tests; and lure coursing.

In conformation shows, dogs are evaluated by AKC-licensed judges on the basis of how well the dogs conform to the standards for their breeds. These standards—loosely worded, written descriptions of the ideal specimens in each breed— are drafted by breed clubs and approved by the AKC.

Dogs competing in obedience trials must perform a stylized set of exercises in front of a judge, who evaluates how promptly and accurately the dogs respond to commands. In field trials and lure coursing, and in tracking, herding, or hunting tests, dogs are judged on their ability to perform certain chores expeditiously, not on physical beauty and correct movement alone as they are in the conformation ring.

Criticism of the dog fancy is aimed at the physical and temperament problems that result from injudicious selective breeding, at routine mutilation such as ear cropping and tail docking, at the clandestine surgery performed to correct undesirable traits, at the less-than-ideal existence of many heavily campaigned dogs, at the methods used to shape obedience behavior, and at the extent to which the breeders of purebred dogs aggravate the pet-overpopulation problem.

Breeding

Every breed, from the most venerable to the most recently accepted, is composed of a group of genetically related dogs who consistently produce similar-looking offspring. Once this objective is achieved, breeders work to set type: those physical characteristics—such as the short, otter-like tail on a Labrador—that serve to define a breed and to make it appealing to persons of acquired taste. This refinement and exaggeration of physical traits is usually (and most rapidly) achieved through linebreeding or inbreeding.

Linebreeding involves the mating of half brother and sister, uncles and nieces, nephews and aunts, grandparents and grandchildren, or first cousins. Inbreeding involves the mating of brother and sister or parent and offspring. Both strategies narrow the gene pool and raise the odds of inheriting the good traits (along with the bad, the ugly, and the cantankerous hidden recessives) in any pair of dogs.

According to Donald Patterson of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, there are more than 300 heritable diseases in dogs, and 10 new afflictions are added to that list each year. Thus, when you buy a cute toy breed, you may also be purchasing an option on a $450 operation to correct the Legg-Perthes disease that causes deterioration in the head of the femoral bone. When you buy a statuesque Great Dane, you may be buying a replacement in seven or eight years because Danes aren't noted for their longevity—or their freedom from hip dysplasia. When you buy a Rottweiler, you may also want to buy life insurance (even if you don't have a kid named Damien or a nanny who looks like Rosalyn Carter on speed).

In addition to being at risk for physical difficulties that result from reckless breeding, dogs may also be subjected to ritual ear and tail mutilation. These surgeries, not always performed in a sterile or licensed arena, are said to improve the look and balance of the nearly 40 breeds that have all or part of their tails docked shortly after birth and the dozen varieties that suffer ear cropping as puppies. The latter requires a major anesthetic followed by weeks or months of postoperative care, periodic wrapping and rewrapping to make the cropped ears stand straight, considerable pain for the puppy, and frequent complications. Though ear cropping was banned in the United Kingdom a century ago, most North American exhibitors still consider this procedure benign, and some actually claim that it confers medical benefits.

"The sport of dogs" purports to evaluate the phenotypic expression of genetic traits, but many exhibitors supply what nature has denied by modifying dogs illegally through surgery or the use of drugs to correct cosmetic flaws or physical abnormalities. Skillful canine surgeons—not all of them certified by veterinary boards—can correct poor bites, replace hips in dysplastic dogs, free ingrown eyelids, repair craniofacial abnormalities, implant prosthetic testicles in the scrotums of monorchid (one-testicled) dogs, and administer hormone therapy to correct hypothyroidism, hereditary auto-immune disorders, and other ailments.

Such meddling is not what the casual observer would expect in a game supposedly designed as an objective assessment of an animal's traits. But as one boxing manager said before an upcoming title fight, "This ain't a matter of life and death. It's more important than that."

Dog "handling"

Winning is so important in the dog world that handlers and owner/exhibitors desperately seeking points toward national rankings attend as many as 100 shows or more annually. Their dogs may spend most of the year (and sometimes two or three years) crated in a van, crated at a show, or kenneled in a narrow run at "home." Some people don't even see their dogs for months at a time. And some handlers, writes Connie Vanacore in *Dog Showing: An Owner's Guide*, "give a dog attention and affection only in the ring" in order to make the dog shine in competition. An abysmal way to treat an animal whose loyalty is not situation specific.

In view of the manner in which some dogs are trained for obedience trials, they might be better off if they didn't receive any attention from their owners and handlers outside the ring. Obedience exercises (walking off-lead, staying when told, coming when called, retrieving objects, etc.) once had practical goals, but success in obedience trials is now an end in itself. As the number of competitors has increased, judges have demanded higher standards of precision. Dog-training classes taught by and for the fancy correspondingly tend to focus on skills and techniques necessary to maximize success in competition rather than on the problems and concerns of ordinary dog keepers. These classes are taught by seasoned competitors who are not, for the most part, dog behaviorists or well-rounded trainers. Their methods are copied from top-level competitors and almost always involve coercion.

The method of coercive choice in dog training is escape-avoidance or punishment by means of a collar. The ear-pinch, widely used to teach retrieving, is an example of the escape-avoidance approach. An ordinary choke collar is designed to allow the trainer to punish incorrect position or response with a swift, choke-release movement or "leash correction" on the dog's neck. When a dog is being taught to heel, for example, every position other than the heel position begets punishment, so the dog learns to heel by a process of elimination.

Ronald E. Partis / Unicorn Stock Photos

Other collars in widespread use are the clip-on choker and the prong collar. The clip-on, which is too small to slip over the dog's head, rides higher on the neck and delivers its corrective message to more sensitive areas. The prong collar insures still faster results—and more pain for less effort—because its inward-pointing prongs dig into the dog's neck when the collar is tightened. Proponents of the prong collar claim that it is more "humane" than other collars because its self-limiting design prevents it from being tightened beyond a predetermined point. Collars without this feature have been known to cause tracheal injury.

In recent years, a movement toward alternative training has appeared, one characterized by reward-based motivation and an emphasis on the integration of dogs into human society, not on trials. There are three main forces behind this movement: the discovery by some dog trainers of techniques used in training marine mammals; the influence of certain figures with an academic background in the study of animal behavior; and the emergence of the animal/environmental movement.

Regardless of the ethical problems associated with the confinement and training of marine mammals, there is no question that the training methods used there (behavior-shaping through food rewards) are more sophisticated than those normally used in dog training. Some longtime trainers have embraced these ideas with relief. Others have dug in their heels in opposition. They dismiss no-force training because they see it as a threat to the status quo and because this user-friendly style deprives the trainer of any chance to displace anger on the job. Dog training, unfortunately, attracts many individuals who act as if they are seeking a means to dissipate anger and frustration.

Punishment-oriented trainers further dislike using rewards such as food because this would be a frank acknowledgment that a dog acts in its own interest. "If you use food to train," goes a well-known objection, "the dog is doing it for himself, not for you." (A mortal sin in dogs.) But if he's doing it for you, why is he wearing a choke collar?

People trained in the academic study of animal behavior point out that punishment training is not only less palatable, but less efficient and less powerful than training with rewards. They also note that behavior problems often arise from nothing more serious than the clash between a dog's natural inclinations and human rules. An understanding is at last emerging of the enormous challenge faced by dogs in our society, and trainers are abandoning the dog-as-adversary model at the root of punishment-oriented techniques. When training is no longer seen in terms of "disobedience" (implying defiance rather than ignorance or lack of motivation), trainers are empowered to take on a helper role because undesirable behavior does not always have to be categorized as the dog attempting to exert dominance over the human.

The "surplus" problem

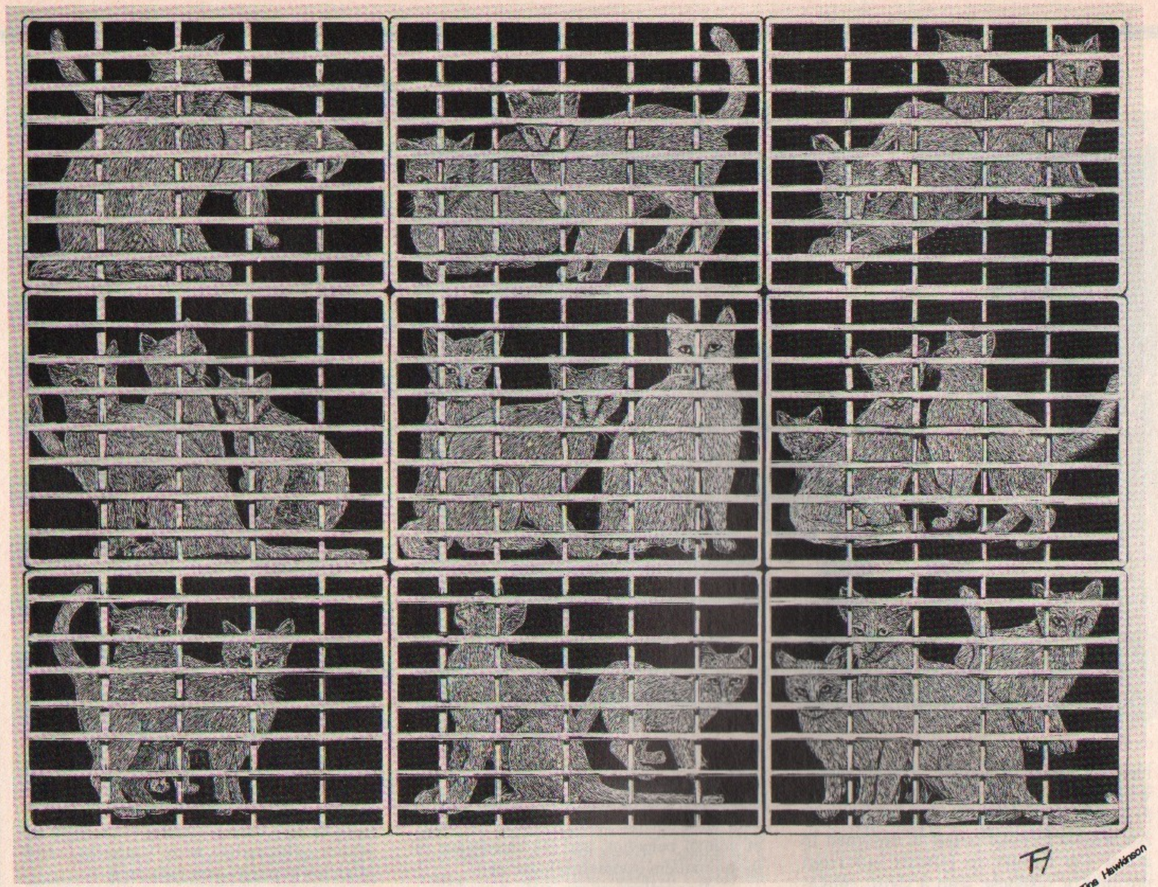
Since members of the dog fancy must compete with pet shops, backyard breeders (those who do not attend shows), and humane societies for a share of the available good homes for dogs, the fancy exerts a great deal of energy making a distinction between purebreds and mixed-breed dogs, and between "quality" purebreds and "junk." Members of the fancy must perpetuate the idea that something real is being evaluated at dog shows in order to guard their share of the dog market. But "serious fanciers" are not always easily distinguished from puppy millers and backyard breeders, both of whom can readily supply papers—and often lower prices—on their puppies.

Thus, dog shows are touted as the means of distinguishing a "quality" dog, but shows function more as marketing than screening devices.

Dog journalists sometimes resort to questionable statistics in defense of their hobby. Chris Walkowicz, writing in a recent issue of the *American Kennel Gazette*, claimed that "researchers" had discovered that even though as many as 30 percent of all dogs found in animal shelters are purebreds, only one percent "come from the fancy" (a questionable assertion that Walkowicz never substantiated and that one AKC official flatly disputed in a conversation with a contributing editor to this magazine).

Instead of playing with statistics, dog fanciers should acknowledge that if substantial progress is to be made against the killing of millions of dogs in North American animal shelters, breeding must be curtailed. The unrelenting promotion of purebreds by the dog fancy contributes to the consumerist attitude toward dogs which adds greatly to the overpopulation problem. Anyone who figures otherwise is barking up the wrong tree.

—Don Merbarti



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dogs of that breed from shelters and try to place those dogs in good homes, but some dogs are returned to the shelters eventually to be destroyed.

In an issue of *D* magazine this year, one writer suggested that breed-rescue clubs should increase their efforts until every pedigreed dog in every shelter has been adopted. Those not suitable for placement should be destroyed humanely by veterinarians at the club's expense, so that the dogs would not add to the statistics used by humane societies in support of ordinances to regulate breeding.

A laudable, if somewhat self-serving notion, and a futile one to boot. According to AHA estimates, about seven percent of the 10.3 to 17.2 million dogs received at shelters each year are purebred. Each of the 1,555 breed-rescue clubs in the U.S. would have to place or destroy between 476 and 772 dogs a year to remove the 740,000 to 1.2 million pedigreed dogs received at shelters annually.

Good intentions notwithstanding, "Breeders have not been willing to accept their own culpability in the pet overpopulation problem," says Hodge. "From our perspective there are a finite number of good homes for animals out there, and if a breeder says to me that he's found a good home for every puppy in a litter, that doesn't absolve him because now there are that many fewer good homes for the animals who were already available and waiting in shelters." Obviously, the best way for breeders to do their part in solving the pet overpopulation problem is by cutting back on the number of animals they produce—either voluntarily or by government mandate.

Bluntly put, breeders' complaints about their "rights" being abrogated by pet-limitation laws are silly and offensive, and breeders' attempts to scare the pet-keeping public into opposing pet-limitation laws—by saying that those nasty animal extremists are out to take their dogs and cats away—are villainous. When one thinks of the rights movements people have fought in and suffered over—civil rights, women's rights, gay and lesbian rights, animal rights, handicapped rights—one is hard put not to laugh at the fools waxing stentorian about their "rights" to keep umpteen cats in cages in the basement. And when one looks at litter registration statistics kept by the Cat Fanciers' Association and the American Kennel Club, one is tempted to ask what breeders are so upset about.

The CFA registered more than 57,795 litters in 1990. The exact number is impossible to calculate from data in the CFA's *Almanac*, wherein breeders who registered 21 litters or more are lumped into one teeming cohort. But of the 19,907 persons who registered litters with CFA in 1990, 68 percent (13,551) registered only one or two litters, accounting for 30 percent of all litters registered.

Meanwhile, those who produced ten or more litters in 1990, 1,062 breeders, comprising five percent of the breeding population, accounted for 27 percent of the total litters produced. Even if breeding were a right and not a privilege, there would have to be some balance struck between the rights of breeders to run amuck and the rights of kittens to proper socialization and attention. And that balance would be struck far on the downside of ten litters (and anywhere from 30 to 40-plus kittens) a year.

AKC figures for litter registrations are similar to CFA's. Wayne Cavanaugh, director of communications for AKC, reports that "roughly 75 percent" of the 557,237 litters registered by AKC last year were "one-litter transactions." Cavanaugh could not provide the percentage of breeders who cranked out more than ten litters of dogs a year, but he did note that beginning in September of 1991, breeders who did were going to receive an unannounced inspection visit from AKC.

"Our biggest concerns are that their papers are in order and that all their dogs are identified," says Cavanaugh. "Yet even though we don't have the authority to give a cruelty conviction, while we're there we'll take the opportunity to report to the local authority if we find conditions that are inhumane or cruel, crowded or dirty. Then, if the local authority gets us a conviction—a regular court conviction—we'll automatically suspend that individual from all AKC privileges indefinitely. We've suspended seven on cruelty and seven on records this month [September '91], and we've suspended 27 on cruelty so far this year. Since the inspection process just started, I imagine that by this time next year we'll be at 270 suspensions rather than 27.

"We've always inspected, but in the past it was complaint generated. Now we're going out proactively. I think some of the breeders are going to be surprised at what we're doing lately. It's time to crack it in shape, boys and girls. We see too many people doing it wrong."

Too many people doing it wrong. Regardless of one's philosophical beliefs about animal fancies, the number of people doing it wrong and the number of animals suffering at their hands deserve attention. It is these people—the ones who should get a life rather than create so many—that pet-limitation ordinances are designed to curtail. And if some municipalities set their inspection limits lower than CFA's, for whom the sky is apparently the limit, or than AKC's, which are certainly generous at 10 litters a year, what's the great loss?

The contribution of breeders to the pet overpopulation problem is not the only case to be made against the animal fancies. Frightful abuses of dogs and horses have been documented [see sidebars, "The Dog Show" and "The Horse Show"], and the confined, deprived lives that many breeding animals are obliged to lead cannot be justified on any grounds. Yet despite the behavior of some twisted individuals, "there are a lot of people for whom showing an animal is not that much different from having their kids in Little League," says Randall Lockwood. "I don't necessarily see it as always exploitative and insensitive. There's a full range, from people who are truly devoted to their animals to those who have reduced the animals to commodities. The people who hit a couple of shows a year, who do it for the social aspect, who at least think their animals enjoy it—and in many cases they might—I think that's probably the majority rather than the minority."

No matter how many litters they produce a year, people who presume to breed animals—and what a solemn presumption that is—should examine their consciences carefully.

The world will little note nor long remember the show records of this year's winners. The important question is: At what cost to the animals were those wins secured? ❖

Those wishing to keep track of exotic fancies (and the exotic wildlife trade) may find a subscription to Wings & Hooves *useful.* Wings & Hooves, *whose motto is "In Proliferation of Animals, their Industries, and Ideas," is $16/6 issues, Rt. 3, Box 65, Chandler, OK 74834. The content consists largely of exhibition and auction notices.*

Historical Profile

Arthur Schopenhauer:

Philosopher of Compassion *(1788 - 1860)*

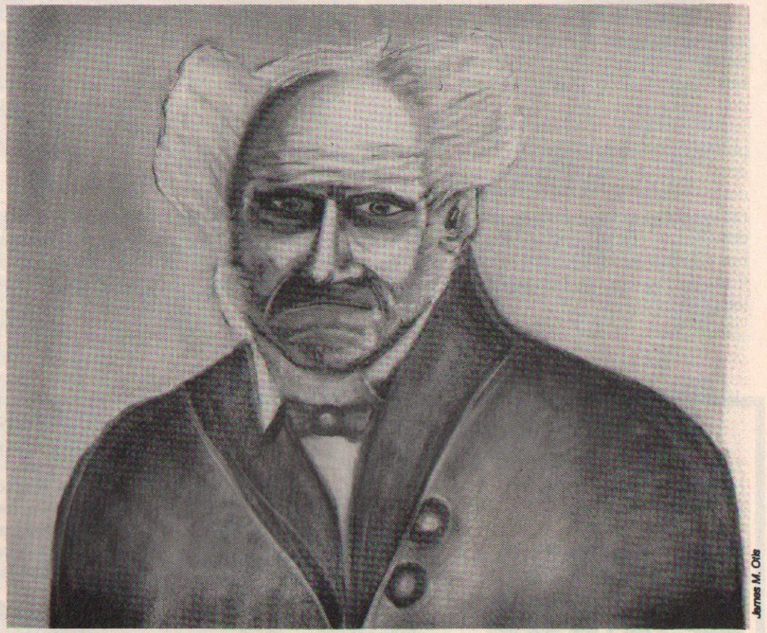
A student of philosophy could easily deduce that one of the great preoccupations of the discipline has been discovering ways to rationalize the exploitation of animals. Thomas Aquinas, for example, thought that "man" had no duties whatsoever toward animals. Rene Descartes said that animals were merely machines, possessing no feelings or emotions. Even Baruch Spinoza, that gentle and retiring pantheist, declared that, "Whatsoever there be in nature besides man, a regard for our advantage does not call on us to preserve, but to preserve or destroy according to its various capabilities, and to adapt to our use as best as we may." (*Ethics*, IV Appendix C.26)

But Arthur Schopenhauer offered rebuttal: "[Spinoza's] contempt for animals who, as mere things for our use, are declared by him to be without rights is...in conjunction with Pantheism, at the same time absurd and abominable." (*World as Will and Representation* II, 50)

Schopenhauer, who was born in Danzig in 1788 and died 72 years later at Frankfurt-am-Main, was among the first great philosophers in the Western tradition to denounce animal abuse. Like Voltaire, who died a decade before Schopenhauer was born, he spoke out against vivisection and often ridiculed religious views that sanctified abuses.

Schopenhauer considered himself the only true successor of Immanuel Kant. His metaphysical structure was based on the doctrine of "the World as Will," i.e., that behind all the phenomena of the world, underlying all inorganic and organic nature, there is an impersonal force, an energy, which he somewhat misleadingly named "Will." This doctrine has some amazing similarities to the world view implied by modern science, but for philosophical purposes its most important implications are in ethics—implications that Schopenhauer clearly saw and didn't fail to point out.

For the nonphilosopher, it is necessary to explain that the main problem in the field of ethics has not been, "What actions are right or wrong?", but rather, "What do we mean by right or wrong, and where does the objective validity of these concepts, if



James M. Otis

indeed there is any, come from?" The explanations of philosophers to this latter question from ancient times to the present, have ranged from the command of God (still the most popular answer) to "the greatest happiness of the greatest number" (utilitarianism), with many others in between.

But Schopenhauer believed, from both philosophical analysis and observations of everyday life, that what we mean by moral behavior can never be motivated by self-interest, and that the previous explanations of philosophers all went wrong in trying to ground human morality in self-interest. For example, the motivation for obeying a command of God is fear of retribution or hope of reward—nothing more than enlightened egoism.

For Schopenhauer, the basis of all morality is *compassion*, the feeling that, at the bottom and in our deepest nature, everyone and everything is the same. We are compassionate when we recognize ourselves in other creatures, whether humans or animals, and act accordingly, treating others as we ourselves want to be treated—but only if we act this way strictly for compassion's sake, without hope of reward or fear of punishment on our own behalf.

"Nothing shocks our moral feelings so deeply as cruelty does," Schopenhauer wrote. "We can forgive every other crime, but not cruelty. The reason for this is that it is the very opposite of compassion...it is the greatest lack of compassion that stamps a deed with the deepest moral depravity and atrocity...compassion is the real moral incentive." *(On the Basis of Morality,* p. 168-70)

Schopenhauer further made plain that compassion is not just an ivory tower philosophical concept. "It is not abstract," he wrote, "cannot be communicated, but must dawn on each of us. It therefore finds its real and adequate expression not in words, but simply and solely in deeds, in conduct, in the course of a man's life. It is therefore as little necessary for the saint to be a philosopher, as for the philosopher to be a saint."

Schopenhauer had an affinity for Hinduism and Buddhism, and it is no coincidence that these are vegetarian religions. Schopenhauer read the *Upanishads* every night before going to bed, and a gilt statue of the Buddha rested on his mantelpiece, quite unusual practices in 19th-century Germany. He often quoted with approval the Hindu saying, "Tat twam asi" (This art thou), which signified the commonality of all creatures: "the noble person...denies himself pleasure, undergoes privations, in order to alleviate another's suffering. He perceives the distinction between himself and others, which to the wicked man is so great a gulf, belongs only to a fleeting deceptive phenomenon...he recognizes that this extends even to the animals and to the whole of nature; he will therefore not cause suffering even to an animal." (p. 372) "For the veil of Maya [the deceptive appearance of the world] has become transparent for the person who performs works of love, and the deception of the *principium individuationis* [the principle of individuation] has left him."

Schopenhauer thought that the source of animal exploitation and abuse lay in Western religious tradition. A "fundamental error of Christianity is that it has in an unnatural fashion sundered mankind from the animal world to which it essentially belongs and now considers mankind alone as of any account, regarding the animals as no more than things."

Schopenhauer regarded all religion as species of popular metaphysics, since the masses are uninterested and unable to understand philosophy, and so must have it in story form. "It can be truly said: men are the devils of the earth and the animals are the tormented souls. This is the consequence of that installation scene in the Garden of Eden. For the mob can be controlled only by force or by religion, and here Christianity leaves us shamefully in the lurch. I heard from a reliable source that a Protestant pastor, requested by an animal protection society to preach a sermon against cruelty to animals, replied that with the best will in all the world he was unable to do so, because he could find no support in his religion. The man was honest, and he was right."

To Schopenhauer, vivisection represented evil *par excellence*, and his own words here speak best: "Nowadays...every little medicine-man thinks he has the right to torment animals in the cruelest fashion in his torture chamber so as to decide problems whose answers have for long stood written in books into which he is too lazy and ignorant to stick his nose." Referring to a "totally idle and useless experiment" in which two rabbits were starved to death, he writes, "Have these gentlemen of the scalpel and crucible no notion at all than that they are first and foremost men, and chemists only secondly: How can you sleep soundly knowing you have harmless animals under lock and key in order to starve them slowly to death? Don't you wake up screaming in the night?"

And finally, Schopenhauer calls for change, away from the legacy of biblical religion and toward a recognition of the wholeness and unity of nature: "It is obviously high time that the [Judeo-Christian] conception of nature, at any rate in regard to animals, should come to an end in Europe, and that *the eternal being which, as it lives in us, also lives in every animal* [Schopenhauer's emphasis] should be recognized as such; one must be deaf and dumb, or completely chloroformed by the *foetor judaicus*, not to see that the animal is in essence absolutely the same thing we are, and that the difference lies merely in the accident, the intellect, and not in the substance, which is the will." It should be noted, as an example of his great insight, that this was written long before Darwin developed his ideas of "the descent of man" from animals.

If compassion formed the basis of morality for Schopenhauer, justice was the greatest virtue. But he was fully aware of its cost, and those working for the extension of justice to animals should heed his words and be under no illusion: "For true righteousness, inviolable justice, that first and most important cardinal virtue, is so heavy a task, that whoever professes it unconditionally and from the bottom of his heart has to make sacrifices...Yet the very thing that makes righteousness venerable is the sacrifices it costs; in trifles it is not admired...Justice itself is the hairy garment that causes its owner constant hardship, and philanthropy that gives away what is necessary provides us with constant fasting."

—Dennis Mangan

Profile

The American Horse Protection Association: Defending Equines


Kendra L. Bond

For 66 years, the Chincoteague (Virginia) Volunteer Fire Company, with the blessing of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has hosted a five-day fundraising festival in which the wild ponies of nearby Assateague Island are rounded up, forced to swim across a channel to Chincoteague, and herded down the town's main street, after which scores of foals—some as young as two months—are abruptly weaned and auctioned to the public.

Timed for "slack tide," the brief interval between incoming and outgoing tides, the 200-yard swim takes under 10 minutes, and the ponies do get a rest before being driven on, if rest is really possible for wild animals when surrounded by 40,000 human spectators. But the foals still suffer from the combined stresses of capture, the swim, the sudden separation from their mothers, and the noise of the crowd. In past years, several have died. Others have died later of inappropriate transportation and care, having been sold for prices ranging from $200 to $2,200 to people who often know little more about the special needs of foals than could be gleaned from Marguerite Henry's children's book *Misty of Chincoteague*, which lastingly romanticized the roundup nearly 30 years ago.

Fortunately, the Chincoteague ponies have an important ally in the American Horse Protection Association. Founded in 1966, the AHPA is the nation's only nonprofit organization devoted solely to the humane treatment of all domestic and wild equines.

Consisting of four paid personnel plus volunteer help, the AHPA presses for change through investigation, education, and lobbying. "We are very cognizant that there is a right way and a wrong way to do things," says Robin Lohnes, Executive Director. "We are interested in long-term solutions, not the news article that will put us on the front page, but then gets nothing done afterwards."

As in other humane work, stopping equine abuse is a frustrating process of advances and setbacks. Gains are hard-earned, progress slow, and results often only partially satisfying, as in the case of the Chincoteague ponies.

After 19 years of trying to help the ponies, the AHPA has yet to halt the bareback riding of nursing mares still searching for their lost young, or to push back the swim date (the last Wednesday each July) to keep young foals from going to auction. However, successes include instituting inspection of all buyers' vehicles for safe and humane transport, AHPA distribution of free foal care kits, and arranging for an on-site veterinarian to examine the foals, cull out the immatures, and transport the smaller foals to the auction by boat.

Many AHPA battles, like the Chincoteague Pony controversy, are waged on local fronts. The group works city by city to obtain carriage horse ordinances providing limited working hours, adequate water, shelter, rest, and weather and traffic restrictions. Likewise, the AHPA struggle for improved conditions at horse auctions tends to focus on individual sites, seeking to guarantee that the 350,000 horses sold at U.S. auctions each year get adequate pen or stall space; clean, dry bedding; hay and water; and vet care for the injured or ill.

Other issues are brought before state legislatures—for instance, bills that would prohibit hauling horses to slaughter aboard crowded, uncomfortable, double-decker cattle trucks. Such "possum-belly" trucks have slippery metal floors and too little headroom for equines. Horses on the upper deck tend to drop excrement upon those below, who sometimes startle and trample one another. To prevent this, many truckers simply withhold food and water from the horses for the entire journey, which can last several days. On some long trips, as many as 15 percent of the horses die en route.

The AHPA also addresses the issue of drugs and racehorses on a state-by-state basis, since horse racing is governed by state rather than federal commissions. Working with the Humane Society of the U.S., the AHPA seeks to eliminate the use of performance-enhancing, pain-masking drugs on racehorses, many of which can cause the horses to suffer permanent physical damage. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, the two groups worked with commissions in every racing state to gain meaningful reform. Since then, however, the introduction of new drugs has complicated detection, while state enforcement of anti-drugging laws has slackened to the point that the problem is apparently now worse than ever.


Kendra L. Bond

Perhaps the most notable and far-reaching of the AHPA's accomplishments was helping to win the passage of the Horse Protection Act of 1970 and the Wild, Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971, which together form the bulwark of federal horse protection law.

The Horse Protection Act outlaws abuse of competition horses in shows or auctions but, says Lohnes, "was written with the Tennessee Walking Horse in mind," specifically, the "training" technique of soring.

Although reduced by USDA spot inspections, and by the vigorous prosecution of numerous prominent horse owners and trainers, soring continues. USDA personnel aren't present at every show and when they do turn up, 40-50 percent of the horses simply withdraw. At least one USDA-designated inspecting agency is comprised of members of the Tennessee Walking Horse industry, who allegedly overlook many offenses.

The AHPA has responded with a series of lawsuits against the USDA, seeking to to eliminate all use of action devices by invalidating the regulations that permit them, as contrary to the intent of the Horse Protection Act.

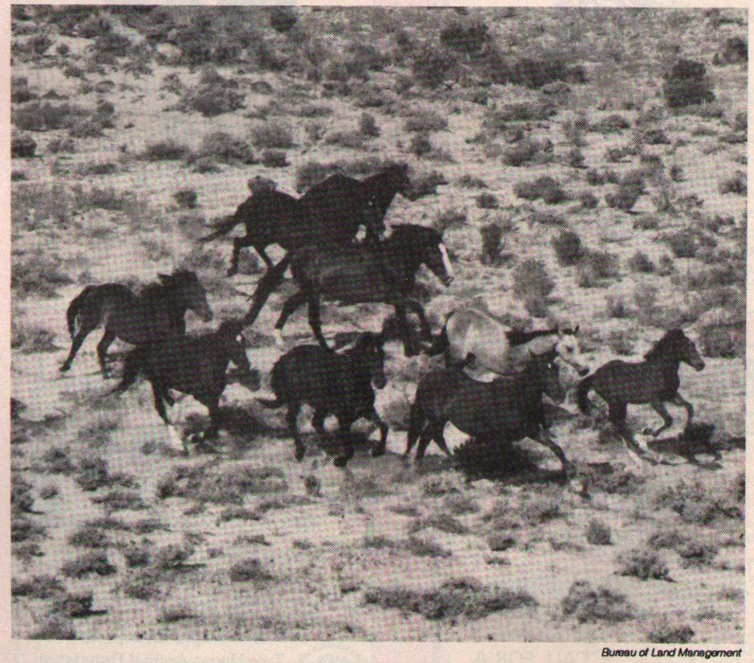
The Wild, Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act, meanwhile, was intended to grant federal protection to wild equines. Prior to this act, free-roaming horses and burros were designated feral, and were therefore beyond the protection of both wildlife legislation and domestic anti-cruelty laws. Tens of thousands were rounded up by motor vehicles and aircraft for slaughter as dog food. Thousands more were simply poisoned or shot by ranchers whose herds competed for grazing areas and water holes. Wild horses numbered two million in 1910; by the late 1960s, barely 10,000 remained.

Today, wild equine abuse is prosecutable and roundups are regulated by the Bureau of Land Management. But, as with the USDA supervision of Tennessee Walking Horse exhibitions, the BLM has done an unsatisfactory job. The AHPA claims the BLM inflates wild horse figures to get Congressional funding for horse removal programs, again for the benefit of ranchers. The AHPA also asserts that the BLM uses outdated, inconsistent, and nonexistent rangeland data, and that the land is being damaged by cattle grazing much more than by the relatively few wild equines. This position was documented in 1990 by the General Accounting Office.

Ranching, horse racing, show-horse breeding, and even keeping saddle horses all tend to be pursuits of the wealthy and well-connected. Thus the AHPA often must work against the interests and practices of the most entrenched status quo. The successes achieved thus far suggest it's not a Quixotic effort. Slowly, the AHPA is winning. ❖

—Marcia King

The AHPA is located at 1000 29th Street N.W., Ste. T-100, Washinton, DC 20007; 202-965-0500.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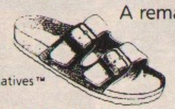

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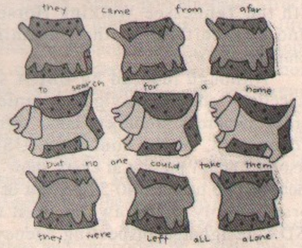

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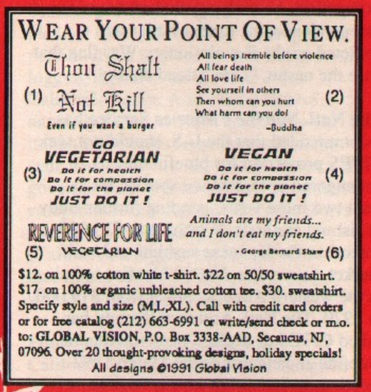

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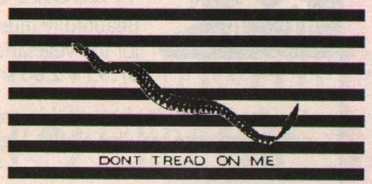


Fortified by vegetarian meals provided by the Sri Chinmoy Marathon Team, 61 runners from 14 nations tackled the third annual Sri Chinmoy 1,300 mile race in mid-September at Meadows-Corona Park, New York. Among the finishers were world 1,300 mile record holder Al Howie, 46, of Canada; Sandy Barwick, 42, of New Zealand; and Antana Locs, 32, of Canada. Berwick and Locs were the first women ever to complete the distance.

Johns Hopkins University on Oct. 22 gave the 1991 Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism to former U.S. Surgeon General and vivisection defender C. Everett Koop. Said Schweitzer himself about vivisection, "Those who experiment upon animals by surgery and drugs, or innoculate them with diseases in order to be able to help mankind by the results obtained, should never quiet their consciences with the conviction that their cruel action may in general have a worthy purpose." Though not opposed to all animal-based research, Schweitzer would have especially disapproved of Koop's habit, as a grade school student, of stealing and dissecting his neighbors' cats.

Univ. of North Carolina researchers claim to have found in hooded warblers (a small bird) what they call the first evidence of longterm memory in nonhuman animals. The birds seem able to memorize unique songs sung by others of their species, and to respond to them appropriately even many months later.

Current and former U.S. Forest Service supervisors testified Sept. 24 to the House Subcommittee on Civil Service that the Bush administration and western Senators have pressured them to permit logging at a pace that jeopardizes fish and wildlife. The subcommittee is probing the forced retirement of John Mumma, 51, the first biologist to be appointed regional forester in the northern Rockies. Mumma was allegedly bumped, after 32 years with the Forest Service, for refusing to bend environmental safeguards.

The Bronx Zoo, which shot 19 Canada geese and punctured 144 eggs in 1990 to lower their numbers, tried a different approach and vasectomized seven geese in 1991. About 260 geese inhabit the zoo.

Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan Jr. convened a special Cabinet-level committee on Oct. 1 to decide whether to waive Endangered Species Act protection for spotted owls in order to permit more old growth logging in the Pacific Northwest.

The Philadelphia Zoo accustoms naturally shy naked mole rats to human visitors by subjecting them to 24 hours a day of rock and roll music.

The Univ. of Florida built a $30,000 bathouse to shelter 6,000 to 10,000 bats who were ousted from their former quarters by renovation of the campus track and tennis facilities. The bats are a major part of local insect control.

Finn-Tech Industries, of Delaware Bay, bleeds 200 to 300 wild-caught female horseshoe crabs a week to produce *limulus amoebocyte lysate*, used in anti-bacterial testing. The crabs are then returned to the water. Bled crabs have about 10 percent higher mortality than the rest of their species.

Massachusetts governor William Weld joined thousands of other citizens in asking why state wildlife agents shotgunned a moose who wandered into Natick on Sept. 15, in front of dozens of children, instead of tranquilizing and moving him. Massachusetts SPCA director of law enforcement Walter Kilroy claimed tranquilizing the moose might have put people at risk. Responded Weld, "They tranquilize elephants and the elephant sits down in five seconds. It's asleep."

The cholera bacteria that has killed thousands of Latin Americans this year has now infested oyster reefs off Alabama, the FDA says.

TV and film director David Lynch reportedly gets his kicks by dissecting small animals and writing sets of instructions on how to reassemble them.

Rejecting the recommendation of its Sacramento, Calif., field office that the delta smelt be listed as endangered, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has nominated the three-inch fish for threatened status instead. Even a "threatened" listing, however, could have a huge impact on California farmers and developers. Water diversions from the Sacramento delta for irrigation and urban use are blamed for the smelt's decline, from two to six million circa 1970 to just a few hundred thousand today.

The Biodiversity Legal Foundation has asked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list the timber rattlesnake as endangered. Once thriving from Minnesota to Texas, and east to the Atlantic ocean, the timber rattler now survives only in isolated pockets, due to habitat loss and deliberate extirpation. An early symbol of American independence, the timber rattler was depicted on the Revolutionary War flag that bore the motto, "Don't tread on me!"

The Natl. Marine Fisheries Service has recommended that the U.S. should not seek CITES protection for bluefin tuna as an endangered or threatened species for at least two more years, pending further study of fishing methods. Worth up to $15,000 apiece on the Japanese sashimi and sushi market, fewer than 30,000 bluefins remain in the western Atlantic, down from 319,000 in 1970. The Natl. Audubon Society has asked CITES to declare western Atlantic bluefins endangered at the March 1992 meeting, to be held in Japan. To date, no commercially sought fish has ever received an endangered or threatened listing.

The California Health Dept. has warned consumers to avoid dried rattlesnake powder and capsules, imported from Mexico, that may contain salmonella.

Providing police protection to the 1991 Labor Day pigeon shoot in Hegins, Pa., cost taxpayers $106,623—between four and five times as much money as the shoot raised.

The Arizona Cattle Growers' Assn. has dropped opposition to reintroducing Mexican grey wolves to the wild, providing that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and USDA maintain strict controls against predation on livestock, that ranchers be reimbursed for any predation, and that the wolves be designated an experimental population, not strictly protected by the Endangered Species Act. The first release is tentatively scheduled for 1994.

Taxol, a powerful anti-cancer drug extracted from the bark of the rare Pacific yew tree, was rediscovered in 1979 only after having been rejected circa 1960 because it wasn't especially effective in animal tests.

The Hollywood, Fla., ordinance against animal displays flunked an early test when the City Commission allowed the local Kiwanis Club to display animals at a Halloween festival. However, a Kiwanis request to offer pony rides was denied.

Shad, introduced to the Sacramento and Columbia rivers by sport fishing promoters in the late 19th century, are outcompeting native salmon and steelhead for survival. As salmon runs fell to record lows, the Columbia shad run hit a high of over four million fish in 1990, and was still high at 2.5 million in 1991.

Investor Hal Arbit and Walt Disney Studios president Frank Wells have pledged $500,000 start-up funding for a petition drive to place an anti-old growth logging initiative on the June 1992 California ballot. A similar initiative narrowly failed in 1990, apparently because it included a bond issue with which the state was to buy up old growth forest. Calif. governor Pete Wilson on Oct. 12 vetoed a compromise bill negotiated by the Sierra Club and Sierra Pacific Industries (California's biggest timber owner) that would have protected old growth without a referendum.

Poultry is now protected under California's Humane Methods Slaughter Act, promoted by the Animal Welfare Institute. Gov. Pete Wilson signed the measure into law on Oct. 13.

Waste-Tek Conversion Corp., of Seattle, has applied to build a worm farm at Petaluma, Calif., to eat sewage sludge.

Shark populations have crashed in U.S. waters largely because the U.S. government heavily promoted shark fishing, starting in 1977. West Coast catches leaped from 862,090 pounds in 1976 to over 11 million by 1979, but have fallen by half since 1986 despite intensified fishing pressure driven by prices that have hit $8.00 per pound retail.

The Kenai, Alaska airport has installed a $6,800 turnstyle that will let moose out of the floatplane basin, but won't let them back in.

Staff at New York City's John F. Kennedy airport killed 15,000 laughing gulls this past summer after other control measures failed—half the estimated population of the adjacent Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. Bird strikes have destroyed 37 jet engines since 1979, and caused a fire that destroyed a plane (140 passengers escaped) in 1975.

Michigan entrepreneurs Jim Hall and Phil Lawrence are manufacturing fiberglass chariots, hoping to revive chariot racing. The vehicles made their competition debut in September at the Muskegon, Mich., harness track


Robert Harrison

Princeton, N.J., was to hold hearings Oct. 21 on initiating a shotgun deer hunt. Princeton banned using firearms in 1972, but has allowed bowhunting on private land. Princeton farmers John and Janine Winant are cooperating with the Humane Society of the U.S. in tests of a dart-administered deer sterilant that would cost about $25 per deer to use—but it probably won't be available for general use until 1993.

General Motors has killed about 20,000 animals in safety tests since 1981, *The Detroit News* revealed on Sept. 27. One day later, PETA and the Society for Texas Animal Rights called a boycott of GM until the testing stops, and initiated a protest campaign dubbed "The Heartbreak of America" at the State Fair of Texas car show. Neither Ford nor Chrysler does animal testing, though they do have access to the GM test results.

The Senate on Sept. 30 voted to give the EPA cabinet status, 17 months after George Bush suggested the idea.

Indiana state trooper Jason Fajt was suspended for three days without pay or benefits in late September after repeatedly running over a stray dog he hadn't been able to catch on a busy highway. The suspension cost Fajt about $450.

Directory Assistance in Shreveport, La., received over 100 requests for Dr. Marion Milstead's telephone number within hours after the NBC news program *Expose* showed him killing an endangered lion and tiger in canned hunts.

The American Medical Assn. ranked eighth in number of Congressional junkets sponsored (49) during 1989-1990, according to Common Cause.

The Kansas City Stockyards, opened in 1871, closed for demolition after the Sept. 27 cattle auction. Most ranchers now sell cattle directly to slaughterhouses or through smaller local auctions.

Asian Tiger mosquitoes, the major carrier of dengue (a flu-like disease related to yellow fever), have spread as far north as Chicago and Baltimore, after entering the U.S. in 1986, and could keep moving north as the current warming trend creates habitat for them. There is neither a vaccine nor a cure for dengue, which hit 344,000 Cubans in 1981 and 400,000 Ecuadorans in 1988.

Investment speculation drove the cumulative market value of openly traded biotechnology stocks up 75 percent, to $35 billion, during the last fiscal year, according to the accounting firm Ernst and Young. Fueling the interest, 12 new drugs and vaccines developed through biotechnology were approved by the FDA during the year; only 13 had been approved during the previous eight years. Another 20 new biotech products are awaiting approval, while 100 more are undergoing testing. The 1,100 U.S. biotech firms employ about 70,000 people.

***The New York Times* endorsed animal rights** of a sort on Sept. 25, editorializing that "Rather than mindless continuing" coyote extermination campaigns, "humans look better admitting defeat, and granting coyotes the right to a survival they have earned."

Continued on next page

News Shorts

Continued from previous page

The Natl. Restaurant Assn. has advised its members to add vegetarian main dishes to their menus. A Gallup poll taken for the group in June 1991 revealed that 20 percent of American adults seek restaurants that serve vegetarian meals, and over a third are likely to order specific vegetarian items. Women and people over 34 were most interested in vegetarian food. There were more vegetarians in the east and southeast, but interest was relatively evenly distributed across the country. Reasons cited for selecting vegetarian dishes included health (88 percent), taste choices (86 percent), ethics (39 percent), and religion (22 percent; 43 percent among non-whites).

Reminderville, Ohio, mostly built on former swampland that was drained circa 1970, spent $7,000 in September to destroy 10 beaver dams that residents blamed for two major floods in four years.

"Treat a fish just like you love it," former president Jimmy Carter told a group of school children recently. "Let it live, and if you want something to eat, you can get a hamburger."

Environmental groups continue to struggle as donations remained low throughout 1991. Sierra Club and Wilderness Society revenues have reportedly fallen 10 percent from 1990; Natl. Wildlife Federation revenue is down nine percent; and Greenpeace revenue is down by 19 percent. The Sierra Club cut 27 positions, the Wilderness Society cut five, NWF cut 104, and Greenpeace cut 33. The Nature Conservancy, however, has increased revenues by 11.4 percent, adding staff.

Offshore gill netting apparently drowned 285 seabirds whose corpses washed up on Pismo Beach, Calif., on Sept. 21. Three sea lions who were found having spasms on the beach were apparently poisoned, Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game officials said, but the toxic agent involved and source of the poisoning was indeterminable.

The Natl. Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has banned imports of fish caught by driftnetting, effective July 1, 1992.

Shell Oil Co. has put all its oil and gas production properties in Alaska up for sale, after spending $190 million over the past three years in a futile search for productive drilling sites. Chevron and Atlantic Richfield continue exploratory drilling in the same area, near Prudhoe Bay. Shell spokesmen said the firm would still bid on drilling rights in the Arctic Natl. Wildlife Refuge, if Congress makes them available.

In the midst of a state budget crisis, the California Office of Competitive Technology gave the Univ. of Calif. at Davis $50,000 to study the sexual maturity of sturgeon, for the possible benefit of fish farmers.

Edward Bartunek, 52, of Maple Heights, Ohio, and a seven-year-old carriage horse named Madam were killed in a Sept. 8 collision in downtown Cleveland.

An ongoing federal audit of fraudulent research billing has discovered that the Univ. of Michigan even charged the government for $22,240 in IRS penalties. The university has already agreed to refund $5.9 million of the $7.9 million the auditors believe were improperly collected.

Steven Ray Oerther, age 6, of Louisville, Ky., died Sept. 30 of facial bites suffered Sept. 21 when he tried to give the family pit bull terrier a dish of water.

The Fort Belknap (Montana) Indian Reservation gave one of 20 elk permits supposed to be reserved for tribe members to singer Hank Williams Jr., after Williams complained of failing to win any of 17,000 non-resident permits distributed in the annual permit lottery.

At least 913 upper Midwest male farmers killed themselves during the 1980s, says the Natl. Farm Medicine Center, as did 71 female farmers, 96 farm children, and 177 farm workers. The suicide rates were nearly double the national average. The possible psychological influence of keeping animals in confinement and sending them to slaughter is not among the possible contributing factors the NFMC is now studying.

Georgia governor Zell Miller wants to help balance the state budget by axing the Animal Protection Office of the Dept. of Agriculture.

The Great Lakes Fishery Commission and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service want $18.2 million to fight sea lampreys in 1992, an 88 percent increase over the 1991 anti-lamprey budget. The non-native parasitical fish reportedly cost the Great Lakes fishing industry $4.7 billion a year.

The Coors' "Pure Water 2000" campaign refused a grant to the environmental group Clean Sound to finance cleaning up beaches along the Connecticut side of Long Island Sound, but did fund a fishing tournament in the same area.

Animal Newsline

Strange Doings At HHS

Guns for health? Nazis for sanity? Seeming oxymorons also seem to be business as usual in some branches of the Department of Health and Human Services, headed by Louis Sullivan, who denounced animal rights activists as "terrorists" and threats to human health in June 1990.

In early October, HHS—which has slashed funding for infant and prenatal care—granted $323,478 to the U.S. Repeating Arms Co. of New Haven, Connecticut, to be spent teaching and equipping 65 workers to make Winchester rifles. The amount is roughly equal to the cost of screening 54,000 infants for lead poisoning, which can cause mental retardation, and is common among low-income residents of inner cities.

HHS also funds the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration, whose director, Frederick Goodwin, may be the most ardent foe of animal rights in government. Goodwin in September named University of Pennsylvania vivisector and vivisection defender Adrian Morrison to head the newly formed ADAMHA Office for Animal Research Issues, an office with little or no obvious role in either fighting substance abuse or promoting human health.

The National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression, on whose scientific advisory board Goodwin serves, meanwhile launched what *Freedom* magazine has described as an apparent effort to rehabilitate the reputation and theories of Nazi holocaust architect Ernst Rudin. The NARSAD bulletin recently praised Rudin for founding the "science of psychiatric genetics," in terms recalling Hitler's description of Rudin as the "pathfinder in the field of hereditary hygiene."

In fact, Rudin cofounded the Society for Racial Hygiene in 1905 to promote Aryan racial purity; was "the predominant medical presence in the Nazi sterilization program," according to historian Robert Jay Lipton, helping to forcibly sterilize over 375,000 people; and praised Hitler for fighting "the parasitic races of foreign blood such as the Jews and gypsies."

Said Ken Asp of the International Institute of Holocaust Studies, "NARSAD is promoting the very heart of Nazi philosophy."

The Citizens Commission on Human Rights has demanded that Goodwin and four other federal officials resign from NARSAD posts.

NARSAD, a private organization, is heavily funded by the pharmaceutical industry.

—M.C.

EPA Begins Own Anti-Fur Campaign

At last acknowledging some of the ecological degradation done by the fur industry, the Environmental Protection Agency on October 8 charged the New Jersey furriers Ella Industries Inc. and Superior Dyed Furs Ltd. with having "illegally generated, stored, transported, and disposed of hazardous waste generated during the processing of fur pelts."

The waste, solvent-saturated sawdust, "may cause respiratory problems, and are listed as possible carcinogens," EPA representative Kim Helper said. Ella faces fines totaling $893,253, while Superior may be fined $681,510.

"EPA inspections at a number of firms involved in processing fur pelts... found total noncompliance with hazardous waste regulations," added regional administrator Constantine Sidamon-Eristoff. "We will continue our aggressive enforcement efforts with this industry to assure compliance with the law, and we expect to issue additional complaints in the future."

As part of its ongoing probe, the EPA is requesting "information about other fur processing operations," Helper continued. "Failure to respond...can result in fines of up to $25,000 per day."

Also charged were four firms who hauled and disposed of the furriers' toxins. Ray Reilly Stables Inc. could be fined $273,000 for using the deadly sawdust as horse bedding. Lignum Chemical Works, Atlantic Sawdust and Paper Shredding, and Landew Sawdust Inc. may be fined $223,000, $80,000, and $70,000, respectively, for other applications of the material.

The EPA charges added new meaning to the "Furs Are Lethal Luxuries" campaign begun in September by In Defense of Animals. IDA distributed about 30,000 pieces of antifur literature to local and regional groups then, and followed up with a mass mailing in mid-October that included clip-and-mail cards in support of HR.1354 and S.1259, federal bills to bar interstate and overseas trade in animal pelts caught with steel-jawed leghold traps.

In addition to doing the customary mailing, Friends of Animals set up monitors to show videos of fur farm cruelty on New York sidewalks, and twitted furriers with a series of limericks, responses to which soon filled *Fur Age Weekly*. On a more serious note, *Fur Age Weekly* accused FoA of anti-Semitism for unveiling the limericks on the eve of Yom Kippur—overlooking that FoA anti-fur campaign coordinator Sandra Lewis, the author of the limericks, is herself Jewish. Lewis gave *Fur Age Weekly* publisher Marc Rubman a piece of her mind in person.

Anti-fur efforts were to begin in earnest on Fur Free Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, with an FoA demonstration outside the New York City outlet of Bloomingdale's department store chain. More than 50 groups have pledged to boycott Bloomingdale's this winter, until and unless the chain discontinues fur. Other major events were scheduled in over 30 cities. West Coast actions took a light-hearted turn, as IDA, the Animal Protection Institute, and the Fund for Animals led animal-costumed choruses in singing anti-fur versions of Christmas carols, passing out literature and candy canes, and thanking passersby for not buying fur. But there were reminders of the cruelty inherent in the fur trade, too, including a series of appearances by the Vicious Vamps for Vanity in bloody fur garments at San Francisco department stores.

Illustrating the continuing success of the anti-fur push, which cut U.S. retail fur

Vito Torelli

sales by 27 percent last winter alone, Hopper Furs of St. Louis, Mo., and the Macy's fur salon in Bridgewater, N.J., recently joined the lengthening list of furriers going out of business. Stuck with huge inventories of unsold stock from past years, New York furriers began advertising 40 to 50 percent discounts on October 10.

The fur trade attributed a 40 percent decline in sales of coats priced over $10,000 to the new federal luxury tax, but the howls of outrage against animal rights activism in every issue of *Fur Age Weekly* once again left no doubt who the furriers really blame for more than $50 million in lost sales during the past 12 months.

(FoA's "Get A Feel For Fur—Slam Your Fingers In A Car Door" anti-trapping poster and *Faces of Fur* anti-fur farming video are available from P.O. Box 1244, Norwalk, CT 06856; 203-866-5223 or fax 203-853-9102. The Humane Society of the U.S. is again distributing its "Shame of Fur" information packets and billboard placards, from 2100 L St. NW, Washington, DC 20037.)

—M.C.

Shooting Bears Who Smoke

The 1991 hunting season began with the usual bang, as on opening day of the Washington bear season, hunter Rodney Cymbaluk, accompanied by buddy Larry Bowman, shot berry-picker Dennis Williams from about 600 feet away as he sat in plain view on a rock beside a dirt road, smoking a cigarette. Claiming they had mistaken Williams for a bear, the two then rushed him to a hospital, but he lost a leg anyway. The September 30 issue of *People* included a photo reenactment of the scene.

Dale Wittner / PEOPLE

Near Eli, Minnesota, an unidentified hunter with only slightly better eyesight on September 14 killed Terri, a six-year-old, radio-collared black bear featured in numerous wildlife programs and articles. Terri was the first radio-collared bear lost to hunters since researcher Lynn Rogers began sending volunteers out to follow the bears in his studies and warn away hunters in 1989. Before that, however, hunters had killed at least 20 collared bears in 22 years, sometimes using the radio signals to track them down.

The first human fatality of the season came September 30 at Land Between The Lakes, Pennsylvania, when an unidentified 16-year-old plugged fellow bowhunter Perry England, 37, with an accidental discharge. The two were seeking a deer they had wounded but failed to kill.

The National Wild Turkey Federation argued the very next day that although Pennsylvania turkey hunters alone have killed nine people since 1987, wounding 138, they should not be made to wear blaze orange instead of camouflage.

Better news came from University of Wisconsin at Madison sociologist Thomas Heberlein. "It is not out of the question," Heberlein suggested in a new review of hunting demographics, "that there will be no sport hunting, or a dramatic change in the character of sport hunting, by the middle of the 21st century." Heberlein noted that the U.S. hunting population as a whole has dropped from 20 million to 14 million in the past decade, and the number of hunters under age 15 has fallen from over 23,000 to just 14,500.

"I'm not even sure I would disagree that sport hunting could disappear by the middle of the next decade," commented Sportsman's Alliance of Maine president Gerry Barnes.

Hunting apologists were quick to argue that the decline of sport hunting would harm wildlife, by cutting wildlife agency income and politically weakening the conservation lobby. But the activities of self-proclaimed hunter/conservationists on several fronts belied their pretense to concern for wild animals. The 70,000-member California Wildlife Federation spent October trying to gut or kill the federal Desert Protection Act because, to protect endangered species, hunting would be barred from the new East Mojave National Park that it would create. Trout Unlimited, with an international membership of 65,000, meanwhile petitioned the California Department of Fish and Game to poison native suckers and squawfish in the Kern River who prey upon non-native stocked trout.

In Minnesota, Senate Wildlife Committee chairman Charles Berg, an avid hunter, once again tried to start a mourning dove season and declare an open season on raccoons and foxes, whom he blames for declining game bird populations. Berg drew support during legislative hearings from a farmer who complained that because of fox predation, he can no longer "shoot a pickup truck full of jackrabbits." Blocked—again—through the efforts of Friends of Animals and Their Environment, the Berg measures are likely to be reintroduced during the 1992 legislative session.

Another hunter/conservationist group, the North American Wildlife Foundation, worked a bit less in obvious opposition to conservation, promoting duck population recovery by urging hunters to kill only drakes. But the effort was more a propaganda ploy than a serious attempt to save ducks, whose numbers have dipped to all-time lows twice in the past four winters. While drakes are easily distinguished from hens on the ground or the water, most ducks are shot on the wing, seen only as silhouettes. Further, most hunters shoot not at individual ducks, but into the thickest part of a flock, and a fast-spreading shotgun blast does not discriminate in who it hits.

In Canada, hunting groups rallied against the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources' plan to reduce the deer population in Rondeau Provincial Park, the nation's largest remaining tract of Carolinian forest. The deer are allegedly eating young growth at a rate that prevents forest regeneration. According to the Toronto *Globe And Mail*, "What really irks the hunters is the plan to put some of the remaining deer on birth control," to be administered by dart gun after professional sharpshooters kill 468 of the 603 deer now in the park.

—*M.C.*

"Low-Class, No-Class Slime Balls": Zoo Official

"Self-annointed animal avengers...are low-class, no-class slime balls...who will tap-dance on the graves of your friends if it suits them, and if anyone will watch," San Diego Zoo media officer Jeff Jouett told the 1991 annual conference of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums on September 18.

Projecting pictures of vultures on a screen behind him, Jouett continued to liken the Humane Society of the U.S., the Fund for Animals, and Friends of Animals, among other groups who have criticized San Diego Zoo practices, to "drooling carrion crows." He neither noted that crows are not vultures, nor that only the day before, documents revealed by former San Diego Zoo elephant keeper Lisa Landres, now working for FoA, had obliged the zoo to quit selling animals to canned hunt promoter Dale Priour of Ingram, Texas, and the Catskill Game Farm in Catskill, New York, whose resale customers include both Priour and the Stony Fork Hunts ranch in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. (After Landres' disclosures, the zoo retrieved two deer who had been sold to the Catskill Game Farm.)

Landres also cited a case in which an eastern grey kangaroo from the San Diego Wild Animal Park (one of the San Diego Zoological Society holdings) wound up as a pet of a man in Clifton Park, New Jersey, and was killed by dogs.

It was the second time in a year that Jouett was forced to explain San Diego Zoo transactions that violate the spirit, if not the exact letter, of AAZPA policies against selling animals for use in hunting and as pets. In late 1990, *Sixty Minutes* revealed that the San Diego Zoo had sold animals to AAZPA-accredited dealers Earl Tatum and James Fouts, who then resold them to hunting ranches at a Missouri wildlife auction.

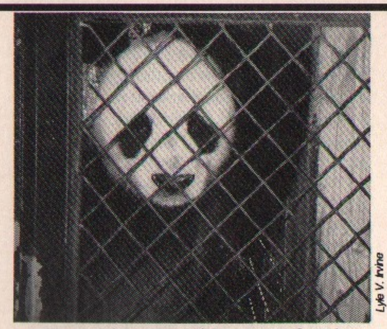
Jouett's speech came five days after California state auditors said the San Diego Zoo should repay $129,500 that it obtained from a state employment training fund. Supposedly the money was spent to train zookeepers, but the zoo hasn't been able to document that much of the training ever took place.

Jouett said Landres in particular "has a long history of antagonizing the zoo and playing fast and loose with the facts." Landres resigned from the zoo in early 1989 after being disciplined, apparently for having spoken out against the beating of an elephant named Dunda over a period of days in mid-1988 by relays of keepers swinging ax handles. The beatings were witnessed and first made public by two tourists.

Captive Breeding

Also at the AAZPA conference, Norman Myers of the World Wildlife Fund told the 1,300 delegates that zoos must step up their efforts to restore wild species to their native habitat.

The speech came as the National Zoo in Washington D.C. faced a growing storm of protest over the scheduled transfer of its 21-year-old male panda bear, Hsing Hsing, to the London Zoo, circa December 1. In London, Hsing Hsing would be



Lyle V. Irvine

encouraged to mate with a young female who was scheduled to arrive from China circa November 18—although, according to information received by the Born Free Foundation (formerly called Zoocheck), the Chinese panda is known to fight with males and is purportedly coming with a "no breeding" stipulation. London's own male panda is on loan to the Mexico City Zoo for breeding purposes, while Hsing Hsing's mate, Ling-Ling, has had six failed pregnancies and at 22 is near the end of her fertility.

Critics of the transfer note that Hsing Hsing too is elderly, and that the London Zoo is on the verge of closure. Financial support from the British government has ceased, and 90 members of the 260-member staff were laid off in September, as administrators tried to keep going at least until next September. If the Labor Party unseats the Conservatives in the September 1992 elections, senior Labor officials have said, zoo funding may be reinstated.

Meanwhile, with no certainty it will remain open, the London Zoo continues to suffer from "fiscal ineptitude, poor maintenance, mediocre exhibits, lackluster programs, disregard for good visitor services, bad management, and especially an adherence to an outmoded philosophy," as former staffer David Hancocks put it recently in *The Washington Post*. Since the National Zoo has also reportedly obtained visas to transfer Hsing Hsing to China, Japan, and/or Mexico if the London deal falls through, some transfer opponents suspect that public relations-conscious zoo director Michael Robinson simply wants to get Hsing Hsing out of his jurisdiction before the panda dies of old age. (Letters opposing Hsing Hsing's transfer may be addressed to Congress, and to Dr. Robt. McAdams, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, 1000 Jefferson Drive SW, Washington, DC 20560.)

As the panda controversy raged, captive breeding suffered two major setbacks. First, Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission veterinarian Melody Roelke acknowledged that one of the six Florida panther kittens taken into a captive breeding program last spring has a life-threatening congenital heart defect, probably caused by inbreeding. Since captive breeding may accentuate inbreeding, and since every panther lost significantly diminishes the gene pool, the discovery reduced the chances that the program can restore the panther population.

Four days later, the Wyoming Game and Fish Dept. reported that two of 10 black-footed ferrets who were returned to the wild in mid-September had been killed by coyotes. To keep that from happening, state biologists had already killed more than 40 coyotes in the release area, along with over 60 badgers. But as the state proceeded with plans to release up to 50 additional ferrets by mid-October, spokesman Bob Oakleaf acknowledged that losses were likely to be "close to 80 percent mortality in the first month." The ferrets were among about 300 bred from 18, the last known of their species, who were taken into a captive breeding program in 1985-1986.

Despite the loss of four out of six Andean condors who were released in trials of release procedures, the Los Angeles Zoo hoped for better luck with the October 10 release of two California condors into the Los Padres National Forest—the first to be returned to the wild. Only 27 California condors survived in 1987, when the last were captured. There are now 52.

The San Diego Zoo meanwhile announced plans to send 20 Przewalski's horses to Mongolia, their land of origin, in 1993. About 20 more of the rare horses are to be released over the following two years. Przewalksi's horses haven't been seen in the wild since 1968, but about 1,100 survive in captivity.

—*M.C.*

Reshuffle At HSUS

Members of the Humane Society of the U.S. have been asked to endorse restructuring, proposed at an October 13 board meeting, that would create the position of Chief Executive to supervise both HSUS and Humane Society International, a parallel group created by the board on April 5. If the restructuring is approved by the membership, John Hoyt, now president of both HSUS and HSI, would be boosted to Chief Executive at the board meeting of February 2; longtime HSUS vice president/treasurer Paul Irwin would succeed

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Hoyt as HSUS president; and HSUS senior vice president Patricia Forkan would become executive vice president.

Hoyt was quick to deny that the restructuring in any way amounts to retirement or has anything to do with his health—in particular, triple bypass coronary surgery he had in 1988.

"I am not becoming a president emeritus, or anything else emeritus," Hoyt told The ANIMALS' AGENDA. "I will continue to be extremely involved in every aspect of the operation, working very long hours, and I expect to continue to do so for many years."

Hoyt also denied that HSI, gradually taking form for over a year, is intended to compete with the World Society for Protection of Animals, which has been heavily funded by HSUS. Hoyt himself was president of both HSUS and WSPA for much of the 1980s, and as many as three people, including Irwin, have simultaneously served on the boards of both organizations.

"Through HSI," said Hoyt, "we shall participate jointly with WSPA in various international projects," including ongoing activities in Costa Rica and Colombia that have been underway for some years with HSUS funding. "HSI will not be a membership organization," Hoyt continued, "either individually or organizationally, and thus will not compete with WSPA for public funding."

During Hoyt's 21 years as president, HSUS revenues have grown from about $500,000 in 1970 to $15.7 million in 1989. The organization now has the highest income of any national animal protection group (although the North Shore Animal League, of Long Island, has an annual income of over $25 million).

HSUS is also among several groups who claim to have the most members, using differing definitions of membership. Campaigns are conducted in the areas of humane education, farm animals and bioethics, wildlife and habitat protection, environmental protection, companion animals, and laboratory animals, with eight regional field offices.

But Hoyt's administration has come under widespread criticism. (See "HSUS In Hot Water," May 1991.) Animal defenders have been further annoyed that HSUS has not endorsed vegetarianism. HSUS attacked factory farming with a postcard campaign in the mid-1980s that emblazoned the slogan "Breakfast of Cruelty" across a photograph of bacon and eggs, but meat is still served at HSUS events; factory-farmed squabs were served at the September 26 Connecticut Animal Control Officers Training Conference, cosponsored by HSUS and several animal control groups, with no vegetarian alternative offered. New HSUS vice president for companion animals Marc Paulhus meanwhile declared in his first press release, "Stuffing goes great with turkey, but it may not sit well with your pet, *says The Humane Society of the United States*"—thereby giving turkey-eating an apparent official endorsement.

October 11, HSUS compounded the political damage by presenting the Russell and Burch award, "given to a scientist who has made an outstanding contribution in the advancement of animal research alternatives," to Alan Goldberg. Goldberg, though director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing, testified against a 1987 Maryland bill that would have banned the Draize test, in which harmful chemicals are inserted into the eyes of live rabbits.

Also on October 11, HSUS gave the Joseph Wood Krutch Medal for "a significant contribution toward improvement of life and environment" to Russell Train, chairman of the World Wildlife Fund. Paid over $103,000 a year for his work with WWF, which supports hunting and has a spotty record in wildlife recovery projects, Train also serves on the board of directors of Union Carbide. Information gathered by the Investor Responsibility Research Center indicates that Union Carbide uses over 3,500 animals a year (plus an unknown number of mice and rats) in product testing—and that at least 1,000 of them (plus mice and rats) suffer unrelieved pain. In addition, Union Carbide has a questionable environmental record, including the 1984 cyanide gas leak at Bhopal, India, that killed 2,352 people, injured at least 200,000, and killed hundreds of thousands of animals, both wild and domestic.

—*M.C.*

COURT CALENDAR

Wildlife

✦ Arizona Game and Fish Dept. officials combed 750,000 acres east of Flagstaff the evening of October 5 and the next morning, seeking 550 hunters who were ordered out of the field by Maricopa County Superior Court judge Elizabeth Stover at five p.m. on opening day of an "emergency" antlerless elk hunt. Stover's ruling came in response to a last-ditch appeal from the Fund for Animals, supported—oddly enough—by the pro-hunting Arizona Wildlife Federation. The state declared the hunt in response to cattle ranchers' complaints that an estimated 600 elk had overgrazed the range. Stover ruled that the state had not adequately demonstrated either the alleged overgrazing, that the elk were responsible for any that had occurred, or that elk would starve, as the state argued, if several hundred were not killed. The AGF was given until Oct. 15 to make a case for reinstating the hunt.

✦ The Fund, the Swan View Coalition, and Jasper Carlton of the Biodiversity Legal Foundation on September 26 won a temporary restraining order cancelling the fall grizzly bear hunt in Montana. Washington D.C. federal judge Michael Boudin, who issued the order, is expected to rule later this winter on the plaintiffs' claim that grizzly bear hunting violates the Endangered Species Act. Hunters caused 46 percent of all known grizzly deaths in the contiguous U.S., 1980-1990.

✦ The Fund and four Kentucky humane societies sued to stop the Kentucky "shakeout" hunting season under state humane laws on Oct. 11. During the "shakeout" season, hunters are allowed to chase raccoons and opossums with dogs and to shake one raccoon per day plus an unlimited number of opossums out of trees, to be attacked by the dogs. Firearms may not be used. The plaintiffs allege that "shakeout" hunting violates a ban on promoting fighting among four-legged animals "for pleasure or profit," and that it puts the dogs at risk of getting rabies (which has become common in raccoons throughout the east, due to several raccoon hunters and trappers who in 1978 released rabid raccoons from Florida in rural Georgia and Virginia, trying to restock their favorite hunting areas). Co-plaintiffs include the humane societies of Bowling Green-Warren County; Pike and Shelbyville counties; and Hardin County Pet Protection.

✦ The 4,000-member Coalition for Bobcat Preservation sued the Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources on Sept. 20 for refusing to list bobcats as either endangered or threatened, which would end bobcat hunting and trapping seasons.

✦ The Orange County, Calif., Board of Supervisors has appealed the $2 million award a jury made in September to mountain lion attack victim Laura Small. Small, who was five when mauled in a county park in 1986, contended that the county should have posted warnings that mountain lions might be dangerous.

✦ Trophy hunter Stephen Richard Doyle, 38, recently drew five years in prison and a fine of $8,015 for shooting and beheading an endangered bighorn ram at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in December 1987.

Habitat

✦ Federal district judge Russel Holland on October 8 accepted an amended $1.125 billion settlement of civil and criminal damage claims against Exxon Corporation in connection with the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill in Prince William Sound, Alaska. The settlement differed from the version Holland rejected last April in that the criminal penalty was increased to $125 million, from $100 million, and that $100 million was dedicated to restitution, up from $50 million. The criminal fine is now twice the amount collected in all previous federal environmental prosecutions. The case has cost Exxon a total of $3.5 billion. However, *The Los Angeles Times* said, unpublished government data indicates that the actual cost of the spill will run between $3 billion and $15 billion. The government data has been kept secret pending resolution of related suits against government agencies.

✦ A Shasta County, Calif., Superior Court judge on Oct. 2 ordered the Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District to shut down four irrigation pumps along the upper Sacramento River that the state Dept. of Fish and Game said were sucking in and killing endangered winter run salmon.

✦ Mississippi River Transmission Corp. and Asplundh Tree Expert Co. have agreed to pay $130,000 to the Illinois Dept. of Conservation in lieu of facing criminal charges for killing 35 young endangered birds and five chick embryos in mid-June while clearing foliage along an MRT gas line.

Activism

✦ Eight Hegins, Pa., Labor Day pigeon shoot protesters who refused to pay fines for running in front of the guns and liberating pigeons were released on Sept. 16, after serving 13 days in the Schuykill County Jail. The charges against the eight were reduced, and all fines were waived due in lieu of time already served. The Hegins eight included Ingrid Newkirk, Robin Walker, Jennie Woods, Lonnie Wigand, Teresa Gibbs, and Sue Brebner of PETA, plus Heidi Prescott and Dana Forbes of the Fund for Animals. The releases coincided with a sit-in held by eight other PETA members in the offices of Pa. governor Robert Casey. A Casey aide told them, "The governor has more important things to worry about than pigeons. Besides, there's nothing he can do regarding this issue." All eight sitters-in were subsequently fined for disorderly conduct.

✦ Chris Anderlik, 65, of Empire, Minn., has appealed the probationary terms she received on August 30, along with a fine of $150, for illegal possession of fireworks. Accused of setting off fireworks on Nov. 14, 1991, to scare deer away from a bowhunter, Anderlik was acquitted of hunter harassment at a July 19 jury trial. Judge Richard Benedict, who is himself a hunter, ordered Anderlik to obey seven conditions that amount to obeying a hunter harassment law stricter than the one on the books.

Humane Enforcement

✦ The USDA on Sept. 20 charged Carolina Biological Supply Co. of Burlington, N.C., with numerous violations of the Animal Welfare Act, including embalming 10 cats alive. A PETA undercover probe initially exposed the abuses at CBSC, the nation's leading supplier of animals to school dissection laboratories. (See "Schools of Cruelty," Nov. 1991.)

✦ Former KCNC (Denver) TV reporter Wendy Bergen was fined $20,000 on Oct. 4 for staging a dogfight between two muzzled dogs to illustrate an "expose" of dogfighting she aired in April 1990. The fakery was exposed by the Rocky Mountain Humane Society.

✦ Four days after the San Antonio, Tex., police department accepted a cruelty complaint against the San Antonio Charro Assn. filed by Voice for Animals executive director John Hollrah, the Charro Assn. dropped leg-roping of horses and tail-twisting of steers from a Sept. 29 *charreada* (Mexican-style rodeo) held in honor of a visit from Mexican Natl. Sports Commission president Raul Gonzalez. Hollrah's complaint was supported by videotape of the death of a horse from an alleged broken neck at an earlier *charreada*. While some defend *charreadas* as a vital part of Mexican-American culture, Mexican-American cartoonist Leo Garza of the *San Antonio Express-News* took a different view (see illustrations).

✦ The Colorado Humane Society closed its Thornton shelter on Sept. 15 from lack of funding. Of 200 animals at the site, including 175 who were rescued from abusive conditions at LuAnne Strickland's quasi-shelter in July (see "Court Calendar," Oct. 1991), 110 were placed in homes, 40 were transferred to other shelters, 30 remained in quarantine, and workers kept 18 in hopes of finding homes for them.

✦ The USDA on Oct. 3 announced civil penalties against 40 horse owners and trainers in connection with 59 instances of soring the front feet of Tennessee Walking Horses to make them step higher. A week earlier, the USDA announced penalties against nine animal dealers for violations of the Animal Welfare Act. In the major cases, American Airlines was fined $4,000 for accepting animals for shipment in improper cages; dog dealer Cheryl Woods, of Wellman, Iowa, lost her license for 10 years for numerous health, sanitation, and record-keeping

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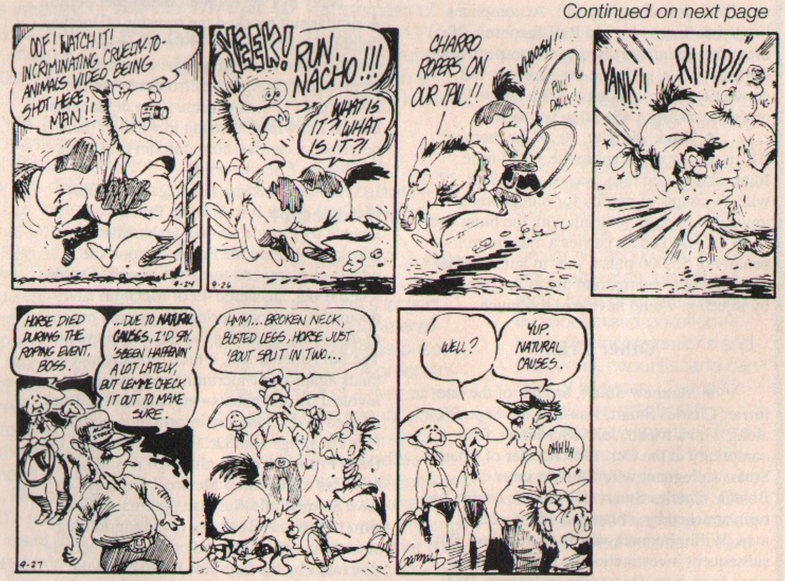

San Antonio Express-News cartoonist Leo Garza supported Voice for Animals' effort to prosecute the San Antonio Charro Assn. for cruelty in his strip "Nacho Guarache."

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violations; dog dealer Bill Lee, of Maynard, Ark., was fined $5,000 for selling 150 dogs without a license; rabbit dealer Fred Weston, of Underhill, Vt., lost his license for five years for health, sanitation, and record-keeping violations; exhibitor Lyle Rice, of Wimauma, Fla., lost his license for five years for mistreating an elephant; and the Buckshire Corp., of Perkasie, Pa., was fined $2,000 for improperly handling 12 rhesus monkeys during transport.

✦ Labor arbitrator Michael Murphy ruled recently that Hollywood, Fla., must reinstate city mechanic Floyd McSwain and pay him a year's back wages that he lost after having been fired in October 1990 for kicking a cat to death on the job. Murphy said that firing McSwain, following a three-day suspension, amounted to illegally punishing him twice for the same offense.

✦ A 13-year-old girl, first apprehended as a runaway, was charged on Oct. 1 with burglarizing seven homes in San Diego County, Calif., killing a parakeet, a rabbit, and numerous fish, burning a dog's testicles with household chemicals, and doing extensive property damage. She apparently also took dogs from several homes, then tried to extort rewards for returning them.

✦ Calling Barbara Ann Ruggiero, 28, the "personification of evil" for collecting free-to-good-home kittens and puppies and selling them to vivisectors, San Fernando (Calif.) Superior Court judge David Schacter sentenced her to serve five years, eight months in prison on Sept. 11. Accomplices Frederick Spero, 46, and Ralf Jacobsen, 28, drew five years and three years, respectively. Pursued by Last Chance for Animals, the convictions were among the first in the U.S. on felony charges related to pet theft.

✦ Frank Winkler, 30, of Anchorage, AK, a two-time entrant in the 1,200-mile Iditarod dog sled race, was charged Sept. 22 with 14 counts of cruelty for bludgeoning unwanted puppies to death with the blunt end of an ax. Each count carries a maximum penalty of $5,000 plus a year in jail. Winkler said paying a veterinarian to kill the puppies by injection would have cost too much.

Other Crime

✦ Matthew Stuart, brother of the late furrier Charles Stuart, was indicted Sept. 26, along with a friend, John McMahon, for complicity in the Oct. 1989 murder of Charles Stuart's pregnant wife Carol in inner city Boston. Charles Stuart claimed the couple had been attacked by a black gunman; a black man, Willie Bennett, was soon detained. But subsequent investigation backed by confessions from both Stuart men in January 1990 revealed that Charles Stuart, his fur business slumping, had killed Carol to collect her life insurance, and that Matthew had disposed of the gun. Charles Stuart committed suicide hours after confessing.

✦ Pablo DeSantiago, 58, of Van Nuys, Calif., drew 15 years to life on Sept. 8 for killing Mark Grinoli, 34, of Chatsworth, after Grinoli made fun of DeSantiago's dog.

✦ Pati Rivers, wife of Tim Rivers, whose diving mule act has drawn protest from coast to coast, was convicted Sept. 29 in Cumberland County, N.J., of assaulting animal rights activists at the Cumberland County Fair.

✦ Former Vitarine Pharmaceuticals director of research and development Steven Colton, 39, of Englewood, Colo., drew 27 months in prison on Sept. 7 from U.S. District Court in Baltimore, Md., for misrepresenting animal test data during licensing procedures for generic drugs.

✦ Fur buyer Clive Black, 62, of Prince George, British Columbia, was fined $10,000 on Oct. 4 for evading taxes on $53,252 worth of pelts.

SLAPP Suits

✦ The New England Aquarium on Sept. 17 filed a $5 million libel suit against the Progressive Animal Welfare Society, Citizens to End Animal Suffering and Exploitation, and the Animal Legal Defense Fund. The three groups sued the aquarium in June for allegedly transferring a dolphin to the U.S. Navy in 1987 without the proper permit. A similar suit blocked the transfer of another dolphin to the Navy in 1990. Aquarium director John Prescott said he expected to receive supporting briefs from most of the other major U.S. aquariums. The defendants have acknowledged erring in a leaflet that described a captive-born dolphin as having been taken from the wild.

✦ The lawsuit filed against Shirley McGreal of the Intl. Primate Protection League by Florida animal dealer Matthew Block, of Worldwide Primates, took the oddest of many odd turns yet in early October, when Block answered 49 of McGreal's 64 document requests during the pretrial process of discovery by taking the 5th Amendment. The 5th Amendment, which protects individuals against self-incrimination, is usually invoked by defendants—not plaintiffs. Block refused to disclose any information pertaining to his dealings with Dr. Peter Gerone and the Delta Primate Center, although it is this business relationship McGreal is alleged to have harmed; the Austrian pharmaceutical firm Immuno AG (whose own longrunning suit against McGreal and others was recently discarded by the Supreme Court); and the 1990 outbreak of ebola virus that briefly halted primate imports into the U.S.

✦ Greenpeace London held protests Oct. 16 and Nov. 9 to back five former supporters who were sued for libel by McDonald's because they accused the firm of complicity in the "torture and murder of animals, destruction of environment/rainforests," world hunger caused by use of grain crops to feed cattle rather than people, and worker exploitation.

Other Civil Actions

✦ New York has sued the fundraising firm Watson and Hughey for violating terms of a recent $800,000 settlement of previous mail fraud charges. Named in the suit were Watson and Hughey clients including Project Cure, which has raised funds as Citizens for Humane Scientific Research (purportedly an anti-cancer group that doesn't fund vivisection), and Adopt-A-Pet, also known as the Natl. Animal Protection Fund (whose sole project is a small, substandard animal shelter in East St. Louis, Mo.)

✦ Indianapolis physician Dr. Scott Robinson has sued the Indiana University Medical School, seeking access to Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee minutes and records.

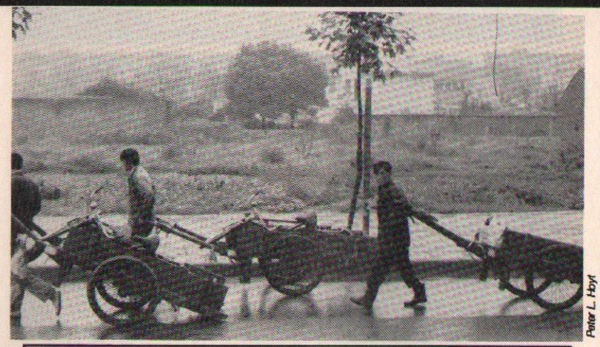
✦ In Defense of Animals sued Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences researcher Sharon Juliano on Oct. 11, charging she failed to honor the Aug. 14 settlement of a previous IDA suit by refusing to turn over documents pertaining to her brain damage and amputation experiments on cats, rats, and monkeys, and by refusing to allow group representatives to tour her laboratory. Juliano claims ongoing protests by IDA in her neighborhood had already breached the Aug. 14 deal.

✦ IDA has hired Cleveland attorney Gloria Homolak to seek means of keeping a 33-year-old lowland gorilla named Timmy from being transferred away from his beloved but infertile mate at the Cleveland Zoo, to the Bronx Zoo, where he may mate with other females.

✦ Harrisburg-area tiger breeder Barbara Rupert returned a missing Bengal tiger to Joe and Mary Lynn Parker of Knoxville, Tenn., in mid-September, whereupon the Parkers settled a lawsuit filed against Knoxville-area animal trainer Kevin Antle, who allegedly sold them the tiger, took him back for training, and then refused to return him. But Antle's troubles only escalated, as one of his lions bit model Shannon Audley, 23, on the head during a photo session in Manchester, N.H., only days before he was to go to trial for violating USDA regulations by allowing bodybuilders to pose with a tiger in October 1990.

—*M.C.*

Dateline International



Peter L. Hoyt

WORLD ECONOMY (PART II)—
Environmental Casualties: The Case of China

By David P. Greanville

As the 20th century draws to a close, the industrial system's bright promise—abundance for all and deliverance from needless toil—is becoming ever more problematic.

Critics increasingly point out that while historically enormous wealth has been and continues to be created, most people have never entirely escaped want nor attained significant leisure. What's more, the prospect that this vision will ever be fulfilled seems to be receding.

In the developed world, and especially the U.S., where a measure of affluence for the majority had come to be expected, the middle class's longterm trend in relative income seems to be downward. In fact, without the two-income household phenomenon, most of the American middle class would have already fully understood the degree of slippage in their relative position at the national trough—a negative shift significantly aggravated during the Reagan-Bush years. Arguably, the U.S. and Britain, among others, may be witnessing a rapid process of "immiseration" of their middle classes, while their poor, already immiserated enough, may drop even further in the scale of social entitlements. Throughout the Third World, including some newly industrialized nations, the situation is equally paradoxical. What is causing these contradictions between real and potential abundance and the downward slides in the majority's living standards?

As far as the U.S. goes, the situation is understandably complex, but some of the root causes may be traced to the inexorable substitution of machine labor for human labor, the failure of new industries—themselves subject to automation—to create enough jobs to absorb displaced and new workers, America's loss of international competitiveness, and, most fundamental, government policies that have helped to shift income upward, thereby concentrating wealth in fewer and fewer hands. These policies have further compounded the system's inherent tendency to distribute income in a profoundly unequal way.

> ***As presently organized, the industrial system is rapidly becoming a lethal threat to the biosphere itself.***

These signs are proof to an increasing number of people that mass industry alone cannot deliver the goods. But there's another defect that until recently merited little attention. As presently organized, the industrial system is rapidly becoming a lethal threat to the biosphere itself. *And that threat is likely to grow exponentially with the adoption of free trade by most of the world's trading nations.* What's more, as reported in our previous column (see *Dateline*, November 1991), new GATT rules may prevent a government from applying trade sanctions to countries guilty of crimes against animals or the environment. This may leave consumer boycotts as the only credible arrow in the shrinking quiver of ecologists and animal defenders. In China, where for decades a program of industrialization at any cost has devastated the country's flora, fauna, air, water, and soil, the heightened climate of industrial competition unleashed by free trade can only exacerbate superexploitative tendencies. In this regard, China's self-inflicted ecological wounds may be emblematic of many Third World nations struggling to establish a commercial foothold in the international arena.

China's Industrialization—A Faustian Pact?

Suzhou Creek, running right down the heart of Shanghai, China's largest port city, typifies the environmental problems besetting this nation. A greenish-black snake of a river whose murky waters cannot sustain animal or plant life—in fact they are lethal to both—the creek spontaneously erupts into highly toxic emanations several times a year. Nearby residents complain that the foul gases coming from the bubbles on the river's surface have often made humans and animals vomit.

In Benxi, a medium-size industrial complex in Northern China, more than 420 factories are jampacked into an area smaller than 18 square miles. This has given rise to a veritable forest of smokestacks contaminating the air so severely that visibility in the city is limited to no more than 50 yards for about six months each year, and electric lights must often go on before sunset. Benxi is far from unique in China's industrial landscape—the nation today endures many such cities.

Rapid and far-flung industrialization, regarded by the Communist leaders as the main answer to the country's staggering internal problems, and as the indispensable platform on which to base the nation's military defense, has dramatically improved the standard of living for most of China's 1.1 billion people. Yet the cost to humans, animals, and nature has been incalculable.

Shanghai, with 12.5 million people, boasts today the highest death rates from cancer of any city in China and probably the world. Polluted drinking water is a main source of stomach, liver, and intestinal cancers—all rampant. In Benxi, according to the official *Economic Daily* newspaper, residents face a similar situation, with alarming death rates resulting directly from diseases caused by widespread pollution—bronchial inflammations and infections, hepatitis, and cancers of all types. Domestic animals are practically nonexistent within the city's municipal core, and birds—except migratories—have not been seen in decades. Officials believe that lung cancer has doubled in recent years,

Continued on next page

DATELINE INTERNATIONAL

Continued from previous page

and in many prefectures health standards have deteriorated so much that young men cannot pass medical tests for recruitment into the army.

The pollution nightmare engulfing China's cities has also extended to the countryside, where rural industries, encouraged since the 1960s (at one point even steel was to be fabricated in home smelters) have often operated without even minimal environmental restrictions. Rural industries continue to constitute one of the fastest expanding sectors of the Chinese economy, and are needed to absorb a growing rural labor force.

In Shanghai, Benxi, and many other cities like them, the Chinese government is belatedly attempting to control, if not entirely eliminate, water and air pollution—the two most obvious sources of ecological contamination. Environmental cleanups, however, as the enormous price tag for the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill has shown, can be extremely costly, and there are rarely any upfront assurances that an ecosystem will be fully restored. This has certainly made an impression on the Chinese, whose small budgets (the Chinese GNP is $350 billion, or about 1/16 the US GNP) can hardly accommodate the dimensions of a thorough cleanup effort, even if the attempt were to be made on the basis of large-scale substitution of human labor for expensive technologies. Furthermore, if free trade is adopted by most of the world, the Chinese will face sharper competition, thereby reducing their inclination to give up many cost advantages currently made possible by environmental "diseconomies" (damage to nature and animals not normally computed in the final price of production).

Yet much hangs in the balance, not only because the ecological fate of one-fifth of the human race and all it controls is inherently important, but because the outcome of China's battle against encroaching pollution may have profound consequences for the rest of the world. China, which remains heavily dependent on coal for its energy needs, will continue to be a major emitter of carbon dioxide and other pollutants linked to acid rain. At present, China, the U.S., and the Soviet Union account for more than 50 percent of the world's carbon dioxide discharges. To counter this negative ecological contribution, the Chinese have periodically engaged in massive tree-planting efforts, but in numerous places the air, soil and water have already been so heavily depleted and poisoned that plants have failed to take root. In this dark picture, just about the only bright light is the rapidity with which the Chinese *could* move to correct environmental harm should they decide to do so. With the Communist Party as the main power conduit for the entire nation, the Chinese do not have to reconcile multiple corporate and governmental tiers before introducing radical new policies on behalf of the commonwealth.

From an ecological perspective, the central problem with all industry is who controls it.

Partially as a result of economic constraints, and partially on account of strategic considerations, until a few years ago the Chinese government gave low priority to any form of ecological protection. (Animal welfare concerns have hardly figured in these calculations. In fact, it remains practically inconceivable that a major industrial or agricultural project might be stopped to spare a particular species.) Still, in 1989 China finally enacted an ambitious environmental protection law. To this day, however, enforcement remains lax or nonexistent.

Meanwhile, the international community, led by specialized United Nations agencies, has begun to take a more active role in helping China solve its ecological problems. China itself, setting its pride aside, is actively seeking foreign assistance in this area, but so far funding has been disappointing. According to Qu Geping, head of China's Environmental Protection Agency, the nation was spending between $1.9 billion and $2.1 billion a year on environmental concerns, or roughly 0.7 percent of its GNP. China hopes to raise the figure to 1 percent of GNP by 1992, but even this is likely to prove painfully inadequate.

From a purely legal standpoint China possesses today a thorough, and, in some cases, exemplary body of law designed to protect its ecology. In practice, the country continues to lack the necessary economic margin to make such plans a reality, and violations—especially when production line managers and factory directors are under pressure to meet output quotas—are frequent. And there are no citizens groups capable of petitioning the state for better environmental or animal protection.

The example of China and other centrally-controlled economies where recent disclosures have shown an astonishing level of pollution should not be construed as a blanket confirmation that the industrial method of production is *inherently* evil in any and all circumstances. Some people call periodically for a "return to the land" and the adoption of much simpler lifestyles. While these sentiments are well-intentioned, in historical terms they may be no more than wishful thinking, and five billion people spread out and living on the land would probably cause even more devastation and animal displacement throughout the planet than the current methodologies. On the other hand, mass production based on sustained-yield principles and finely tuned to the delicate needs of the industry's host environment may actually *decrease* potential harm to the biosphere by extending the efficiency not only of human labor but of raw materials as well.

The problem with mass production, therefore, may not lie so much with an unfettered industrial system's capacity to assault the environment, but with the interests that control it to maximize their advantage. In this regard, a burgeoning human population, the long-term decay of authentic democracy (I'm not sure this has ever existed, but in most nations even highly imperfect democracies are being silently replaced by oligarchies cleverly wrapped in the symbols of popular endorsement), and the increasing concentration of wealth and power in ever fewer hands may be the most crucial determinants of the way the industrial system will behave in the foreseeable future. To alter its course, or change its current nature, activists may have to forgo purely technical analyses and begin studying the hidden political face of all modern technology. **Main sources:** *People's Daily, The New York Times, The Miami Herald, Prof. H. Freeman.*

NEXT: Free Trade Hits Mexico.

INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

Edited By Merritt Clifton

Richard Pilero

Initially promising AIDS vaccine test results reported by 15 U.S. and European biomedical research labs were thrown into doubt on Oct. 2 when British government senior AIDS researcher Dr. James Stott reported in *Nature* that nonhuman primates who appeared to develop immunity to a simian form of AIDS had actually produced antibodies in response to the human cells used to make the vaccine—not to the vaccine itself. Stott backed away, however, from the obvious implication that testing human vaccines on nonhuman primates just won't work.

Twenty-four of the 26 Antarctica Treaty nations, including the U.S., have ratified a 50-year moratorium on oil and mineral exploration in the Antarctic. The U.S. joined the moratorium in October after the other signers agreed that it could be lifted, when it expires, by two-thirds rather than unanimous vote. Japan and South Korea have pledged to sign soon.

NASA detected the lowest Antarctic atmospheric ozone level yet on October 9, indicating that despite an international agreement to phase out ozone-destroying chlorofluorocarbons by the turn of the century, the damage is still getting worse.

French researchers report finding less than one seventh as much lead in the Greenland ice pack as in 1971, a strong indication that banning leaded gas has dramatically reduced global atmospheric lead levels.

Bowing to pressure from the Canadian government, Cree natives, and environmentalists, Quebec has agreed to assess the impact of roads built to serve the proposed James Bay II hydroelectric development at the same time as the development itself. Quebec previously insisted on separate reviews, hoping this would expedite the road-building, which must be done before most of the rest of the work can proceed. The whole project is on temporary hold, due to lack of firm commitment from U.S. energy buyers, and may never be built, as Canadian Federal Court judge Paul Rouleau ruled Sept. 10 that the impact assessment must be done under the 1975 James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, rather than under the more recent federal Environmental Assessment Review Process. The ruling means that the federal government will have authority to stop the project on environmental grounds. Under EARP, it could only seek amendments.

Encouraged by the success of a giraffe roast in a rival town, the promoters of the annual water festival in Christiana, South Africa, arranged to roast a rhinoceros.

Hunters who visit the Pilanesburg Game Reserve in South Africa are urged to shoot tranquilizer darts at rhinos instead of bullets (which requires shooting from about a third of the usual distance). Once downed, the rhinos' horns are implanted with a microchip identification device, detectable from a distance with a hand-held scanner, which deters poachers and prevents the animals from being darted twice. Dart hunters pay $7,000; hunters who kill pay $30,000. ▲

LA Zoo

Refusing to cancel the slaughter of 23,000 seals this year, Namibia has promised the Intl. Fund for Animal Welfare that it will consider banning seal hunting in 1992.

The South African SPCA airlifted feed and veterinary help in September to hundreds of starving animals in fire-ravaged black areas of Bergville, Natal.

Acid rain and water pollution from coal-burning factories and power plants near Witbank and Middelburg, South Africa, reportedly threaten wildlife in Kruger Natl. Park, one of the world's biggest refuges for lions and elephants. The sulphur emission level is higher than in the parts of eastern Europe most ravaged by acid rain.

Perrycroft Lodge, Britain's most notorious breeder of beagles for vivisection, is out of business—18 months after Animal Aid brought international attention to numerous violations of humane and zoning laws. Over 70,000 people applied to the Royal SPCA to adopt the 400 beagles who were briefly left homeless.

Ghana has halted guinea pig vivisection in public schools, after receiving appeals from the RSPCA and IFAW.

One British butcher shop in four has gone out of business since 1980, reports the government Meat and Livestock Commission, and half of all British slaughterhouses are expected to close by 1994 due to inability to meet European Community standards.

Panda poaching dropped 60 percent in 1991, says the New China News Agency. Since 1984, 278 people have been convicted in 123 cases of panda poaching or pelt-smuggling. Six people got the death penalty, of whom three were actually killed. Another 16 people are now serving life sentences.

According to *Mulroney: The Politics of Ambition*, a new biography by John Sawatsky, one of Canadian prime minister Brian Mulroney's first jobs in government was delivering contraband French bull semen to Canadian breeders in a clandestine program set up in 1962 by then-Agriculture Minister Alvin Hamilton.

Fish stocking in Quebec's Eastern Townships was set back by about a year when someone unknown dumped bleach into breeding tanks at Baldwin's Mills, killing 23,000 young lake trout. The trout are recognized as a regionally endangered species due to overfishing.

Of the first $600 million of the $1.5 billion in credit the U.S. is giving the USSR to buy American farm produce, $285 million was spent on livestock feed, and $8.5 million went for poultry.

The Asociacion Activa para la Supresion de la Crueldad Hacia los Animales, of Narvarte, Mexico, reports that "The Ministry of Health has ordered the two largest government pounds to stop handing over animals for research or teaching, until an animal handling policy is issued." The order will reportedly spare 3,000 to 4,000 animals a month.

The world lost 42 million acres of rainforest in 1990, up from 29 million in 1980, says the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. From two to three billion acres of rainforest remain, but at this pace of cutting, none will survive the 21st century.

The Rainforest Action Network is demanding prosecution of the members of the Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit who gunned down

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INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

Continued from previous page

Isneg tribal leader Henry Domoldol, an outspoken opponent of rainforest logging, on the steps of his home on July 26. "For the past several months, the Philippine army has bombarded Isneg villages, forcing hundreds of tribal families from their homes with air and ground attacks," RAN charges. Letters in support of prosecution may be addressed to President Corazon Aquino, Malacanang Palace, Manila, Philippines.

Brazilian agronomist Gumercindo Rodrigues, of the Natl. Council of Rubber Tappers, was critically wounded Sept. 17 in a thwarted kidnapping attempt. His assailants, two men and a woman, accosted him outside the government Environment Institute in Rio Branco, capital of Acre state. All three escaped. Rodrigues was a close friend of NCRT leader Chico Mendes, who was assasinated in Dec. 1988.

Three children died in early September from respiratory ailments related to smoke inhalation during rainforest burnoffs in Para state, Brazil. Brazilian ranchers burned 5,000 square miles of rainforest this fall, an area roughly the size of Connecticut.

A leaked World Bank internal memo indicates that 10,000 to 40,000 households, including several hundred thousand people, may be forced to relocate due to a World Bank-financed $80 million forestry project in Ivory Coast. The World Bank's Ivory Coast country officer, Frans Kaps, said the project was supposed to replace random slashing and burning with sustainable farm and forest management, but staff anthropologist Scott Guggenheim charged that, "This project as it now appears to be unfolding is not the same project that was negotiated by the bank and approved by the board."

The Palanan rainforest, on the island of Luzon in the northern Philippines, hosts 5,000 plant species and 200 bird species, according to Conservation International—but will be logged bare within a decade at the present pace of cutting.

WSPA

More than 30,000 of 50,000 Australian sheep who were delivered to Kuwait on April 7, 1991—soon after the end of the Gulf War—died in a stockyard within two weeks from lack of food, water, and care, the World Society for the Protection of Animals revealed Sept. 20. WSPA international projects director John Walsh discovered the dead sheep on April 26, but said nothing about them while their origins were being traced.

The drug maker Merck and Co. has agreed to spend $1 million to train Costa Rican biologists, in trade for marketing rights to any marketable products they discover while exploring the Costa Rican rainforest.

A team from the American Museum of Natural History in New York and the Natl. Museum of Natural History in Cuba has discovered several dozen previous unknown species, including four fish, four lizards, six flowering plants, two spiders, and 20 millipedes, plus fossil remains of a previously unknown monkey, an unknown sloth, and a 25-million-year-old bird. Cuba has 25 times more known species of vertebrates and vascular plants per square mile than North America, and at that, an estimated 40 percent of species native to Cuba are still uncatalogued.

Over 700 Australians answered a Sept. 14 appeal from the British cosmetics maker Montagne Jeunesse for volunteers to test new beauty products, in lieu of testing on animals—and that was just within the first 24 hours after the appeal was published.

Army poachers still slaughter Ugandan wildlife with impunity, national parks director Eric Edroma charges. Continuing practices begun during the regime of former dictator Idi Amin, who allowed the troops to kill over 16,000 of Uganda's 17,000 elephants, soldiers kill four hippotamuses a month in Murchison Falls Park, and have cut Kidepo Park giraffe numbers from 60 to just five in only three years.

A major oil spill reportedly devastated the Chitinka River and threatened the Amur River in the south-central Soviet Union during late September.

The Canadian Environmental Advisory Council has warned environment minister Jean Charest that logging, acid rain, pulp mill wastes, and underfunding are severely degrading the nation's wilderness parks. The Council urged Charest to create 18 new terrestial parks, to represent the 18 of Canada's 39 natural regions that are not now included in the national park system, and to add aquatic parks to protect examples of the 27 marine bioregions (out of 29) that are not now included. The Progressive-Conservative government pledged in early 1991 to complete the terrestial system by the end of the decade, but is trailing in the polls, and has not yet budgeted the effort.

"Catch-and-release fishing is as cruel as dog baiting," says alderman Foster Husoy of Prince Rupert, British Columbia. The Prince Rupert town council has asked the B.C. SPCA to investigate local fishing practices, amid an ongoing dispute between sport fishing promoters and commercial gillnetters over who is responsible for declining steelhead catches.

"The Akademie fur Tierschutz," a German animal protection group, "has been trying to set up a validation study for an alternative to testing the toxicity of waste waters on living fish for two years," reports AFT scientific coordinator Dr. Brigitte Rusche, but has "encountered not only disinterest but also strong opposition on the part of the chemical industry. It has been our experience," she adds, "that industrial companies only use alternatives to animal testing if they are either cheaper than the animal experiments, or if they are forced to use them by legal means." The German Health Dept. has meanwhile conducted validation studies on three alternatives to the Draize test, but the results are as yet unpublished.

Mexico announced a 10-point program to protect dolphins from tuna fishing on Sept. 24, including a $1 million program to retrain fishing crews and the placement of international observers aboard all 46 Mexican tuna-fishing boats. Mexico also said it would join international efforts to get Venezuela to stop netting tuna "on dolphin." The move came as the U.S. considered whether to appeal a General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs panel verdict that a ban on importing Mexican tuna believed to have been netted "on dolphin" violates international trade law.

"Irish law said it was a crime, 1,000 years ago, for a plowman to overwork an ox or for a rider to ride a horse to exhaustion," Mary Dowling Daley recalled in a recent issue of the farm trade magazine *The Furrow*. "It was also illegal for an Irish farmer to threaten a farm animal 'by angry vehemence by which bones are broken'; to drive cattle into the sea or mud; or to leave a cow exposed to wild dogs or pirates."

COMPASSIONATE LIVING

BY VICTORIA MORAN

SIGNS Of The Times

The important thing about being in an animal rights demonstration is to show up carrying a sign, right? The sign itself doesn't matter that much—or so I used to think. Then I met Jeffrey Sickles, an activist from Little Silver, New Jersey, who is a signmaker extraordinaire. His background in retailing taught him that there is a two- to six-second opportunity to catch the attention of potential customers as they walk by a store department. We have a similar challenge at a demonstration: to catch the attention of pedestrians or motorists *now* and deliver a message to them *quickly*. Sickles explains:

"Designers, graphic artists, and cardboard engineers get paid a bunch to create productive point-of-purchase signs that elicit a reaction from the consumer. Our movement has a great deal in common with the point-of-purchase people because we rely heavily on short messages, usually posters, to get our point across and summon a reaction from the viewer. If we can improve the efficacy of our signing through format, materials, concept, and message, we will have enhanced one of the most visible forms of the movement."

To that end, he offers readers of The ANIMALS' AGENDA suggestions on making signs more legible, the materials from which they're made more practical, and the messages they carry more potent. When it comes to legibility, the important point is letters of the appropriate size in height and gauge. "When you set up a demonstration, you need to think about whether your market is vehicular or pedestrian. If it's vehicular, you need five-inch letters that can be seen from at least 15 car lengths. At 40 miles per hour, distance evaporates very quickly, but five or six words can be read. If your letters are too small, you've lost that opportunity."

Since most demonstrations are geared to people in cars, Sickles suggests purchasing a set of five-inch stencils. If you do many demonstrations in front of department stores, you could use a set with smaller letters as well. In either case, plot the size of your message, and measure out the words by laying your stencils on the sign to see how they fit. When you like what you see, pencil out the stencils, outline your letters in regular Magic Marker, and fill them in with poster-sized (thick) Magic Marker.

Although you can make effective signs using poster board, it is not weatherproof, so Sickles has abandoned it in favor of tile board. Available inexpensively at hardware stores, tile board has a flawless finish on one side that has the look and feel of porcelain. It accepts Magic Marker well and holds ink. The board comes in large sheets—four by eight—and can be cut with a small jigsaw to make three or four signs which can be used over and over.

Tile board signs are quite a bit heavier than those made of poster board, but they can be balanced on a stick rather than carried. The best sticks can be fashioned out of fir from a lumberyard—one to two inches wide and about chest-height. Two holes can be drilled through the sign and a bolt and nut on each will hold the sign securely.

The point of all this, of course, is to provide a medium for your message, one that should communicate intelligence and, where appropriate, wit. A picture can take up to half the size of your poster. In fact, one of Sickles' favorite signs spotted in a demo was a proud picture of a fox, no words at all. "It was startling to look at. It communicated the dignity of the animal and because there were no printed words, it could deliver a unique message to every person."

When you are using words, quick, catchy slogans will give you the most mileage. Some years back when a group was protesting Burger King's use of fish from a whaling nation, a sign read, "Let the Whales Have It Their Way." Fur protests allow for a wide range of clever slogans. Among Sickles' favorites: "Fur is a Loser Look," "Fur Coats Make You Look Fat," "Santa Doesn't Wear Real Fur." He also has seen a good response from signs that allude to famous people who've sworn off fur: "Great Bodies Don't Wear Fur—Ask Heather Locklear," "10s Don't Wear Fur Period—Ask Bo," and "Real Men Don't Wear Fur—Ask Joe Don Baker."

Messages that are cruel, insulting, or that could be perceived as anti-human communicate a philosophy antithetical to the concept of reverence for life that is central to our cause. The purpose of a sign is to encourage viewers to look at an issue, to think about it. We need to pique their interest, not turn them away. The right sign—visible and memorable—can inform, educate, and touch people's hearts. It's there, after all, that change is apt to begin.

Lanié Roundy

Who Helps The Helpless Child?

BY MERRITT CLIFTON


MSPCA

East Topsham, Vermont, June 13, 1991: Two boys, ages seven and ten, were found living with 41 cats, 21 exotic birds, and 155 dogs in a shack whose floor space was a quarter the size of a tennis court—and was covered by two inches of urine-soaked newspapers. For food, Orange County sheriff's deputies reported, the boys had been given canned spaghetti, served on the floor.

The deputies raided the site on request of the Central Vermont Humane Society, which had received and verified a tip supplied by the Elizabeth Brown Humane Society, of Newport, a two-hour drive to the north. Because animal defenders cared enough to get involved and stay involved, the children are now under supervision of a social worker, the animals were removed, and animal breeders Grace and Mitchell Goslant and Richard Smith face multiple cruelty charges.

By no means unique, even today, the East Topsham case called to mind the 1873 rescue of Mary Ellen by Etta Angell Wheeler and American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals founder Henry Bergh.

As a volunteer nurse, responding to reports from neighbors, Wheeler talked her way past a hostile stepmother into a New York tenement, to discover, as she recalled in 1913, "a pale, thin child, barefooted, in a thin, scanty dress, so tattered that I could see she wore but one garment besides. It was December and the weather was bitterly cold. She was a tiny mite, the size of five, though as afterward appeared, she was then nine.

"Across the table lay a brutal whip of twisted leather strands and the child's meager arms and legs bore many marks of its use. But the saddest part of her story was written on her face, in its look of suppression and misery, the face of a child unloved, of a child who had seen only the fearsome side of life."

There were then no laws enforced in New York or indeed in the United States against cruelty to children. The child protection laws, such as they were, provided mainly for the care of children once they were already in custody of the courts or charitable organizations. Wheeler sought help for Mary Ellen until after Easter 1874, finding only prayers from the clergy, indifference from the police, and dire warnings from various quarters against meddling in what most saw as none of her business. (An MGM film focusing on the rescue was actually titled *The Great Meddler*.) The Children's Aid Society, founded in 1853 to help street orphans, promised to help, as did eight similar groups—but only if Wheeler could bring the girl to them. They had no authority to perform a rescue.

In desperation, Wheeler finally took her story to Henry Bergh, the original "Great Meddler," who had begun the American SPCA—America's first humane society—in 1866. Bergh had often been criticized by other reformers and the New York newspapers for devoting his efforts to animals while children were often abandoned, abused by employers, and beaten or sold by alcoholic parents. Bergh had held back from involvement in child protection issues primarily because he felt that since other organizations were trying to help children, he should concentrate the limited resources of the ASPCA on helping animals, who had no other protector. Nonetheless, Wheeler convinced him to act. Within 24 hours Bergh had a detective at the tenement; within 48 hours, former ASPCA attorney Elbridge Gerry made unusual use of a writ of *habeus corpus* to bring Mary Ellen before Judge Lawrence of the New York State Supreme Court.

"She was brought into court sobbing bitterly and quite wild with fright," Wheeler recounted. "She was wrapped in a carriage blanket and was without other clothing than the two ragged garments I had seen her in months before. Her body was bruised, her face disfigured, and the woman (her stepmother) as if to make testimony sure against herself, had the day before struck the child with a pair of shears, cutting a gash through the left eyebrow and down the cheek, fortunately escaping the eye."

Testified Bergh, "The child is an animal. If there is no justice for it as a human being, it shall at least have the rights of the dog in the street. It shall not be abused!"

Judge Lawrence agreed, invoking the animal protection statutes Bergh had recently obtained from the New York state legislature to deliver Mary Ellen into Wheeler's custody, and to sentence the stepmother to one year in jail, the maximum the humane laws allowed.

Elbridge Gerry and the SPCC

The Mary Ellen case has been described by humane movement historians as the one "which started the child-saving crusade throughout the world." In fact, Great Britain had already passed laws to protect child laborers in 1802 and 1833, promoted by Richard "Humanity Dick" Martin, among others, who in 1822 also introduced Great Britain's first animal protection act. The novels of Charles Dickens—an anti-vivisectionist—had already begun awakening the world to the need for further child protection. And even Bergh had previously rescued a chore girl named Emily Thompson under the New York animal protection statutes. Thompson was turned over to her grandmother in June 1871, after having been severely beaten on repeated occasions by her employer, who drew a suspended sentence for cruelty from the Court of Special Sessions.

Still, the Mary Ellen case was the spark that touched off a flurry of organization and reform legislation, led by animal defenders who in most instances had been seeking to help children as well for many years. Building on the publicity the Mary Ellen rescue received, Gerry and Bergh together with Quaker activist John Wright founded the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children from a corner of the ASPCA office. Chartered on April 21, 1875, the SPCC was the first agency with legal authority to rescue children and prosecute those who harmed them. By January of 1876, the SPCC had already investigated over 300 cases. After passage of the 1876 New York *Act to Prevent and Punish Wrongs to Children* gave the SPCC more authority, the number of cases mounted even more rapidly, most personally prosecuted by Gerry, sometimes with help from Bergh.


MSPCA

Caroline Earle White (standing), founder of the Woman's S.P.C.A. of Pennsylvania, during one of her carriage horse inspections.

Among them were purported nurseries, called baby farms, who starved children to death while their parents worked, unawares, in sweatshops; child prostitution rings; *padrones* who imported and enslaved immigrant children; and circuses in which infants were tossed through the air by acrobats on trapezes.

While the somewhat paradoxical Bergh professed to personally dislike most children, even his foes eventually acknowledged that in giving Gerry the wherewithal to operate, he had probably helped more severely abused children than any reformer before him. Gerry went on to aid more children than anyone since, continuing to prosecute abuse cases for the SPCC until his death in 1927. His greatest triumphs were securing the passage of legislation against baby farms, in 1883, and against child labor, in 1885. Gerry's son, grandson, and great grandson also devoted much of their lives to both child and animal protection.

Caroline Earle White

Parallel to Bergh and Gerry's activities were the efforts of Philadelphia reformer Caroline Earle White. Born in 1833, White was noted from childhood for love and compassion, extended toward all living creatures. Her first cause was the abolition of slavery. When the Confederacy surrendered on April 9, 1865, insuring the 1863 Proclamation of Emancipation would take force, White turned to work on behalf of women, children, and animals. A year later, while vacationing in the Adirondacks with her family, she saw a notice of the formation of the ASPCA in a newspaper, and immediately journeyed to New York to ask Bergh how she could form a similar organization in her own community. Following Bergh's example, she began petitioning and fundraising to establish the Pennsylvania SPCA—whereupon she encountered M. Richards Muckle, who had already set about the same purpose. Despite White's efforts, she was excluded from the management of the new SPCA when it was finally chartered by the state in April 1868. Newly elected Pennsylvania SPCA president S. Morris Waln invited her to form a "women's branch." White then set up the Women's Pennsylvania SPCA, chartered in April 1869, with its own independent treasury and executive.

In 1872, to much public ridicule, the Women's Pennsylvania SPCA took over management of the Philadelphia dog pound, the first humane group ever to assume such a responsibility. Under pound director Elizabeth Morris, the women replaced the former practice of clubbing the dogs to death with use of a gas chamber; added facilities for cats and sick animals; and began the now-universal practice of putting healthy animals up for adoption for as long as possible before performing euthanasia. The former pound thus became the first animal shelter in the U.S., shortly emulated by the first Massachusetts SPCA shelter. The Women's Pennsylvania SPCA went on to establish an animal hospital with ambulance service (also promptly emulated by the MSPCA) and a system of 50 street fountains to serve draft animals. The street fountains are no more, but the Women's Humane Society, as the group renamed itself in 1988, continues to operate a shelter, an animal hospital, and an active humane education division.

Amid all this, White found time to help her longtime assistant Adele Biddle to establish the American Anti-Vivisection Society, in 1883—and to help set up the Pennsylvania Society to Protect Children from Cruelty, modeled after the New York SPCC, "only retiring from active work therein," according to associate Frank Stephens, "when she was assured that there was no lack of willing workers in this field while, as she explained, it was extremely difficult in the early days to find anyone ready to espouse the cause of suffering animals."

Even then, White remained active on behalf of children, going on to found the St. Vincent's Aid Association, to help orphans and the indigent. "With advancing years," the executive board wrote in a joint statement issued upon White's death in 1916, "she was obliged to limit her activities, but never lost her keen interest in the Association, nor her love for the little children under the care of the Sisters of Charity at St. Vincent's Home, and this interest now extends into the future, through the bequest she left them in her will."

The American Humane Association

Of the 27 humane societies founded within the decade after Bergh began the ASPCA, at least ten took an active part in protecting children as well as animals. Some, such as the Connecticut Humane Society, continued investigating child abuse cases into the 1960s,

Continued on next page

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when public agencies finally assumed full responsibility for child protection.

In deference to the Children's Aid Societies active in many communities, and on the advice of Bergh that groups formed to help animals should concentrate on helping animals, child protection was excluded from the original mandate of the American Humane Association. Founded as the International Humane Society in 1877, AHA was conceived as a national umbrella for the 27 original humane societies, with the objective of achieving federal laws to protect animals involved in interstate commerce. It was renamed the American Humane Association one year later. Despite the initial narrower focus, many of the founding members insisted that the AHA should work on child protection as well. A motion to that effect by the San Francisco delegation was defeated in 1878, but largely through the influence of Gerry and White, the AHA did vote to become a society "for the protection of animals *and children*" in 1885.

MSPCA

PLEDGE OF THE BAND OF MERCY:
I will try to be kind to all living creatures, and try to protect them from cruel usage.

The AHA was subsequently involved in forming the International Children's Congress in 1913, and the International Child Welfare League in 1916; promoted legal rights and humane care for orphans and children born out of wedlock; fought baby-selling rackets; exposed "white slavery" rings that preyed upon country girls who were promised serving jobs at high pay in big cities; initiated teaching children about "motor age perils" such as speeding cars, in 1926; and began a push to protect children from injuries caused by fireworks in 1935. As recently as 1948, AHA affiliates were still sheltering 50,000 children a year from abusive situations. The AHA child protection division today lobbies for bills promoting children's welfare, and is probably best known for producing studies and statistics on numerous child-related issues. It accounts for approximately a third of the total AHA budget (about $2.5 million a year).

Cruelty is the enemy

Perhaps the most meaningful tribute to the role of animal defenders in protecting children came from Dr. James Walsh, a vivisector, who joined with humanitarians in mourning White. Having met White when he was a medical student at the University of Pennsylvania, Walsh was lastingly impressed by her conversion relatively late in life to vegetarianism, and more especially by "how intent she was in saving every possible iota of suffering that she could in the world."

"I had possessed an idea before this," Walsh wrote in the *Journal of Zoophily*, "an idea that I am sorry to say has not been entirely dispelled even yet, that many of those who were most interested in the prevention of cruelty to animals...paid very little attention and had very little sympathy for the manifold sufferings of men and women, and above all, of children...I soon found, however, that Mrs. White was even more interested in saving the suffering of humanity than she was that of animals, and above all, that the very thought of suffering to children set her to organizing in prevention of it."

Unable to comprehend that White set no species above or below another, in her effort to stop cruelty toward all, Walsh misrepresented her position. But his observation is nonetheless a noteworthy rebuttal to his anti-animal rights counterparts of today, who continue to insist despite over a century of evidence that animal defenders don't care about children, or humans in general.

On the contrary, as the East Topsham case illustrates, animal defenders often remain the first defense for children, too. Cruelty investigators are trained to look out for child abuse in families with abused animals. As a Women's Humane Society leaflet titled *Animal Abuse/Child Abuse: The Hidden Connection* explains, paraphrasing University of Rhode Island sociologist Dr. Richard Gelles, in violent families, "The husband beats the wife, the wife learns to beat the children, the bigger siblings learn it's all right to strike the smaller ones, and the family pet becomes the ultimate recipient of violence from all...The fact of animal abuse is a strong indicator that other abuses are occurring in the home."

Statistics compiled by Stephen Kellert of Yale University indicate that 75 percent of abused children have also witnessed animal abuse by their abusers; 75 percent of abused children themselves abuse animals; and over 80 percent of convicted violent criminals have histories of both abusing animals and having been abused. Kellert's work confirms the observation of the late anthropologist Margaret Mead that, "One of the most dangerous things that can happen to a child is to kill or torture an animal and get away with it."

Urges the Women's Humane Society, "Do not ignore even minor acts of cruelty...By ignoring animal abuse, you might also be ignoring child abuse."

As well as responding to violence, animal defenders help break the cycle that perpetuates violence through humane education, a concept popularized by George Thorndike Angell, who founded the Massachusetts SPCA (1868); the Illinois Humane Society (1870); the American Band of Mercy, a humane organization for children (1882); and the American Humane Education Society (1889). Angell's idea was that teaching children to treat animals with kindness and respect would encourage them to treat humanity the same way, as they grew older and stronger. Angell's insight has recently been extended into programs to help adults. Numerous successful programs in which prisoners and juvenile offenders are reformed through caring for animals owe ancestry to Angell's efforts.

As ANIMALS' AGENDA editor Kim Bartlett summarized in an address to the 1991 Fund for Animals annual conference, "Most of us who work to help animals get tired of being asked why we aren't doing something to help *people* instead—especially when we're asked by those who aren't doing much to help anyone. Well, animals matter, of course—but what we're doing also has limitless potential to help people, by making us into a more ethical, more compassionate species; by erasing the ultimate evil: human cruelty." ❖

Henry Bergh's Biography for Children

Crusade For Kindness: Henry Bergh and the ASPCA

By John Loeper; illustrated with old photographs and prints; Atheneum Publishers (866 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022), 1991; 112 pages; hardcover, $12.95.

A biography of ASPCA founder Henry Bergh, intended for ages 8-12, *Crusade For Kindness* is especially valuable in establishing the past and present context of his work. With quick, easy style, Loeper not only makes plain the social and cultural atmosphere that produced the ASPCA, but also explains the subsequent evolution of attitudes toward animal rights—an evolution that to some degree left the fur-wearing, meat-eating Bergh behind, even in his own later years. To his credit, Bergh did advocate vegetarianism and acknowledged his own hypocrisy. Loeper also covers Bergh's work on behalf of children and abused women (Bergh sought to have men who beat women publicly flogged). Highly recommended, especially to school libraries, where *Crusade For Kindness* is sure to be read to tatters.

—*M.C.*

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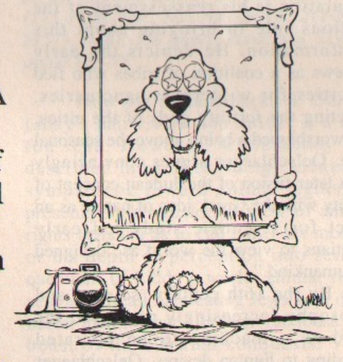

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Call of the Wild

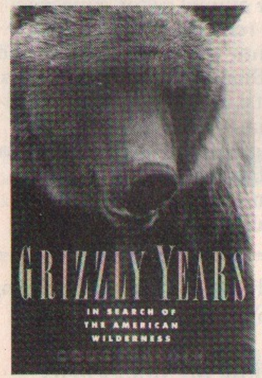
The Idea of Wilderness: From Prehistory to the Age of Ecology

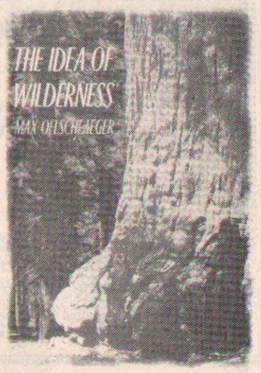
By Max Oelschlaeger; Yale University Press, (92A Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520), 1991; 477 pages, hardcover, $29.95.

Grizzly Years: In Search of the American Wilderness

By Doug Peacock; Henry Holt and Co. (115 West 18th St., NY, NY 10011), 1990; 288 pages, hardcover, $24.95.

Reverence, fear, greed: as the last existing wild places fall victim to ax and fire, humanity questions its own response to wilderness. *The Idea of Wilderness* and *Grizzly Years* approach these inquiries from opposite directions. An associate professor of philosophy, Max Oelschlaeger traces the human concept of wilderness from scattered prehistoric clues through the birth of science and religion, to modern environmental movements. Doug Peacock, on the other hand, dwells in wilderness, photographing grizzlies and surviving with skills first honed in Vietnam. Though both men reach similar conclusions, they travel vastly different roads.





Oelschlaeger's book is a *tour de force*, gathering evidence from archaeology, philosophy, literature, and religion in order to define human cultural reactions to nature. The result of this mixture is a morass of extrapolation, with an occasion brilliant deduction. He imagines a time in prehistory when humans lived in harmony with nature, and seeks a "postmodern" rebirth of that sensibility. Unfortunately, his assumptions about prehistoric human attitudes are drawn from scant evidence. Much of his hypothesis concerns paleolithic religions and cultures seemingly based on hunting, though modern studies of primitive peoples have shown that as much as 80 percent of their diet is vegetable. He stands on firmer archaeological ground when he correlates the development of agriculture, with the rise of large city-states and their worship of fertility symbols, with the beginning of human alienation from nature.

Among his more interesting lines of speculation is his reassessment of the religious role in bringing about this transformation. He depicts the early Hebrews as a coalition of tribes who fled the cities for wilderness sanctuaries. Rejecting the fertility gods of the cities, they worshipped a being above the seasonal cycle. Oelschlaeger argues convincingly that a later fusion of the Judean concept of divinity with the Greek idea of nature as an object for scientific study led early Christians to view the world as "designed for humankind."

By the 16th century, science and philosophy increasingly portrayed the world as a machine to be operated according to human desires. Oelschlaeger focuses in particular on Francis Bacon, whose "ideal was no less than a complete mastery of nature," on Rene Descartes with his "disembodied mind, standing outside nature," and his belief that animals "have no reason at all," and on Adam Smith, who popularized the idea of nature as a means to material wealth.

In the 19th century, however, science and literature began to question humanity's place in the cosmos. Oelschlaeger suggests that the Romantic poets were a cultural "reaction to the scientific view of nature," though most critics regard them as seeking in nature a mirror for their own emotions. He cites Charles Darwin as the first scientist to question human mastery. Four years after Darwin's *Origin of Species*, George Perkins Marsh published another seminal work, *Man and Nature*. Born and raised in Vermont, where he saw mountains clearcut for lumber and sheep pasture, Marsh experimented with artificial propagation of fish and proposed importing camels to the American deserts. Oelschlaeger credits Marsh with the first comprehensive statement, in *Man and Nature*, that "humankind was on balance a destabilizing environmental force."

Oelschlaeger excels at interpreting the works of wilderness writers and poets such as Henry Thoreau, John Muir, and Aldo Leopold. He believes Thoreau rediscovered an aboriginal relationship to nature, that Muir "verged on recovery of the Paleolithic mind." Likewise, he feels the poetry of Robinson Jeffers and Gary Snyder "allows the reader to reestablish roots in that fertile soil which nurtures all life." Nevertheless, *The Idea of Wilderness* is most valuable when it explores the historical record and later compares the philosophies of modern environmental movements—from conservation and preservation to social ecology and ecofeminism. The book falters when Oelschlaeger mixes his mythic metaphors in an attempt to recreate our lost "animal innocence." In an excess of enthusiasm, he concludes that "we are, as was sung on occasion to a vast assemblage of flower children, stardust, and we've got to get ourselves back to the garden."

Far from the tame groves of academe, where theory too often replaces good sense, Doug Peacock struggled in 1968 to recover his own balance. "I had no talent for reentering society," he says, and he "retreated to the woods." *Grizzly Years* is his account of two decades spent among the remnants of American wilderness. His encounters with grizzlies make for exciting reading, but his is more than a book of bear stories. In those decades he learned through experience the difficult relationship between modern humans and nature. For Doug Peacock, wilderness became more than an idea; it became "the original landscape we called home."

While Oelshlaeger argues that aboriginal wisdom is the truest path to understanding nature, Doug Peacock writes realistically of aboriginal culture destroyed from within as well as without. "It may be one of the final ironies that the very people we look toward when we seek an American example of harmony with the natural world have themselves overhunted and killed off their animal relatives. It might have been worse. Down south, segments of the Hopi people were preparing to sell off Big Mountain to Peabody Coal."

Peacock has garnered some notoriety for his association with radical environmentalism. In *Grizzly Years*, however, he appears very like the bears he treasures: shy, self-contained, aggressive only when provoked. He admits, "I imagined myself a full-time saboteur defending wilderness and dreamed of blowing up the dams that tamed my favorite rivers. But talk was cheap." For the most part, he engages his survival skills in close contact with unforgiving nature as "a traveler in an older, more complete world."

Because of his experience, Peacock can describe nature without affectation. His wilderness is a real landscape inhabited by real creatures. "Whatever wilderness is," he writes, "it is also a place where animals live out their existence separate from a human agenda." Compared to Oelschlaeger's sterile, creatureless garden, Peacock's natural ideal is "a spectrum of wilderness possibilities," which includes "risk and unpredictable things like grizzly bears." While he recognizes the impact of human traffic on natural areas, he also appreciates the need for modern human interaction with wildness. In his own travels, he combines the sensitivity of a prehistoric man to his surroundings with a modern human's knowledge of consequences. It's possible to read *Grizzly Years* as a prescription for the proper relationship between human and wilderness.

While describing a climb to the continental divide, he remarks, "All that is necessary to control human impact on a place like this is to leave the mountain valleys without constructed foot trails." But he realizes that the simplest solutions are often ignored by scientific management. Like Oelschlaeger, Peacock perceives management plans as attempts to control nature for human benefit. "There is no paycheck in wilderness, nothing to manage," he explains; therefore science dismisses any spiritual or emotional values associated with untamed nature.

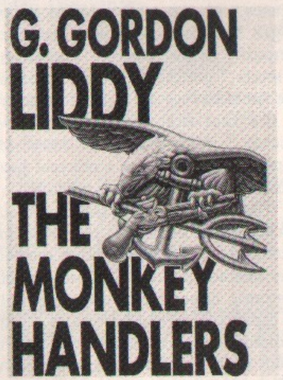
In the struggle to rescue nature from civilization, both erudite interpretation and firsthand knowledge have a place. *The Idea of Wilderness* would serve well as a text for a new generation of philosophers and teachers. *Grizzly Years* serves a more immediate purpose by exposing readers to "what we might have become if we had not left the wilderness to live in villages, towns, and suburbs." Besides being a joy to read, Peacock's book resounds with his recovery of ancient values. "The land was not something to be feared or conquered," he says, "and 'wildlife' was neither wild nor alien: they were relatives." This understanding is grounded in his knowledge of wilderness, where a human life is less significant than we're accustomed to. "Mostly you accept a set of circumstances beyond your control," he says, "and just ride out the consequences. The notion of domination over nature never comes up."

—Cathy Czapla

Funny Business

The Monkey Handlers

By H. Gordon Liddy; St. Martin's Press (175 Fifth Ave., NY, NY 10010; 212-674-5151), 1990; 338 pages, hardcover $19.95, paper $15.95.



Now out in paperback, H. Gordon Liddy's anti-vivisection thriller is a fast, fun read. However, while Liddy has described himself as being essentially sympathetic toward animal rights, he presents such a distorted view of animal rights activism as to call either his motives or his depth of perception into serious question. In Liddy's world, animal rights activists are all ham-eating Jews who don't neuter their tomcats, let them run loose, and boast of their sexual conquests. Vivisectionists, however, are all Nazis, literally, whose favorite experimental subjects are undocumented illegal aliens, until they get their hands on the activist leaders. Liddy's knights in shining armor are steak-eating super-macho former members of the Seals, the Navy elite force roughly corresponding to the Army's better-known Green Berets. The ex-Seals, with whom Liddy fawningly identifies, massacre countless laboratory animals as the book approaches its climax, to use their entrails in a diversionary ploy as they rescue the hapless activists from the Nazis. After which, both animals and activists are forgotten in the rush toward a further climax involving the rescue of a damsel in distress from Irish and Arab terrorists, who seem to have blackmailed the Nazis into doing even more evil than they otherwise would have thought about.

One is normally well advised to avoid ascribing to malice what can be ascribed to stupidity. At the same time, Liddy is the only person to serve prison time for the 1972 burglary of the Democratic national headquarters remembered as "Watergate." He has a long history of involvement in counterintelligence and dirty tricks. His autobiography *Will* reveals strong Nazi sympathies, at least early in life, while some of his arguments about the duties of a soldier have recently appeared, only slightly amended, in an anonymously authored book that was apparently written (by someone much less fluent than Liddy) to discredit the animal rights movement. (See "Reader Beware," October 1991.)

Liddy may be, as he claims, an ally of animal rights; but we'll have to see a lot more and better evidence that he is before taking his remarks at face value.

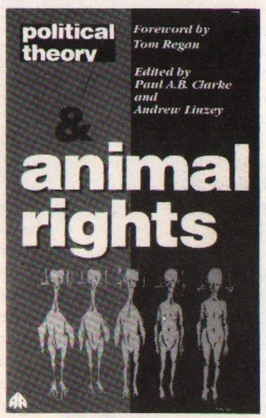
—M.C.

War of the Words

Political Theory and Animal Rights

Edited by Paul A.B. Clarke and Andrew Linzey, foreword by Tom Regan; Pluto Press (345 Archway Road, London N6 5AA; 8 Winchester Place, Winchester MA 01890), 1990; in U.S., order from Paul & Company (c/o PCS Data Processing, 360 West 31 St., NY, NY 10001; 212-564-3730); 193 pages, $39.95 cloth, $19.95 paper.

Humans are political animals. As such, we conceive a political rationale for every action we undertake, and for every philosophy our imagination constructs. The editors of *Political Theory and Animal Rights* state that the "main purpose of this book is to show a long and continuing relation between political theory and concerns about the status of animals." Included are excerpts from the writings of Plato, Aristotle, Thomas Aquinas, Rene Descartes, Rousseau, Jeremy Bentham, John Rawls, Robert Nozick, and Tom Regan, among others. Since a variety of philosophical schools are drawn upon, the result is an equally varied approach to the subject, from the "animals are strictly tools" belief to "animals share equal rights with humans."



A few of those belonging to the former school make ignorant and self-serving statements of breathtaking scope. Jean-Jacques Rousseau confidently wrote that, "I see nothing in any animal but an ingenious machine, to which nature hath given senses to wind itself up, and to guard itself...against anything that might tend to disorder or destroy it." In other words, animals are self-sustaining and self-replicating robots, and, according to Aristotle, "as nature...makes nothing either imperfect or in vain, it necessarily follows that she has made all these things for men." A neat and apparently persuasive little syllogism upon which the larger part of humanity has excused its atrocious behavior toward animals through the centuries.

Though this book is about politics as regards nature in general and animals in specific, it does not examine the political turning point upon which most, if not all, exploitation is based: the agrarian revolution. For the larger part of human existence, we lived as hunter-gatherers in relative harmony with nature, and it has been only in the last 10,000 years that the deceptive facility and joys of agriculture have become our economic mainstay. Even the Judeo-Christian God, so often cited as the source of current beliefs by the various philosophers anthologized in this volume, was frequently portrayed in the Old Testament as hating everything to do with agriculture—particularly the practice of animal husbandry, which led to the formation of fertility cults—and he finally removed himself from the human sphere because of human insistence on maintaining and developing the agricultural lifestyle.

Without considering the agrarian revolution as a key component, the excerpts in this book have no real context within which to be examined, and a reader can easily be left with the idea that, despite millennia of intense study, reflection and logic, humans remain horribly misinformed and utterly confused about basic patterns of nature. Those following Cartesian philosophy, for instance, are seen as merely prejudiced and uninformed, particularly in light of modern discoveries. Consider, for instance, the casually destructive attitude in the 18th century writing of Johann Gottlieb Fichte: "...it is properly made the duty of the gamekeeper to exterminate, likewise, wild animals, from which he himself derives no benefit, and which may not be immediately injurious to himself; as, for instance, eagles, hawks, sparrows, nay, even caterpillars and other injurious insects. Other animals, which are immediately injurious to himself, because they destroy his game, such as foxes, wolves, etc., he will exterminate of his own accord." However, advocacy of wholesale slaughter of any animal who gets in the way of human business, particularly agricultural business, persists today. And it is no accident that Fichte articulated the theory of it just as the enclosure of the commons was converting the last European wilderness into grazing land.

All such arguments against extending any consideration or rights toward animals (or even insects or plants) originate from twisting laws of logic and nature to justify continued and expanded agricultural exploitation. In other words, we have been making excuses like crazy for several thousand years, and doing our best to make them seem plausible and reasonable, when even a modicum of observation and reflection tells us they are not.

Animal rights philosophers fall into the same trap when they answer these excuses with the same tools of argument. Brigid Brophy writes with passion and sympathy in her essay, "The Rights of Animals," concluding that, "The whole case for behaving decently to animals rests on the fact that we are the superior species." Which may or may not be actually true, but is not a relevant factor in considering the problem as a whole.

It is not nearly so simple a matter as making moral or logical pronouncements, of using tools of logic and persuasion to sway human opinions. Our utter social and economic dependence upon agriculture, and especially animal husbandry, must first be examined and dispassionately considered. Only in the context of this most fundamental political structure—to which we are bonded not only by habit but also by law—can all the essays included in *Political Theory And Animal Rights* make better sense, rather than appearing as they do now, a merely interesting war of words and ideologies.

—Pamela Kemp

The Inception of Universal Ethics in Ancient Asia and Modern America

By Clay Lancaster, with an introduction by Jon Wynne-Tyson; Warwick Publications (Box 2500 Oregon Rd., Salvisa, KY 40372-9792), 1991; 43 pages, paper, $4.50 postpaid.

While the two essays included in *The Inception of Universal Ethics* discuss the development of humane ethics, their focus is on religion more than animals. Clay Lancaster, a scholar specializing in the cultural interchange between East and West, discusses human history in terms of moral progress. Among the standards by which Lancaster measures ethical enlightenment are vegetarianism and treatment of animals, both areas in which the philosophy of the East inarguably surpasses that of the West. However, he goes a bit too far in proclaiming the virtues of Asian *practice*, stating, for example, that, "The Chinese are the world's foremost proponents of living in harmony with nature." The compassionate precepts of Buddhism notwithstanding, one would be hard-pressed today to find a place where animals are more cruelly treated than either mainland China, Hong Kong, or Taiwan. Along with over-generalizing human behavior, Lancaster tends to oversimplify complexities and convolutions of history as well as theory. Still, *The Inception of Universal Ethics* is an ambitious little book offering some insightful observations.

—K.B.

Biosphere Politics

By Jeremy Rifkin; Crown Publishers (201 E. 50th St., NY, NY 10022), 1991; 388 pages, hardcover $20.00.

Fans and followers of Jeremy Rifkin will be fascinated by his unique interpretation of Western history and his biocentric vision of human life in the 21st century.

Autobiography of a Revolutionary: Essays on Animal and Human Rights

By Roberta Kalechofsky; Micah Publications (255 Humphrey St.,MA 01945; 617-631-7601), 1991; 200 pages, paper, $11.95.

This "autobiography" of Roberta Kalechofsky, writer and founder of Jews for Animal Rights, is a compilation of 14 essays that explore the antivivisection and animal rights movements in their relationship to religion; experimentation on human beings in the Nazi era and elsewhere; the women's movement; pornography; and 19th century reform movements.

What To Do When Your Dog Hurts: Practical Emergency Care You Can Do Yourself, and When to Call the Vet

By Nancy Lewis Owen, V.M.D.; Schell Publishing (436 North King St., Northampton, MA 01060; 413-584-8768), 1991; 80 pages, paper, $7.95.

Following the same format as Dr. Owen's book on cats (see *Reviews*, June '91), *What To Do When Your Dog Hurts* advises readers how to tell when a dog's health condition is an emergency, semi-emergency, or something treatable without professional care. First-aid instructions are included.

A Shopper's Guide to Cruelty-Free Products

By Lori Cook; Bantam Books (666 Fifth Ave., NY, NY 10103), 1991; 262 pages, paper, $4.99.

Beginning with a foreword by Priscilla Feral of Friends of Animals, this neat little book describes how many companies test cosmetics and household products on animals, and then provides comprehensive lists of manufacturers who don't. It seems to be missing nothing, but because many companies are moving away from animal testing, much of the information could be dated within a year or two.

Towards a Healthy Diet and Lifestyle

A Teaching Unit, $15.00

Here's Food for Thought! The Healthy Diet Rap

Audiocassette, $10

Both developed by Sheila Schwartz, Ed.D., and Eleanor Shoneman; Humane Education Committee (Box 445-Gracie Station, NY, NY 10028; 212-410-3095), 1991.

Designed for educators and students, grades 3-8, the packet and tape are intended for mainstream use in school classrooms as a means of introducing humane perspectives concerning meat consumption and factory farming. It does not use a totally vegetarian approach, however, but does seek to stimulate interest in cruelty-free lifestyles and philosophies.

Continued on next page

SHORT TAKES

Continued from previous page

Whistling Wings:
The Dove Chronicles

By H. Elliott McClure; Boxwood Press (183 Ocean View Blvd., Pacific Grove, CA 93950), 1991; 99 pages, paper, $9.95 plus $1.25 postage.

Whistling Wings is a mixture of fact and fiction telling the story of "Zee," a mourning dove, who struggles against hardships such as thunderstorms, natural predators, and humans who kill for sport. The book is strongly anti-hunting.

For Children

D is for Dolphin

Illustrated by Janet Biondi, text by Cami Berg; Windom Books (P.O. Box 6444, Santa Fe, NM 87502; 505-983-3800), 1991; 64 pages, hardcover, $18.95.

D is for Dolphin is an exquisitely illustrated children's spelling primer, with each word describing some characteristic of the dolphin. A portion of the proceeds go to the Marine Mammal Fund.

Jataka Tales for Children:
A Precious Life
Golden Foot

Dharma Publishing (2425 Hillside Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704; 510-548-5407); paper, $5.95 and 4.95, respectively.

Related by the Buddha 2500 years ago, Jataka tales are simple stories that teach compassion and respect for all creatures. Both *A Precious Life* and *Golden Foot* tell of hunters who turn from killing animals to protecting them. Dharma Publishing offers 20 colorfully-illustrated tales in all, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the Tibetan Aid Project.

A Cat Called Christopher

By Era Zistel, illustrated by Judee C.E. Donahue; J.N. Townsend Publishing (12 Greenleaf Dr., Exeter, NH 03833; 1-800-333-9883), 1991; 81 pages, paper, $9.95.

A Cat Called Christopher chronicles the misadventures of a spunky kitten who meets with the many dangers stray cats are heir to in the modern world—not the least of which are sinister lab animal procurers. Christopher meets with a happy end though, as appropriate for a book written for 8- 12-year-olds. The book is abundantly illustrated with excellent pencil drawings.

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FARM ANIMAL SANCTUARY has Internship openings for dedicated animal activists. Room and board in exchange for animal care and shelter help. Contact: Farm Sanctuary, P.O. Box 150 Watkins Glen, NY 14891 (607) 583-2225.

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UNITED ACTION FOR ANIMALS SEEKS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. Must be dynamic, dedicated and highly organized to handle program development, fundraising, public education campaigns, public relations, media contacts and general administration for this small but nationally recognized organization. Must be well versed on all animal rights issues with an emphasis on biomedical research and pet overpopulation crisis. Moderate salary and a well equipped modern office near Grand Central Station in New York City. Resumé to Marilyne Mason, Esq., 141-21 33rd Avenue, Flushing, NY 11354 or call (212) 788-0819 (days).

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Computer Equipment Needed

THE CHIPPEWA COUNTY HUMANE ASSN. needs a donation of computer equipment: Rt. 5, Box 500, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729; 715-382-4440; contact Brenda Rands.

Correction: In November's article "Santeria: Killing in the Name of Culture," the author, Gloria Chavez-Vasquez, was incorrectly identified as founder of the Asociacion Latinoamericana en Defensa de los Animales. Gladys Perez founded the group.

Business Opportunities

GET PAID for something you already do! Unlimited income potential. No product sales. For recorded details, call (919) 990-1877, dept. 25.

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WE GIVE THEM A SECOND CHANCE. THE PET-CONNECTION is a non-profit, maternity and special care shelter for stray cats and dogs. In addition, we are a retirement home for sheep and rabbits. Please get involved! We'd like to expand our membership and also Network with similar groups. For more information call: (716) 652-0192 or write: THE PET-CONNECTION, 12935 Williston Road, East Aurora, NY 14052.

Services

STOP POUND SEIZURE NOW! For information on how to stop animals in your area from being released from shelters to medical research, please call or write: National Stop Pound Seizure Coalition, P.O. Box 754, Encino, CA 91426. (213) 477-5845.

Personals

MEET SINGLES sharing values on animal rights, ecology, peace, personal growth, natural living, social responsibility. FREE DETAILS. AT THE GATE, Box 09506-AA, Columbus, OH 43209.

Statement of ownership, management and circulation
(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

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C.	Total paid circulation	23,342	23,466
D.	Free distribution by mail carrier or other means: samples, complimentary & other free copies	1,397	1,199
E.	Total distribution	24,739	24,665
F.	Copies not distributed		
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Kim Bartlett, Editor

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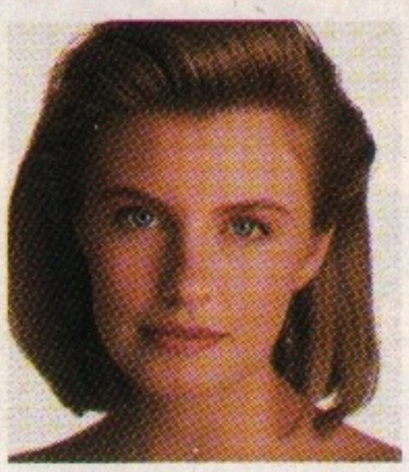

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