

Television's Peggy McKay: Saving Animals' Lives

# The ANIMALS' AGENDA

THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE OF ANIMAL RIGHTS AND ECOLOGY JAN/FEB 1990



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## OUT OF THE CAGE

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Movement  
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"Collectors" of Dogs and Cats

Sled-Dog Racing—Is It Exploitation

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# The ANIMALS' AGENDA

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1990 VOLUME X NO. 1

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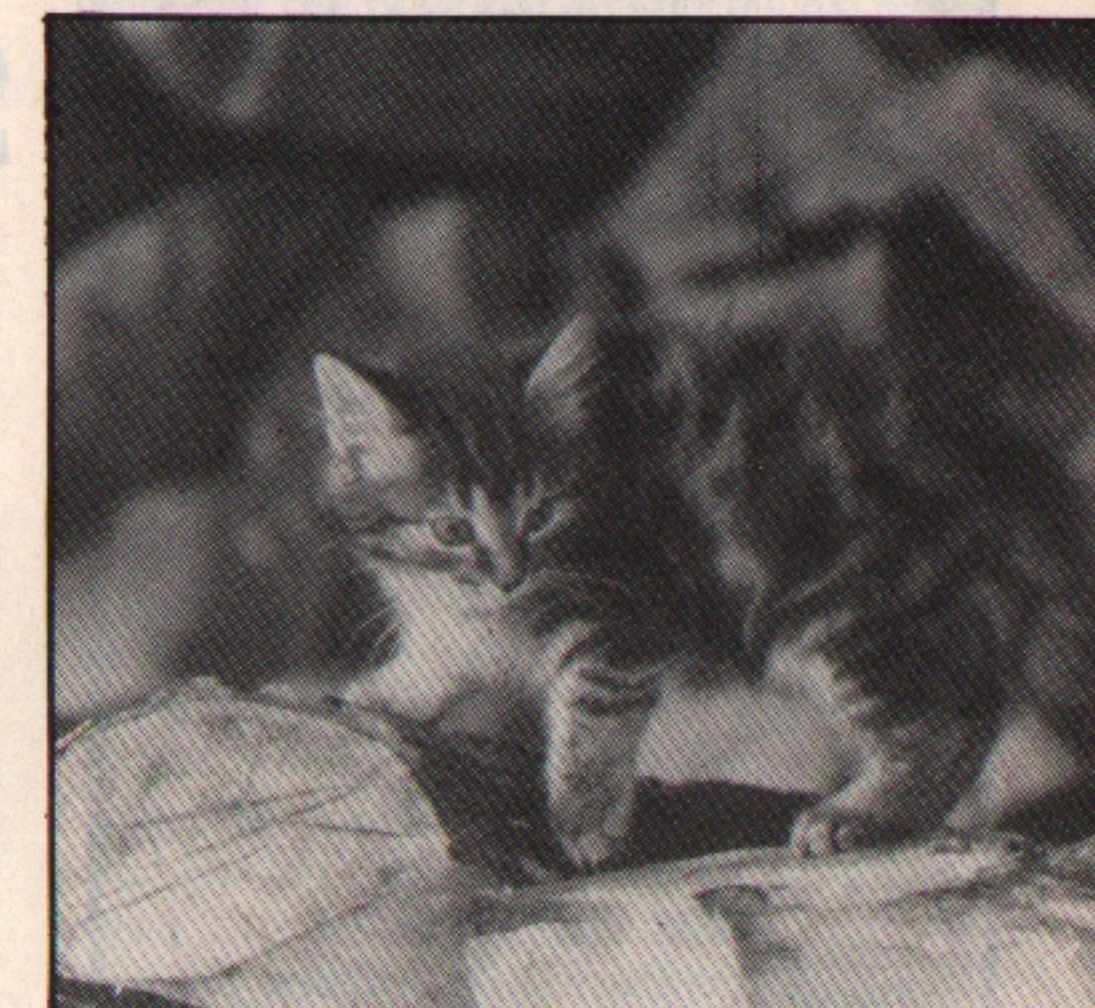
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The ANIMALS' AGENDA

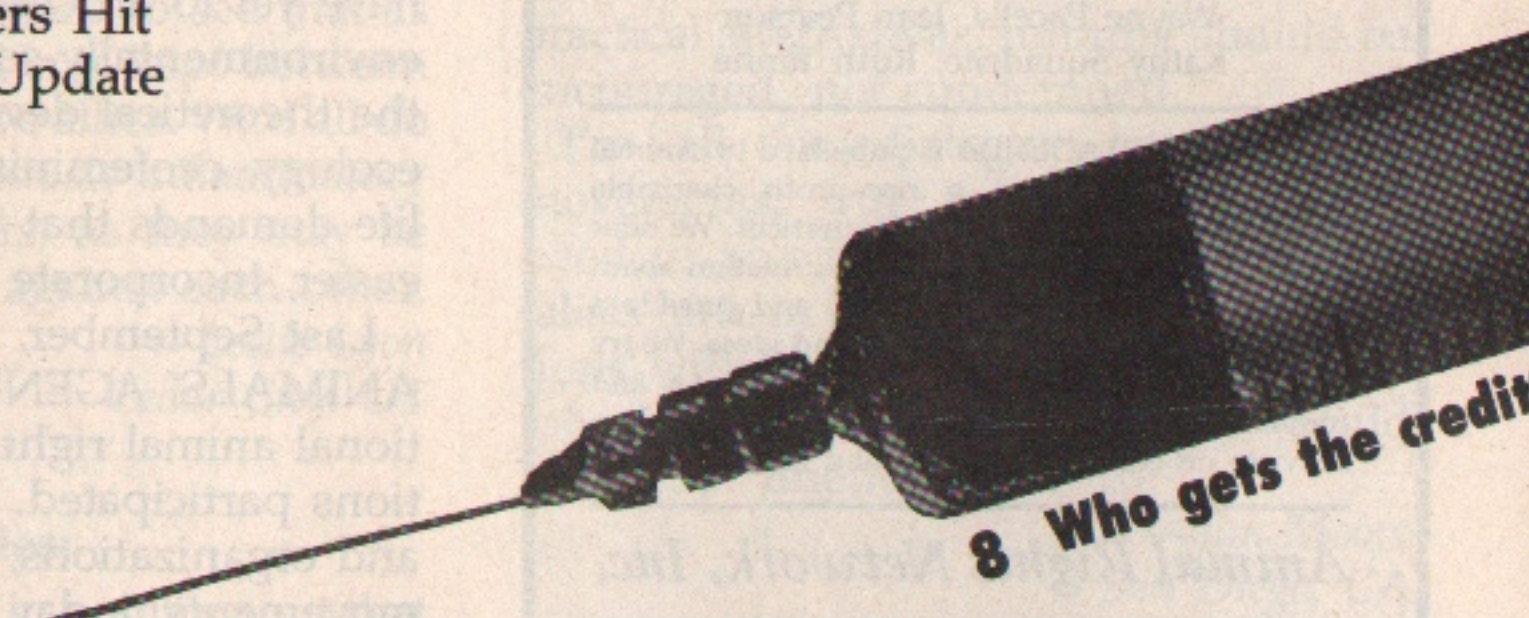
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# Seeing Ahead

Often ideas, and even projects, seem to have lives of their own. We've all seen wonderful things created apparently at random. Indeed, that's the story of life on Earth. As if by chance, a catalyst encounters a receptive environment and something new is born. Then, perhaps against great odds, it takes root and flourishes. Whether or not we perceive a cosmic design in such phenomena depends, perhaps, on the bounds of our imagination or on our tolerance of the inexplicable. It's demonstrable, though, that identical catalysts may strike out an infinite number of times before connecting with a fertile medium.

That animals have certain rights humans should respect (or that humans have certain obligations towards animals) is not a new idea at all. It's as old as recorded human history, as ancient scriptures reveal, and probably extends back to the primordium of human culture. How and why our species became so self-absorbed and detached from the rest of creation is a fascinating subject, and one under exploration by a number of modern theorists.

But even though the human community as a whole has strayed so far from kinship with other animals, history reveals that there have always been individuals who realized the error of that path. In centuries past, they spoke out against cruelty to animals as vociferously as today's most ardent activists and waged energetic campaigns that by comparison make some of our own look anemic. Yet their views did not prevail. They lacked the proper medium for growth.

As we enter the last decade of this millennium, there are signs everywhere that the times are at last fertile for humane enlightenment. In the face of impending global catastrophes, people finally seem ready to rethink the destructive and archaic suppositions on which Western society has been modeled and begin creating a new paradigm for humanity—one that is post-patriarchal, post-industrial, and nonanthropomorphic, a paradigm based on respect for nature and the myriad organisms who symbiotically compose a healthy ecosystem. Such a worldview will necessarily entail a new status for nonhuman lifeforms, and it is to this end that the animal defense movement raises its concerns. Far from being on the fringes of today's cultural evolution, animal liberation philosophy is central to it.

That is not to say, however, that the animal rights movement is itself fully evolved. We are still struggling with ideological minutiae (not to mention the practical applications of an animal liberation philosophy), and, more important, have yet to articulate a clear vision of what a humane, life-affirming, environmentally-sound future will be like. Moreover, we are largely ignorant of the theoretical development of other compatible movements, such as deep ecology, ecofeminism, and sustainable agriculture. Creating a holistic vision of life demands that we integrate our values into these movements or, perhaps easier, incorporate their wisdom and expertise into our own.

Last September, with financial support provided by Friends of Animals, The ANIMALS' AGENDA sponsored a movement planning conference to which national animal rights groups were invited. Representatives from 31 key organizations participated. It was a day to discuss the different roles played by activists and organizations, a day to reflect on the experiences of other successful movements, a day to forget organizational divisions and commence thinking as a movement. Nothing tangible came of the conference; that wasn't expected. But a number of ideas were tossed around, and a popular one was that we begin formulating a positive vision of a world liberated from animal exploitation. A committee was established, headed by Kim Stallwood of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, which will consider ways to start the process. The ANIMALS' AGENDA will be a part of that effort, and will be writing about it in future issues. In the meantime, we'd very much like to hear from readers on this subject. Have you a vision of a life-affirming society or a good idea of how to achieve it? Share it with us. Dreams can be more than fantasies. The images we hold in our minds have a way of working themselves into reality. Let's be sure ours are potent, positive, and timely.

For more information on the September conference and an analysis of movement progress, read "Out of the Cage: The Movement in Transition."

—The Editor

## Gorillas and Tourism

The article "Conservation: Is Tourism the Solution?" (Dateline: International, October 1989) served as one more nail in Dian Fossey's coffin. The Mountain Gorilla Project, which was the interloper of Fossey's Digit Fund, was described as a "consortium of conservationists" who were responsible for the "success" brought by over 2,000 tourists tromping on gorilla territory. According to Farley Mowat in *Woman in the Mists*, the MGP profited handsomely from donations meant for the Digit Fund. In turn, MGP assisted financially and with gifts the officials who could make tourism possible. Dian Fossey was against tourism because she believed it was of no value to the gorilla. If she had not been murdered, she would still be fighting against the Mountain Gorilla Project.

—Cheryl Rose  
Palo Alto, CA

## Radical at the Roots

I agree with the general sentiments expressed in Carol Bachelder's letter (October 1989) and join her in welcoming diversity in the approaches animal liberationists take to their work. As a feminist, however, I flinched at the inclusion of feminism—"even feminism," she wrote—as one of the social change movements that "were all radical in their genesis." That past tense hits a sore spot on the psyche. Radical means "going to the root or origin; fundamental," as in "radical change." Isn't that what we still want, we feminists and animal liberationists? I sure as hell hope so.

—Jane Meyering  
Seattle, WA

## Radical Environmentalism Includes Animals

I consider myself a radical environmentalist and am friends with a number of like-minded people. Every one of us is deeply concerned about the suffering of individual animals and has worked against institutions that perpetrate it. Sure, there may be some lofty scientific types in the environmental movement who ignore individual suffering, but I think it's wrong and harmful to characterize most of us that way. I couldn't help but bristle when I saw David Patrice Greanville's harsh assessment of environmentalists (*Animal Intelligence*, October 1989). Instead of slinging mud at each other, we should be doing what Mr. Greanville says we should do—joining forces and reconciling our differences.

## LETTERS

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.

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Thanks also to our 1989 Sustainers. For information on becoming a Benefactor, Patron, Sponsor, or Sustainer, please see page 13 of this issue.

Correction: The Alexander Foundation listed as a Sustainer in the December, 1989 issue should be the Animal Rights Foundation of Florida. Many thanks for an additional contribution!

## MORE LETTERS NEXT PAGE

One more point we need to remember is that the deep ecology movement has its share of provocateurs and government agitators. The forces working against us are doubtless trying hard to see that as wide a gulf as possible is kept between us and our prospective allies. We'd all do well to beware of obviously inflammatory statements and letters, as they may be designed to turn us against each other.

—Leslie Lyon  
Cedar City, UT

## D.P. Greanville replies:

Leslie Lyon is correct in pointing out that many environmentalists care deeply about animals, both in the "abstract," as species, and as individual sentient creatures. This admirable fact, however, does not imply that, as a community of activists with a distinct political agenda and set of marching values, environmentalists are the exact equivalent of animal liberationists. If they were, I wouldn't have written several pieces decrying the gulf that still separates these two crucial forms of activism. A reconciliation is badly needed, but before it can be achieved we must learn to ventilate our differences

in as honest a fashion as possible. Pretending that differences do not exist—whatever the personal exceptions we may find in both camps—is to substitute wishful thinking for the much harder task of building unity on the basis of mutual education and truth.

## The Odd Couple

D.P. Greanville's article "Environmentalists & Animal Rightists—The New Odd Couple?" (*Animal Intelligence*, October 1989) was an interesting read. His is a unique approach toward unifying the two movements. Here's my own guess as to why the "odd couple" might be estranged: environmentalists spend lots of time out in the environment, and it doesn't take long to discover that life is not always pleasant out there. Wild dogs bring down a zebra and begin eating her guts while she's still watching; a gazelle breaks his leg and lies helpless for several days before dying of thirst. Shit happens, but ecosystems and species (hopefully) keep on going anyhow. When one accepts that, the ethical distinction between a lion ripping apart a jackal and a medical student practicing on a dog seems somewhat abstract.

I am very much against needless experimentation and exploitation of animals, but perhaps have a different view of "need" than Greanville does. For instance, pig hunting with dogs in Hawaii is mentioned as an example of "Cruelty in the Islands" on page 42 of the same issue. Perhaps it is cruel, but the fact remains that the killing of feral pigs (and goats) contributes to the preservation of Hawaii's battered biota. In the absence of practical alternatives, hunting should be encouraged, not condemned.

I'm all for dialogue between the movements, but animal liberationists need to accept that most environmentalists have in fact thought out their positions with some care, and I doubt that John Muir—among many others—could be called "unemotional."

—Jim Moore  
San Diego, CA

**Editor's Note:** Yes, there is much misery in "nature," but that provides no rationale for humankind to add to it. On the contrary, if we are moral agents, we have a duty to act in a way that minimizes the suffering of others. When humans have themselves created a situation that threatens the balance of nature or the survival of species (e.g., the feral Hawaiian pigs), they have a special responsibility to correct it in a humane manner. As demonstrated repeatedly by the Fund for Animals, large feral animals can, in most

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## LETTERS

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cases, be successfully relocated. Many times, however, feral animals integrate themselves harmoniously into an ecosystem, filling the niche left by an exterminated or extinct species.

The planetary biota has already been irrevocably altered by intrusive and destructive human activities. As we attempt to preserve what's left of the "natural" world, let's accept the fact that its pristine state will never be recovered. Many feral species are now a part of the natural scheme in many areas; eradicating them may upset the ecological balance further. However, in cases in which there is no alternative but to eliminate feral animals, it should be done in a way that causes as little pain and distress as possible. Hunting animals with dogs is a totally unacceptable means of reducing or eliminating a feral or wild animal population.

### A Need for Unifying Themes

Your October editorial (Page Two) touched on the most significant need of the animal rights movement: cohesion. A thousand individuals and a hundred groups picketing, leafleting, protesting, and writing letters cannot reach the next

plateau of effectiveness without uniting. But this doesn't mean following one dogma as most activists fear; the need is for an umbrella of basic ideals. The immediate need is for an organized effort to implement basic common unifying themes, such as a code of ethics, a hand signal, logo or insignia, rallying song, etc.

The existing national organizations must be challenged to take the first step towards an alliance. Once the top groups form the core of a federation, the rest will fall over themselves to join.

—William R. Sparkes  
Philadelphia, PA

### Ashamed After Bear Hunt

One word describes Merritt Clifton's September (1989) article "Bear-ly There": excellent! In my opinion, the black bear is one of the most abused animals in North America.

A bear hunt was the most disgusting thing I have ever taken part in. A bloody froth ran from the animal's nose and mouth from ruptured lungs before he was killed. A razor-tipped arrow was used to kill the bear, and he didn't die quickly or easily.

Obviously the bloody orgy was gratifying to the egos of the hunters, but it didn't do a thing for me. The predators, men and dogs alike, were overjoyed. I came away from the hunt feeling half sick and ashamed of being a human being.

We humans are indeed peculiar creatures. I think hunting is all a matter of ego—of domination and superiority. Where one finds a feeling of superiority and a need for domination, you will find cruelty, bloodshed, and deprivation of rights.

—Dallas Gragg  
Crossnore, NC

### Nonsectarian Spirituality

Behind all of humanity's abuses is egocentric ignorance. Lobbying, legislation, etc., are aimed at the symptoms only. Nor is merely exposing the illegitimacy of our claims a solution. There is a deep sense of lacking throughout society that causes rational appeals for a simpler lifestyle to go unheard.

How can the underlying problems of clashing egocentricity be resolved unless a theocentric perspective is developed,

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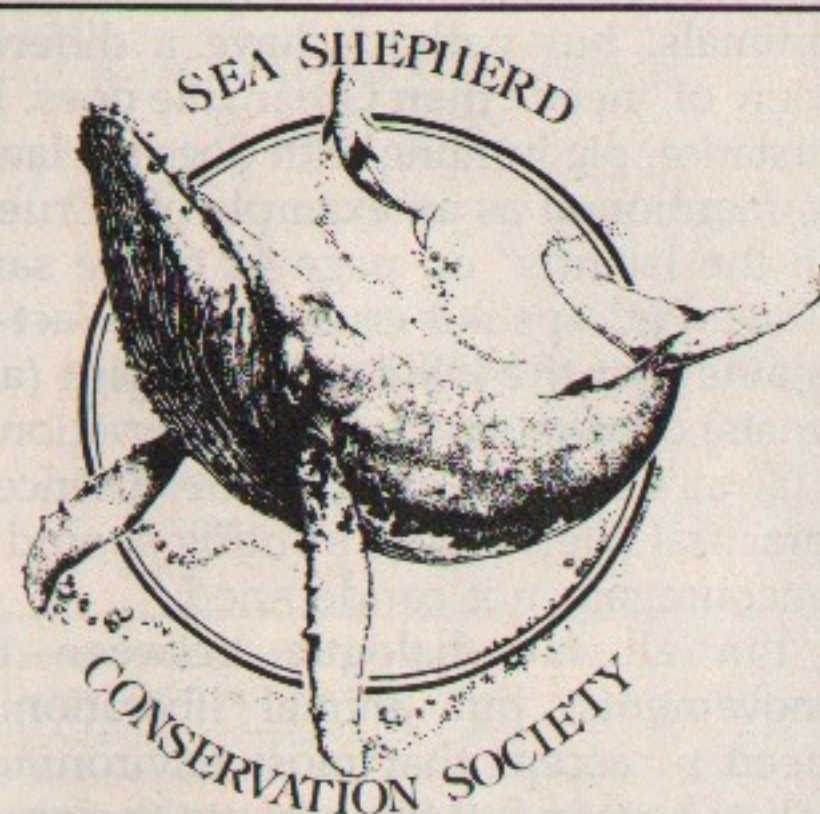
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## LETTERS

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one that sees the cosmic situation as an infinitely complex set of interrelationships dependent on the unifying desire of a transcendental will? The theocentric perspective recognizes all living entities as parts and parcels of God, meant for his benevolent pleasure and not mere objects of our own bodily-centered enjoyment.

Sectarian beliefs aside, we can understand that although there are many body-types (human, bird, etc.), the body is like a vehicle, or dress, and is devoid of life in and of itself. The soul animates, lending consciousness, personality, and a sense of unity and purpose to the body until it leaves at death. Though body-types differ, the souls within are qualitatively equal. Therefore, denial of any creature's rights implies ignorance both of its inherent spirituality and also of one's own.

There is an urgent need to present nonsectarian philosophical consideration of spiritual subject matter, and I hope that The ANIMALS' AGENDA will expand its focus to embrace this perhaps volatile topic, recognizing its profound relevance to the issue of animal rights. We welcome

inquiries and discussion in these regards.

—Brother Lyon  
League of Devotees  
c/o The Vegetarian Gourmet  
414 Semple St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

**Editor's Note:** Any topic relevant to animals or ecology is appropriate for discussion in The ANIMALS' AGENDA. While we intend to remain theologically neutral, we will continue to explore the religious and spiritual aspects of animal rights. As with politics, a concern for animals crosses the boundaries of institutional religion, spirituality, paganism, agnosticism, and atheism. We see this marvelous diversity of belief among our subscribers, and consider it one of the animal rights movement's greatest strengths.

## Charges of Antisemitism Unwarranted

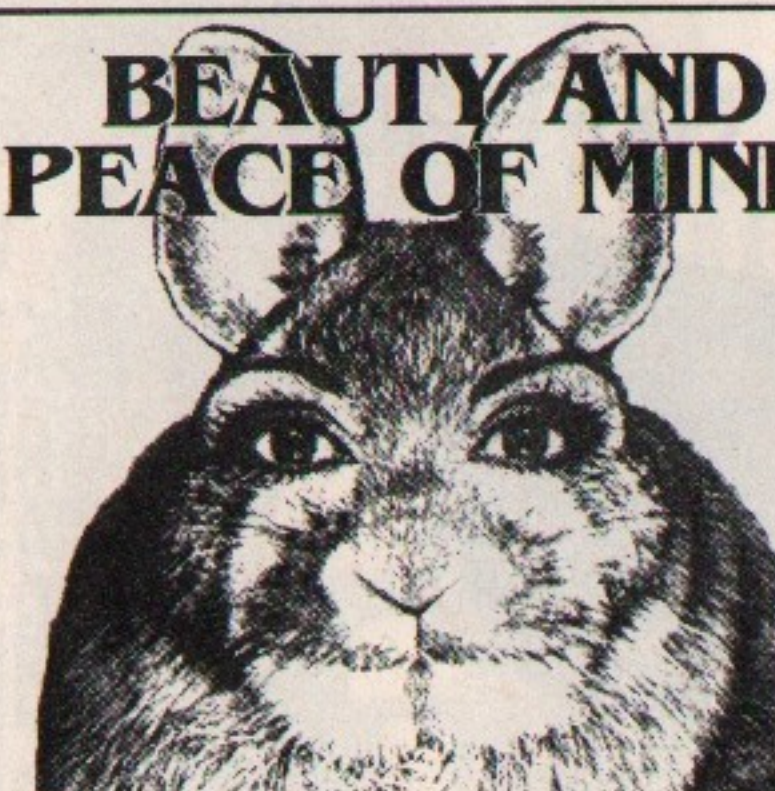
Alan Beck's letter in the October (1989) issue is such a peculiar fusion of discordant categories and allusions that it is almost incoherent. The statement that Jews "are often viewed as being atheistic" dates back to the early Romans who view-

ed the Jews' worship of an invisible god as atheistic; the use of "atheistic" as a description of a non-Christian has hardly been used since the days of El Cid and the identification of Muslims as "infidels." (Even Jews weren't called "infidels" in the Middle Ages.)

Beck does not name the "objective historians" who assert this, so we have no way of checking on these "objective" assertions. Nor do I have any idea of what it is "Goering was in a position to know" (again he doesn't tell us), or why we should accept Goering's view of anything. The Nazis' view of Jews was based on a biological metaphor (they were obsessed with biological science), not a theological one. As for R.D. French's statement with respect to antisemitism and antivivisectionism, here is what he said: "It is clear...that the association of antisemitism with antivivisection was not the product of bona fide theological issues, but rather of the particular mentality of certain spokesmen for the movement. There were Jews who actively supported the cause, according to no less an authority than Frances Power Cobbe."

Continued on page 50

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## MEDICINE: IN LAY TERMS

BY NEAL D. BARNARD, M.D.

# The Smallpox Vaccine

**A**dvocates of animal experimentation often cite the smallpox vaccine as a product of animal research. With help from the vaccine, smallpox has been eradicated from the face of the earth. But a review of history shows that animal laboratories played no role at all in the discovery of the vaccine.

Various forms of inoculation against smallpox occurred as long ago as the 11th century. Early attempts used diluted specimens from pustules of people who suffered a mild form of the disease. In 1774, an English farmer, Benjamin Jesty, inoculated his family using specimens from cowpox. Medical history has given the credit for the discovery to Edward Jenner, who wrote of his discovery in 1798. Jenner had observed that an infection from the heels of horses could be passed to cows' udders and, in turn, could infect people milking cows. Cowpox, as it was called, caused sores on the hands, with fatigue, chills, and

vomiting. Remarkably, affected individuals were observed to become immune to smallpox, even when in close contact with smallpox victims. Jenner took samples from cowpox pustules and inoculated healthy people with them, and later exposed these subjects to smallpox,



finding that this vaccine conferred immunity. Jenner wrote:

*...what renders the cow-pox virus so extremely singular is that the person who has been thus afflicted is forever after secure from the infection of the small-pox; neither exposure to the various effluvia, nor the insertion of the matter into the skin, producing this distemper.*

Jenner did observe cowpox naturally occurring in animals on farms. But his research was entirely based on humans.

**Note on fast-food restaurants:** In my October column, I indicated that it was possible to obtain vegan meals at fast-food restaurants. A reader from Kentucky wrote to say that there is animal fat in Taco Bell's bean burrito and that Burger King's buns and french fries also contain animal fat shortening. I have discussed this with representatives of both companies who tell me that the use of lard does not conform to either company's policy, and that H&S Bakery, which makes the buns for many of the East Coast Burger Kings, includes no animal products whatsoever. However, individual franchises might cut a corner or two, so do not hesitate to question and complain. And consider displaying a "Meat is Murder" bumper sticker as you go by the drive-through window.

Dr. Barnard is president of the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, P.O. Box 6322, Washington, DC 20015; (202) 686-2210.

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# Peggy McCay: Days of Her Life

As an only child growing up in New York, Peggy McCay had a recurring dream. "I was living in an enormous redwood tree in the forest with animals all around," she recalls. "It was pouring rain, so I got up and opened the door of my tree. I said to the animals, 'You can come in here where it's nice and warm. I've got food for you.' I had that dream over and over when I was a kid."

Nearly four decades later a dream of a different sort inspired Peggy's involvement in the animal rights movement. By then the child "who was always bringing home strays and feeding cats in the basement" was working as an actress and living in Los Angeles. When she saw a news report describing the use of decompression chambers in California's animal shelters, she "almost went berserk."

"I couldn't believe that those poor, unwanted animals were sent to their deaths in torture," says Peggy. "I had nightmares for a month."

Haunted by these images, Peggy responded at once when she saw a notice that had been placed in a library by Alice Grant, a resolute champion of animals who was looking for volunteers to work with her in dismantling the decompression chambers. It would take five years' tenacity to achieve this goal. By then Alice had become Peggy's friend, mentor, and inspiration. They remained close until Alice's death last year.

"Alice was one of the most exceptional people I have ever met," says Peggy. "Hers was a life of total dedication to animals."

And that, in great measure, is what Peggy McCay's life has become: a life dedicated to the proposition that "there should be no cruelty permitted to any animal—in research, farming, the performing arts, anywhere." In service to that belief, Peggy makes "about a dozen" public appearances each year for various animal rights groups or causes; she works with the Los Angeles SPCA on a variety of projects; she includes information about animal care and animal rights issues in newsletters to her fans; she lobbies state and federal legislators and testifies at hearings; and she's always ready to find a home for a stray or to participate in a demonstration.

"Peggy is a tireless worker," says Diana Baseheart, founder of the National Coalition to Stop Pound Seizure. "I've been in the movement since 1971, and there have been few people who have impressed me as much as Peggy has. She is absolutely dedicated to helping animals, and the knowledge she brings to the movement is rare."

Peggy McCay won her first acting job, a role on television's *Kraft Summer Theater*, when she was newly graduated, at 19, from Barnard College. She has appeared in four TV series and numerous movies, both feature-length and made for TV, and she is the only person ever nominated for a daytime and a prime-time Emmy in the same year. For the last three and a half years she has played Caroline Brady on *Days of Our Lives*, the second-longest-running daytime serial on TV. Her dressing room is easy to locate on the set: it's the one papered with bulletins and newsletters from animal rights groups—an expression of her belief in education as a means of eliminating animal abuse.

"I don't think people are uncaring," says Peggy. "I think they're uninformed. Or worse yet, misinformed by agribusiness and research interests, who do everything they can to hide what they're really about."

To divert this festering tide of self-righteous cant, Peggy uses any pulpit at her disposal. Thus, she is wont to turn interviews into seminars on factory farming or the aberrations of the biomedical establishment. In a recent issue of *Daytime Digest*



that was devoted to the personalities and permutations on *Days of Our Lives*, Peggy informed her fans that she feels "better than ever" since she became a vegetarian, that it takes 2,500 gallons of water to produce one pound of beef, and that if "America cut back 10 percent of its meat eating, we would have enough grain to feed the hungry people of the world."

The response to this sort of message is one of the most satisfying aspects of Peggy's animal rights endeavors. "For example, she relates, 'a young person came up to me recently and said, 'I've been working for animals ever since I read the literature you put out.'"

Peggy, of course, made sure that that person received additional literature; and this, says Sergeant Corey Whetstone, investigations officer for the Los Angeles SPCA, is what makes Peggy special. "Peggy will work with anyone who shares her convictions," says Whetstone. "She isn't like some celebrities who will only work with other stars or with big-name groups."

Indeed, in that great redwood shelter Peggy McCay envisioned in her youth, there's a place for all God's creatures and his workers, too.

—Phil Maggitti

# Priscilla Feral: In for the Long Haul

When Priscilla Feral went to work for Friends of Animals in 1974, the organization's founding president Alice Herrington told her, "Your job is to make trouble and create controversy." Which is like somebody telling Mike Tyson today that his job is to separate people from their senses. "I was a feminist," says Feral, now the president of FoA, "and I was angry about a lot of things."

In the five years since she had graduated from Centenary College, Feral had gone through one marriage and three jobs. She was "sick and tired of a patriarchal society in which men made all the decisions." She "felt particularly hindered by an employment system that valued women for the support they could lend to a man but that seldom permitted them any kind of autonomy." And she wasn't satisfied with the choice of epithets available to a woman soon to be divorced: her married name or her old one. "I wanted a name that wasn't dependent on my relationship with a man," says Feral, "a name that was going to be mine and was not going to change."

What she chose was a *nom de guerre*, an advertisement for herself inspired by a publicity photo taken for Friends of Animals. As she explained recently to a writer from *Northeast* magazine, "I had long hair, and the wind was blowing, and I was holding a cat. A friend of mine saw the photo and said, 'You look feral.' It means a domestic animal that's gone wild. I guess that's what I am."

It doesn't get much more domestic than Westport, Connecticut, where Priscilla Brockway spent a secure, doted-on, suburban, upper middle-class childhood. Her mother sculpted and painted and officiated at flower shows. Her father made an ample living in insurance. The Bible was the bestselling nonfiction book three years in a row (1952 through '54), and paint-by-number kits were a symbol for a gray-flannel decade.

But living by the numbers didn't add up for Priscilla, and Westport might just as well have been Walden Pond for the influence it had on her. "As long as I can remember," she says, "my joy came from nature and from animals and from bonding with them." Relationships with people were important, too, but they were also more trouble to maintain.

Given this propensity, her emerging feminism, and her lifelong identification with the victims of the world, you don't have to be Jimmy the Greek to figure that the odds of Feral's achieving self-fulfillment in the business community were slim to slimmer—even if she could type and take shorthand at 100 words a minute. She lasted two and a half years at Pepperidge Farm, which she quit "to get out of the secretarial caste system"; and she lasted three months at Richardson-Merrill, a pharmaceutical company where she was hired as an administrative assistant.

"I discovered that they were testing products on monkeys and stockpiling whale oil for use in Oil of Olay," says Feral. "This was two years after the United States had gotten out of whaling. So I quit and called the Department of Commerce to investigate Richardson-Merrill."

By this time, mid-1974, Feral had been involved with the National Organization for Women for several years. She attended consciousness-raising sessions "every Thursday night from 1971 to 1978," and served as president of the first Connecticut chapter of NOW. Her association with NOW prompted her to visit an employment counselor who specialized in helping women with career changes. As a result, she applied for a job with Friends of Animals, "because that's where my heart was."



She was hired "on the spot" as Alice Herrington's assistant, and when Herrington learned that she had majored in radio and television, with a minor in English, Feral became Friends of Animals' public information director as well. For two and a half years she commuted to New York City from Georgetown, Connecticut; then, about the time she remarried, she persuaded Herrington to open an FoA office in Connecticut. By 1981 Feral was the New England director for the organization. Six years later she became its president.

She hadn't been president long when she and Friends of Animals were vaulted into prominence after Fran Stephanie Trutt was arrested in the parking lot of U.S. Surgical Corporation of Norwalk, Connecticut in November of 1988. Though Trutt was not a member of FoA, she had participated in the

Continued on next page



Continued from previous page

group's rallies at U.S. Surgical. These protests had begun in 1981 in reaction to U.S. Surgical's "consumption" of nearly 1,000 dogs annually for demonstrating its surgical staples. Leon Hirsch, president of U.S. Surgical and the alleged target of the pipe bomb, accused Feral of inciting "unstable people" to violence (exactly what, it seems, *he* may have done). Among other things, Feral accused Hirsch of hiring someone to plant a bug in FoA's phone system. Hirsch vehemently denied this, but he did admit that he had hired spies to monitor Trutt's activities and to infiltrate animal rights groups—though he insisted that he hadn't set up Trutt in any way.

It is ironic that Friends of Animals should have made news for its non-association with Fran Trutt, for FoA is a group "that does an incredible amount of good while maintaining a low profile," says Wally Swett, president of Primarily Primates. Swett's first association with Priscilla Feral occurred several years ago when they were involved in rescuing animals from a roadside zoo in Louisiana. Feral had learned about the vile conditions at the zoo while she was attending a movement conference in Louisiana.

"There were people from other groups who were concerned," says Swett, "but Priscilla was the only one who said 'let's do something about it' and did. Within two weeks the case was resolved. It might have dragged on for a long time otherwise."

Swett praises FoA for being an association where "the case



comes first, not publicity or financial gain," and he praises Feral for her "total honesty" and resilience. "It's so refreshing to have someone tell you exactly what's on her mind," says Swett. "If Priscilla has a criticism or objection, she'll voice it. And yet, she's always up. If she gets knocked down, she'll come back smiling."

Feral's hardiness is part nature—"I want to believe we have a democratic society and that anything is possible"—and part nurture—"when you've participated in other movements, you realize that what happens in the animal rights movement is not unique."

Not unique, but nonetheless troublesome. "What frustrates me about the animal rights movement," says Feral, "is the despair that people experience because they don't understand the stages necessary to bring success in a movement. People need to realize that success in a social movement takes time. You can't turn around an industry or create sweeping change in a two-year period. You've got to be in it for the long haul."

Feral also believes that the animal rights community needs to become politically sophisticated. "The apolitical nature of some activists bothers me," she says, "especially the people who think you should create other parties. They're never going to get anywhere with that. They need to figure out which party they want to belong to and then to educate the people of that party and mobilize them into making our issue a platform issue."

With a membership of 104,000 and a catalog of concerns that

ranges from an animal orphanage and rehabilitation center in Liberia to a spay-and-neuter program in the United States, Friends of Animals is one of the most effective animal rights organizations in this country. And in the opinion of FoA board member Valerie Rintoul, Priscilla Feral is "one of the most effective and energetic spokespersons in the movement."

"I first met Priscilla at five in the morning on a hunt sabotage on Long Island about 10 years ago," says Rintoul. "I was not a member of the animal rights movement at the time, but I was impressed with Priscilla's energy and dedication. She does a tremendous job of getting her message across, and she's able to juggle a number of projects successfully at one time."

That, no doubt, is because Feral believes in the notion that work is good for people. "I've heard a lot of talk in the movement about burnout," she says. "That comes from having expectations that are unrealistic. Instead, we ought to think about giving more than we take. What I would recommend to anybody trying to get a job in the movement is that they be willing to be 'exploited.' You have to be willing to be valuable to someone, even if it means working long hours and accepting wages that might not be as good as you could make somewhere else."

Or to paraphrase novelist Fannie Hurst, an activist has to work twice as hard as the opposition in order to succeed.

—Phil Maggitti

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# Who's A Stinker?

## Not The Skunk.

Walking into the woodshed barefoot without flicking the light on, I thought I'd stepped on a cat's tail. But the cat didn't yowl. As I withdrew my foot and yanked the light cord, I saw the tail actually belonged to a full-grown mama skunk, who'd been nibbling kibble at the cats' dish. She could have sprayed me from head to foot, but she didn't. The look in her eyes just said, "You clumsy jerk!", and then she went back to her meal, paying me no further attention.

Named "Guy Lafleur" by other family members, after the Montreal hockey star whose name means "the flower" in French, our skunk arrived during one of Quebec's coldest springs. The ground was frozen too hard for her to root out hibernating June bugs, her favorite food later in the year, so she shouldered through our horde of semiferal black-and-white barn cats and ate with them for a month or two. The cats, normally a quarrelsome lot, accepted her without dispute. She sprayed only once, when a young tom tried to mount her, but she didn't give him a full blast—just enough to deter him, as I saw myself through a window. Like the cats, she'd rattle the food pan if she found it empty. She was otherwise an unobtrusive, gentle guest, who even tolerated teasing from my obnoxious former brother-in-law without raising her legendary stink.

Half a mile down the road, neighbors who kept chickens often ran over skunks deliberately, or shot them on sight, alleging they stole eggs and killed hens. Their farm stank of skunk. Dead skunk.

Our skunk stayed until fall, bringing a male companion in August and September. They'd quarrel over the food pan, screeching like blue jays, but never sprayed each other. Come October, the skunk brought nine half-grown kittens, who tagged along and played so much like cat-kittens that one of our spayed housecats, retaining a strong maternal instinct, joined the skunk in keeping watch over them. They stayed an hour, long enough to pay respects, then returned permanently to the nearby woods. Stories of friendly, affectionate, well-behaved skunks are common among people who have come to know them. Recalls Cleveland Amory, president of the Fund for Animals, "Ernest Thompson Seton, the writer who was my boy-

hood idol, said the skunk was 'the noblest creature that ever went four-footed through the woods.' He said this because skunks never, ever spray their own kind. They use their spray only in totally life-threatening situations, and they always warn twice before spraying. They'll stomp once, twice, and then spray only if they have to. No other animal gives such a warning. They never use their spray as an offensive weapon."

The henhouse damage our neighbors blamed on skunks was probably actually done by raccoons. Skunks will eat eggs and birds if they can catch them, but are poor climbers and slow afoot. The common striped skunk is an insectivore, primarily, who also eats small rodents, frogs, and toads as chance permits. The Allegany and Prairie spotted skunks go mousing in winter, crayfishing in summer, but

likewise base their diet on insects for most of the year. The hog-nosed skunk of the southwest is almost entirely an insectivore, while the northern hooded skunk, found only in southern Arizona and northern Mexico, tends toward vegetarianism.

Like raccoons, skunks adapt readily to human invasion of their habitat. Long before I met my Quebec skunk, I knew a skunk who lived quietly under a mailbox on busy Spruce Street in Berkeley, California. Observing him by moonlight, I became aware of a substantial skunk population throughout the city, whose presence most residents never suspected. Digging up grubs, aerating the hard-packed soil of curb strips and neglected yards, they ask of us only tolerance—and have survived, despite aggressive intolerance, where most other wildlife has long been extinct.

BY MERRITT CLIFTON



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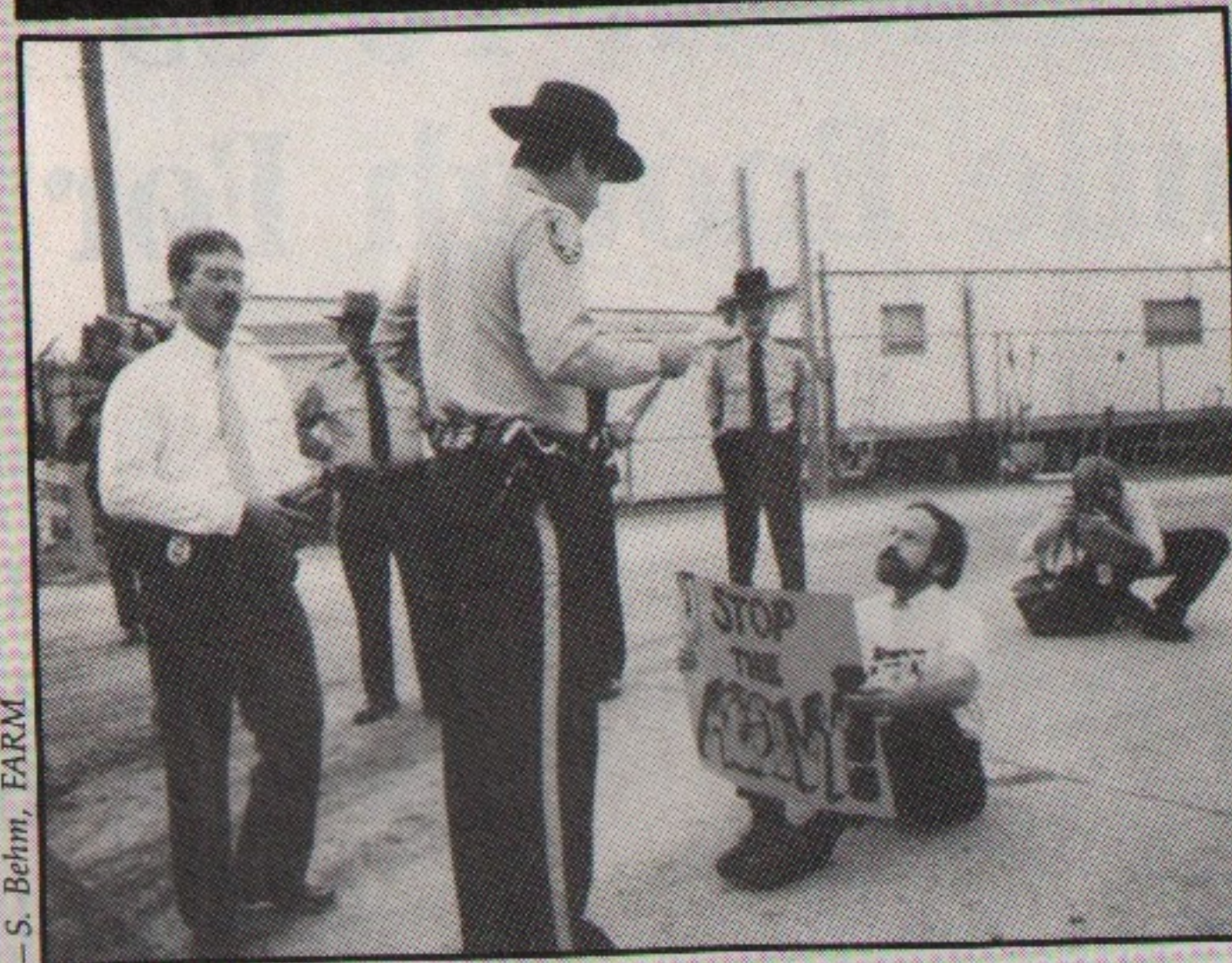
### Tactics

Lawrence Carter, United Cerebral Palsy poster child for 1972, is available to speak against animal-based health research c/o the Health Care Consumer Network, 5100 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 404, Washington DC 20016; 202-686-2210. Speakers and letters are also available from Disabled and Incurably Ill for Alternatives to Animal Research, c/o Dorene Schultz, 43 Old Mountain Rd., Lebanon, NJ 08833; 201-236-6181. ♦ The St. Louis Animal Rights Team takes a portable literature booth to local fairs and public events. Get how-to tips from them at P.O. Box 28501, St. Louis, MO 63146; 314-851-0928. ♦ The Santa Cruz SPCA recently teamed with eight local veterinary hospitals to subsidize \$10 neutering operations on 200 cats. ♦ Red Rock Animal Rights, of Sedona, Arizona, maintains a public notice board for animal-related announcements. ♦ EndTrap is mobilizing Vermonters to push for a statewide leghold trap ban during the 1990 legislative session. Call 802-425-3661. ♦ Animal Rights International placed a full-page ad in the October 20 *New York Times* pointing out that Perdue Farms hens get four times more space in an average oven than when they were alive. Other groups are invited to run the ad; write Box 214, Planetarium Stn., New York, NY 10024.

### Actions

Six members of the Farm Animal Reform Movement were arrested October 3, the seventh annual World Farm Animals Day, for blocking three-tier hog trucks as they tried to unload at the Smithfield Foods Co. slaughterhouse in Smithfield, Virginia. Nearly 50 protests were held across the U.S., Europe, and Australia. ♦ In Defense of

EDITED BY MERRITT CLIFTON



Alex Hershaft of FARM blocking the way at a Virginia slaughterhouse.

Animals staged protests in 12 cities October 10 to launch a boycott of Procter and Gamble products (including Tide, Ivory, Safeguard, Joy, Downy, Mr. Clean, and Spic and Span). ♦ People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals picketed the appearance of a live baby elephant, in black tie, at a Washington D.C. Republican Inner Circle banquet. ♦ The Rocky Mountain Humane Society picketed the farewell tour of animal trainer Gunther Gebel-Williams with the Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus. ♦ Groups including the International Society for Animal Rights, the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, and the Medical Research Modernization Committee recently protested animal addiction studies at Yale. According to ISAR, funds for one study at Yale (\$687,927) are "more than double the amount of special budgetary funds available for drug outpatient treatment last year for the entire state of Connecticut."

### Victories

Wilson, North Carolina activists won revocation of a city order to kill pigeons,

starlings, crows, sparrows, and gulls. ♦ The Coalition to Protect Animals in Parks and Refuges, Wyoming County SPCA, and Committee Against Sport Hunting persuaded the New York State Parks Department to use box traps only in removing nuisance raccoons from camping and picnic areas at Letchworth State Park.

♦ Responding to protest by Concerned Arizonans for Animal Rights and Ethics, Reay's Ranch Markets no longer sell milk-fed veal. Thank Reay's at 6565 East Grant Rd., Tucson, AZ 85715. ♦ Students Organized for Animal Rights (SOAR) got Marriott, the University of Vermont food concessionaire, to offer \$3.35 albacore sandwiches for a two-day period as an alternative to \$2.19 yellowfin sandwiches, made from tuna netted "on dolphin." The albacore sandwiches markedly outsold the yellowfin. But what about a vegetarian alternative?

### Rodeo

Rhode Island has enacted a ban on the violent, traditional form of rodeo calf-roping. St. Petersburg, Florida refused to revoke a 12-year-old rodeo ban

despite heavy pressure from promoters. ♦ While Polaroid has ceased sponsoring rodeos in response to critical letters, Wrigley Co. has answered complaints about gum ads featuring rodeo by admitting, "we were unaware of all the issues... surrounding the use of animals in rodeos," and has promised to "keep them in mind as we plan future advertising."

### Petition

Over 13,000 physicians have signed a petition demanding U.S. Surgical cease teaching sales staff to demonstrate surgical staples on live dogs. Verified by an independent auditor, the petition has been presented to U.S. Surgical president Leon Hirsch by the Physicians' Committee for Responsible Medicine. Hirsch, who hired the agents provocateurs who set up an attempted bombing of U.S. Surgical in November, 1988, reportedly claimed the petition came from "terrorists."

### Anti-Vivisection

The National Association of Biology Teachers asks teachers who use alternatives to dissection to share their methods. Write or call Rosaline Hairston, 11250 Roger Bacon Drive, # 19, Reston, VA 22090; 703-471-1134. ♦ Cellserv provides low-cost cell culture experiments to high school biology teachers, underwritten by the American Fund for Alternatives to Animal Research. Inquire c/o Center for Advanced Training, 103 McCort Ward Bldg., The Catholic University of America, Washington DC 20064. ♦ The Student Action Corps for Animals helps students opt out of dissection labs, at P.O. Box 15588, Washington, DC 20003-0588. ♦ Activist Dita Weiss has obtained male and female white rabbits, female white guinea pigs,

and male and female white mice who were slated for euthanasia at a South Florida research lab. The animals need homes, in the South Florida area only, open to Weiss for inspection, and may not be sold or bred. All are healthy; none are deformed. Call Weiss at 305-221-7737. ♦ Scott Fishel's one-act antivivisection play *Talk To The Animals* debuted recently at the Helms Theatre of the University of Virginia.

### People

Sixth grader Violet Bailey won a youth deer hunting permit from the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission—and attended the "instructional" hunt, where she was outnumbered 39-to-1, to protest against it. ♦ Aided by friends, the late Jim Ricketts of Columbus, Ohio helped fixed-income elderly people by feeding their companion animals—an average of 500 a day. His widow Mary continues the project. ♦ Attorney Leonard Marks marked the St. Francis Day "Blessing of the Beasts" at New York's Cathedral of St. John the Divine by donating a new pair of gates with a quotation from Indian sage Black Elk: "Teach me to walk the soft earth, a relative to all that live." ♦ Author Roberta Kalechofsky has received a commemorative plaque from the Jewish Vegetarian Society. ♦ State University of New York at Stony Brook researcher Diane Doran has been named director of the Karisoke Research Center in Rwanda, founded by the late Diane Fossey.

### Legal Actions

The American SPCA, Bide-A-Wee Home Assn., and two individuals have sued the State University of New York at Stony Brook, seeking release of complete animal experiment protocols under the state's Freedom of Infor-

mation law. The suit follows up a recent state Supreme Court ruling that SUNY animal care and use committee meetings must be opened. ♦ International Research and Development Corp., a major user of animals in lab tests, has threatened to sue activists who sparked protest against its takeover of the once-cruelty-free Carme personal care products company. (See *Animal Newsline*, December 1989.)

### Letters

The Animal Protection Institute of America requests letters to the USDA, asking that the required method of marking cattle in the Brucellosis Eradication Program be changed from hot-iron face branding to freeze branding or other less painful methods. Write Dr. Bill Johnson, USDA-APHIS, Veterinary Services, Administration Bldg., Room 320-E, Washington, DC 20094. ♦ Bills now in the House and Senate would extend the Magnuson Conservation and Management Act to stop drift netting for tuna in the Gulf of Mexico. Write your Senators and Represen-

tatives. ♦ Tell *Omni* the page of recipes for cooking companion animals in its November issue wasn't funny, at 1965 Broadway, New York, NY 10023-5965. ♦ The cosmetics maker Helene Curtis still uses the Draize test, dropped by major rivals, in which substances are put into the eyes of restrained rabbits. Protest to Ronald Gidwitz, president, Helene Curtis Inc., 325 N. Wells St., Chicago, IL 60610-4713. ♦ The Human/Animal Liberation Front requests letters to Reuben Mark, president, Colgate Palmolive, 300 Park Ave., NY 10022, seeking exercise runs and social activity for dogs used in plaque experiments at the firm's Piscataway Laboratory. ♦ Protest promotion of exotic leather items on QVS, a cable shopping channel usually sensitive to animals, at 985 Ivy Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601-1119. ♦ Protest a new Gap Kids t-shirt line that uses conservation messages to promote duck hunting, fox hunting, fly fishing, field trials, and (apparently) trapping, to Rick Lyons, vice president, Gap Kids, 1 Harrison St.,

San Francisco, CA 94105. ♦ Protest public service ads showing the effects of cocaine on primates to Merrill Kempfert, Parkside Medical Services Corp., 205 W. Touhy Ave., Park Ridge, IL 60068. ♦ Furs, including some for children, are prominent in the new Bloomingdale's catalog. Protest to the firm at 475 Knotter Drive, Cheshire, CT 06410-1130. ♦ Ask Woolworth's chairman Harold Sells to stop selling live animals at 233 Broadway, Woolworth Bldg., New York, NY 10279. ♦ Thank CBS president Kim LeMasters for airing *Frog Girl*, the story of antivivisection high school student Jennifer Graham, at 7800 Beverly Blvd., 3rd Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90036. Also thank producers David Eagle and David Horowitz, Eagle/Horowitz Ltd., 2230 Hillsboro, Los Angeles, CA 90034. ♦ Model letters on animal, environmental, social justice, consumer, and peace issues are available from The Resource Connection, P.O. Box 1491, Elk Grove Village, IL 60009; 312-640-6288.

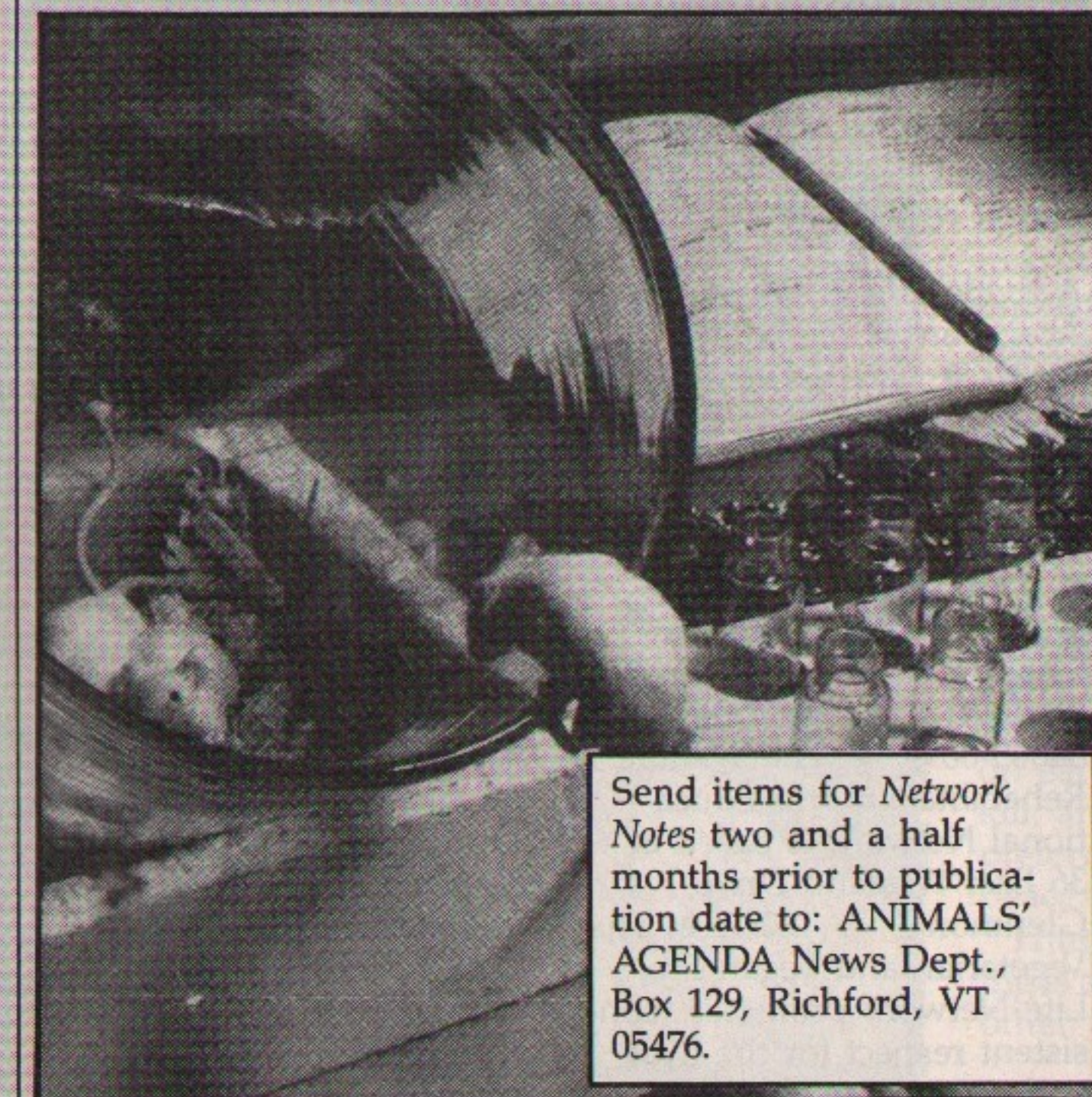
### Countering Biomedical Industry

In Defense of Animals asks activists to call Procter & Gamble's toll-free number, 1-800-543-0485, on January 3 to protest the firm's use of animal research and leading role in organizing the current national campaign in support of biomedical research. Letters may be sent to P&G at P.O. Box 599, Cincinnati, OH 45201, along with returned products. Call In Defense of Animals at 513-793-2146 for details on demonstrations slated for numerous cities in February and March.

### Networking

Wayne Pacelle seeks addresses for a master list of student animal rights groups c/o The Fund for Animals,

Continued on next page



Send items for *Network Notes* two and a half months prior to publication date to: ANIMALS' AGENDA News Dept., Box 129, Richford, VT 05476.



## NETWORK NOTES

Continued from previous page  
333 Washington St., Suite 850, Boston, MA 02108; 617-589-0522. ♦ Chip Roberson is setting up AREN, the Animal Rights Electronic Network, at 1328-F Mt. Vernon Ave., Williamsburg, VA 23185. CompuServe users can reach AREN at INTERNET:animal-rights-request xanth.cs.odu.edu.

♦ New York women are invited to bus with Feminists for Animal Rights to Washington D.C. for the June 10 March for the Animals (\$24 round trip). Call Batya Bauman, 212-866-6422. ♦ The Coalition for Pet Population Control needs Los Angeles County volunteers to staff a hotline during a low-cost spay/neuter campaign. Call 215-256-0556. ♦ The National Anti-Vivisection Society aids local groups via Neighbors Organized for Animals and Health, 53 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 1550, Chicago, IL 60604. ♦ Dial 800-540-SPCA to report animal abuse in Los Angeles County, California. ♦ The New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance invites New Jersey residents to exhibit or perform at an upcoming Arts and Animals Festival; entry deadline is January 31. Call 201-855-9092 for details.

♦ The Schweitzer Center is sponsoring a conference on Animals, Ethics & Social Policy at the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California, February 16-17. For details, write to P.O. Box 254, Berkeley, CA 94701; or call 415-526-5346. ♦ FoA and ISAR are cosponsoring a demonstration against the Moscow Circus at Radio City Music Hall on January 10; meet at 5:00PM at Rockefeller Plaza and 50th St.

### New Groups

The National Society for Animal Protection debuted with a call to suspend bear hunting in Michigan for three to five years, pending population review. NSAP is located at 100 N. Crooks Rd., Suite 102, Clawson, MI 48017; 313-443-9800.

♦ WILD (Wilderness Is the

Last Dream) is publishing a set of international wilderness maps, and plans a conference for June 18-23 in Hawaii. Get details from the Western Canada Wilderness Committee, 20 Water Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1A4 Canada. ♦ The National Assn. for the Advancement of Humane Education has changed names, to the National Assn. for Humane and Environmental Education. The NAHEE magazine, *Children & Animals* has been retitled *Kind Teacher* and transformed into an 80-page annual set of classroom activities, priced at \$18, from NAHEE, 67 Salem Rd., East Haddam, CT 06423. ♦ Animals for Animals has formed c/o San Francisco State University Student

unborn children" c/o 38 Pallant House, Tabard St., Southwark, London SE1 4YD, U.K. ♦ The League for Environmental and Animal Protection is organizing opposition to the University of Georgia's proposed Biocontainment Research Center at the University of Georgia campus in Athens. The \$13 million, high-security center would primarily probe diseases of confinement-raised farm animals. ♦ The Trent Animal Rights Assn., a new student group, has formed at 561 Bethune St., Peterborough, Ontario K9H 3Z7, Canada. ♦ Illinois Citizens for Humane Legislation is currently working on prohibiting the Draize and skin irritancy tests. To help, call

has published Volume 3 of its *Humane Innovations and Alternatives in Animal Experimentation* notebook, \$12 from PsyETA, P.O. Box 87, New Gloucester, ME 04260. Papers are solicited for Volume 4. ♦ The SG Newsletter reports on activities of the Animal Liberation Front; \$50/year, ALF Supporters Group, BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX, United Kingdom. ♦ The Marin (California) Humane Society keeps a lending library of audiovisual material for classroom use; call 415-883-3522. ♦ A list of movies involving cruelty to animals plus addresses to write in protest is available from the Coalition to Protect Animals in Entertainment, P.O. Box 2448, Riverside, CA 92516; 716-682-7872.

### Seal-Watching

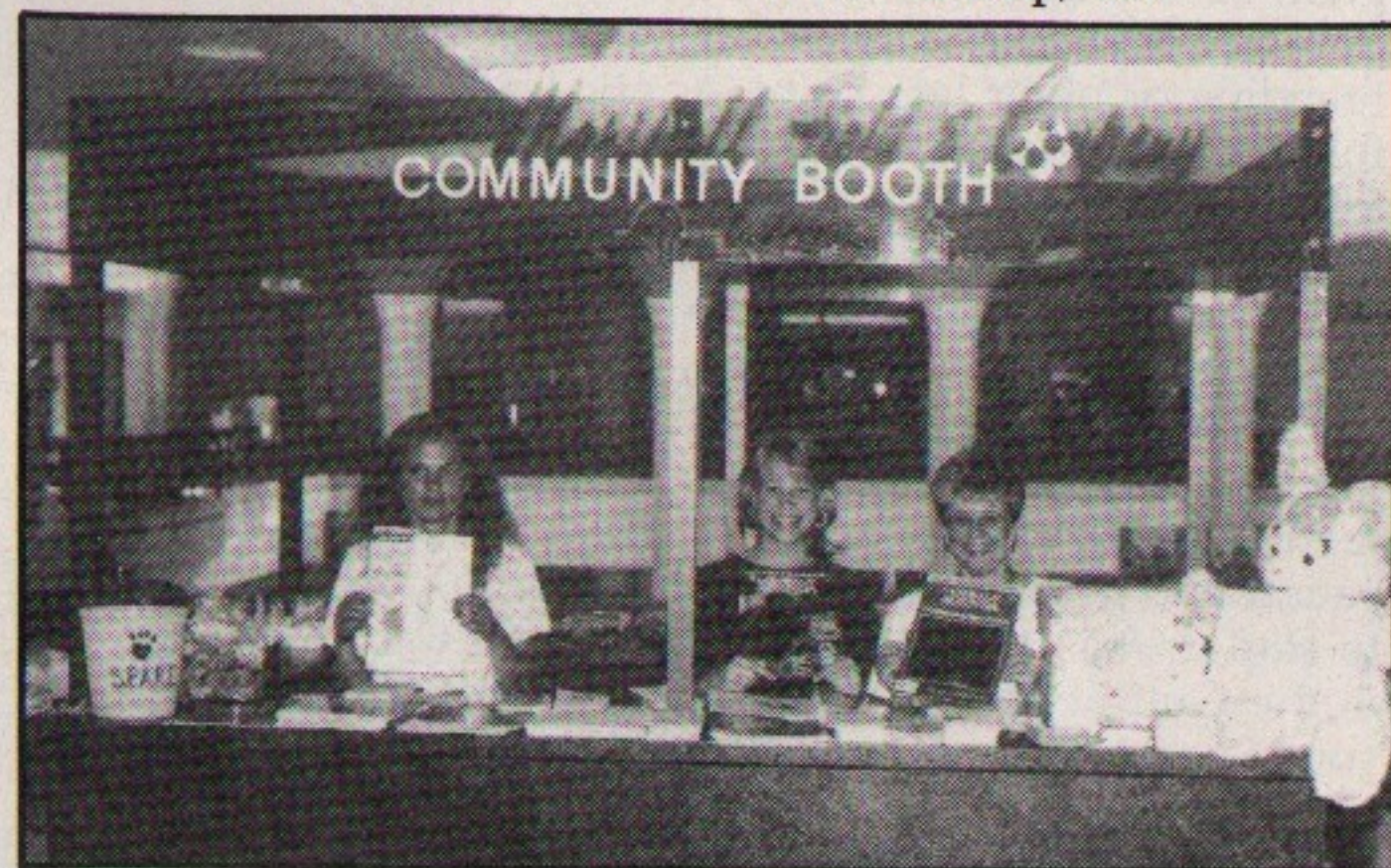
National Habitat Wildlife Adventures is taking reservations from seal-watchers through March 1, at 1-800-543-8917; 201-209-4747 in New Jersey. The visits to Atlantic Canada cost \$1,275-\$1,995. Though the clubbing of newborn harp seals is over, and tourism now boosts the local economy as much as seal hunting once did, the infant seals are still massacred by rifle fire as soon as their coats begin turning grey.

### ASPCA Groundbreaking

The New York City Industrial Development Agency has issued \$22.8 million bond financing to build a new American SPCA national headquarters and shelter in Manhattan. ASPCA shelters took in 81,348 animals in 1988, rescuing 26,460 by ambulance, placing 17,736. The ASPCA's 15 investigators handled 16,355 cruelty cases, issuing 2,820 citations, convicting 339 people, many on multiple counts.

### Offerings

Katuah Journal covers habitat issues in the Southeast; \$10/year, Box 638, Leicester, NC 28748. ♦ *Perspectives On Animal Research* is a new scholarly annual from the Medical Research Modernization Committee, P.O. Box 6036 Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163-6018. ♦ Psychologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals



Barb Carter, Erin Johnson, and Beth Garard (left to right) of Society for the Protection of Animal Rights and Ethics (Rockford, IL) distribute *The ANIMALS' AGENDA* along with animal rights literature when tabling at local malls.

Activities, 1600 Holloway Ave., San Francisco, CA 94132. ♦ The Society for Texas Animal Rights has grown out of the Animal Connection of Texas, at 5533 Martel, Dallas, TX 75206. ♦ The Student Animal Welfare Group, Utah Chapter, has set up at P.O. Box 691, Riverton, UT 84065-0691. ♦ The Wildlife Rehabilitation and Educational Network is based at 36 East Wiggand Drive, Glenmont, NY 12077. ♦ The Vegetarian and Vegan Pro-Life Network promotes "consistent respect for the lives and rights of animals and

BY WAYNE PACELLE

# When the Nonhunting Majority Speaks,

The life of a fighter of crime is sometimes as dangerous as the life of a perpetrator of crime. Anyone who knows about urban crime—such as crack dealing and drug running—realizes that cops from New York to Los Angeles live and work at some risk to life and limb.

But for a law enforcement officer, no city street can compare for danger with the backwoods of Maine, the high mountains of Idaho, or the deep swamps of Georgia. No, there's not much drug running in those parts, just deer and bear running and quail and pheasant flushing—and frequently some beer and whiskey guz-

and the other in the desert for coyotes to consume. He remained a fugitive for 18 months. Remarkably, when he was finally brought to trial, Dallas was almost acquitted by a jury of his peers.

While few think much about the hazards of a game warden's job, many people worry about the dangers hunting poses to them personally. Especially in rural areas, when hunters take to the outdoors, sensible folks keep their children and pets indoors. But despite such precautions, plenty of hunting accidents occur anyway. In 1987, hunting accidents accounted for more than 210 deaths and

1700 injuries in the U.S. Most times, these accidents involved hunters shooting other hunters. On a per hunter basis, turkey hunting seems particularly dangerous. Just last year, the director of the National Wild Turkey Federation was shot and injured by a companion who mistook him for one of the birds.

But while hunters who resemble turkeys may be at greatest risk, no one, apparently, can be totally safe if out during hunting season. Take, for instance, the following recent cases of nonhunters being fatally wounded by hunters:

♦ Karen Wood, mother of year-old twins,

# Government Agencies Don't Listen

zling. But for the wardens who patrol those remote areas, the game-hungry hunters who are breaking or bending the law may be every bit as dangerous as a money-hungry drug pusher. In fact, on average, they're more dangerous. As surprising as it sounds, a U.S. game warden occupies the most dangerous law enforcement position in America. He, and occasionally she, is nine times more likely to be killed in the line of duty than an ordinary city cop.

This startling fact is literally lost in the wilderness, unknown to the general public. Yes, sure, sometimes people hear about a sensational story of some "mountain man" shooting it out with game wardens. One such case that comes to mind is that of Claude Lafayette Dallas, Jr., an insatiable hunter, trapper, and poacher. On a winter day in 1981, after being told by two Idaho Fish and Game wardens that he was going to be arrested for killing bobcats and deer out of season, he shot and killed the wardens in cold blood—then dragged their bodies through the mud, dumping one in a river



stepped outside her home in rural Maine to tell hunters to stay off her property. Less than five minutes later she was dead, shot in the chest by a hunter who claimed to have mistaken her for a deer. ♦ Dr. Lester Thompson, a Wisconsin nature-lover, was driving down a rural road when a hunter's bullet crashed through his windshield, struck him in the head, and killed him.

♦ Dale Brown, 15, was killed and his girlfriend injured when a shot fired by a deer hunter hit them both while sitting under a tree in Greene County, Georgia.

Are these incidental tragedies that should be tolerated because some greater societal good is derived from sport hunting? The hunting proponent, consumed with the idea that wild animals were put on earth for him to chase, cripple, and kill, answers yes. The wildlife advocate, preferring to allow animals to live in peace, unequivocally answers no.

Human fatalities aside, the fact is, hunting is an all-out war on wildlife—and the other side can't fight back. With an

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# Dog and Cat "Collectors"

BY PHIL MAGGITT

The neighbors started to complain when the noise and odor from Henry Kramer's house became too formidable to bear. Lana Lobello, who lives in an apartment in the building next door to Kramer, said she could hear him "screaming at the animals, hitting them, and throwing them against the wall." John Bussittil, who lives in another apartment in the same building as Lobello, said that his son couldn't sleep in his own room at night because of the smell spilling over from Kramer's three-story Brooklyn house.

After a two-week investigation the police and agents from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals raided Kramer's residence last May 16. They found 134 cats and dogs in the 10-room dwelling, whose only furniture was two chairs, a refrigerator, and a caked and malodorous carpet of animal waste in every room. Kramer returned home during the raid. He explained that he had found his animals "around the city" and was nursing them back to health. As he was hauled away in handcuffs, the 38-year-old video-games repairman said, "I've done nothing wrong. I'm going to clean the house right up. Some of the animals were sick, but the cats are in great shape." By the following day, Kramer had signed all the animals over to the ASPCA. Forty-one were euthanized immediately because they were too debilitated to survive.

Unfortunately, Kramer is not a maverick example of someone whose joystick has worked itself loose. There are legions of Henry Kramers in the United States. "You'll find one in virtually every community of any size in this country," says Samantha Mullen, public affairs and programs administrator for the New York State Humane Association.

Recent articles in newspapers bear appalling witness to Mullen's claim: In Washington, D.C., a woman lives with more than 100 cats and five years' worth of uncollected garbage in a four-story house without so much as a clean place to lie down. In Detroit five mentally impaired, elderly women keep 30 to 40 dogs in a flea-and-roach infested 16-room duplex. On the edge of the desert near Lancaster, California, a man shares a 14-foot-long trailer with 33 dogs. No doubt the more temperate among these souls refrain from bashing their "pets"



—Merritt Clifton

against the wall as Henry Kramer did, but they are no less inclined than Kramer to the heedless accumulation of animals and no better able than he to acknowledge the horrors they're inflicting on the unfor-



fortunate creatures they profess to love.

Humane society workers refer to such persons as collectors. "They're predominantly middle class, predominantly women, and predominantly white," says Brenda Purvis, an officer with the Washington Humane Society.

"Most of them are single. They live alone, and they don't have close relationships with friends, co-workers, or family."

That's the establishment view. L.D. Pitts, Jr., a self-employed, surplus-industrial-equipment broker from Houston, explains the collector phenomenon this way. "It's my hobby, you know. Some people go fishing, some bowl. I don't do any of those things. I just have dogs." Pitts, whose most recent address was a 1976 Chrysler Town and Country wagon, "just had" 52 dogs in a vacant truck garage before the city of Houston seized them last year.

In addition to socioeconomic similarities, animal collectors share a peculiar dogma. "They have an inordinate fear of death," says Barbara A. Cassidy, director of animal sheltering and control for the Humane Society of the United States. "They're unwilling to consider euthanasia in a rational, intelligent, or sympathetic manner—even if an animal is injured or sick; and some have the same powerful fear of death regarding members of their families. There was one collector in New York city who had animals and relatives in the freezer."

According to Cassidy, collectors prefer homemade remedies to veterinary care; they aren't fastidious about neutering or spaying; they're monomaniacal in the belief that any wretched scrap of an existence is better than none; and, therefore, they have a serious mistrust of humane associations, whom they tend to portray as "Gestapos" and merchants of death. What's more, collectors are convinced that when it comes to loving and providing for animals, nobody does it as well as they can.

Perhaps the most unsettling attribute about collectors, however, is their persistence. "The pattern is generally repetitive," says Robert J. Rush, manager of the Los Angeles animal regulation department. If they get caught, "they'll do it over and over again in different locations."

Or in the same one. Two days after his house had been raided in May, Henry Kramer told reporters that he had already acquired five new animals. By September, neighbors were beginning to complain again about the smell coming from Kramer's house. Jill Shenkel, vice-president for humane law enforcement for the ASPCA, said that Kramer, who

faced an October 16 trial on 134 counts of cruelty, refused to allow the ASPCA into his house to investigate these most recent complaints. Until the ASPCA could gather enough evidence to establish probable cause for obtaining a warrant, Kramer was the winner in this standoff.

Though reason seems to have flown their nests, collectors are birds of a difficult feather for humane societies to prosecute. "First of all," says Brenda Purvis, "it's nearly impossible to prove that they intended to abuse their animals. They often present themselves as loving, compassionate people who have run into hard times recently."

Besides, says Barbara Cassidy, "given

worry about it. Thus, collectors operate under a kind of diplomatic immunity until the misery they inflict assumes death-camp proportions. Even then, retribution is seldom swift and less seldom commensurate with a collector's iniquities.

Such was the case with Justin McCarthy, who accumulated more than 1,000 animals, most of them cats and dogs, on his 67-acre farm in Ellenville, New York, about 75 miles northwest of Manhattan. Before he arrived in Ellenville in 1975, McCarthy had been a small-time Madison Avenue p.r. type, and sometime before that he had done a six-year stretch for armed robbery. Both facets of his per-

same time, a metaphor-crazed writer from a local newspaper referred to McCarthy in a single paragraph as a "modern-day St. Francis" whose animals followed him around "pied-piper style."

Yet both people were talking about the same farm. The undercover worker had seen McCarthy's entire set-up, while the writer had been shown a small, tidy, demonstration-school area that McCarthy maintained to snooker everybody from *Newsweek* to *Guidepost* to those intrepid guardians of the public weal, Dan Rather and the *Reader's Digest*.

McCarthy ran this scam for a dozen years, attracting at least \$800,000 in reported tax-free contributions. Some



—Sandra Woodruff—UCSPCA/NYSHA

One of Justin McCarthy's "collection" at the Animals Farm Home.

the numbers of animals involved, the fact that they're on private property, and the general unwillingness to interfere in someone's personal choice, these cases can be mind-boggling to law enforcement officials, who often don't know how to deal with collectors." And since animal abuse is a misdemeanor, many jurisdictions haven't the time, inclination, or money to

sonality were conspicuous at his Animals Farm Home.

A staff member for the Ulster County SPCA who worked undercover at McCarthy's "sanctuary" in 1977 reported that the animals there "were exposed to filth" and that "many of the cats, dogs, and fowl were confined in dark barns and given little sunshine or exercise." At about the

people were so inclined to canonize him—perhaps as a balm to their own consciences—that they cheerfully violated the ethics of their professions. A New York city veterinarian was moved to inform the state's attorney general by letter on July 15, 1980, that he had visited the Animals Farm Home a week before and

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- Merritt Clifton

Continued from previous page

had "never encountered animals nor fowl which are more well cared for." McCarthy, the vet intoned, should be "heartily commended for the magnificent work he is and has been doing." A month later he recanted, confessing in a second letter that he had never visited Animals Farm and that his "testimony" had been based on "telephone conversations and public relations material...sent to me by Mr. McCarthy."

With the help of sops like this and with the financial and emotional support of such animal activists as Zsa Zsa Gabor, McCarthy continued to collect animals and funds in large amounts.

In January 1984 McCarthy signed a consent order issued by the state supreme court, which set forth specific standards for the operation of Animals Farm Home. For the next three years McCarthy earnestly ignored the guidelines for minimal sanitation set forth in the order. Finally, on November 21, 1987, police and officials from the Ulster County SPCA, HSUS, and the New York State Humane Association raided Animals Farm Home with a warrant obtained largely on the strength of a complaint filed by McCarthy's nephew. Investigators found nearly 500 dogs locked in dark, unheated barns, where they subsisted on bread, water, their own excrement, and the entrails of their cannibalized brethren. Altogether, 186 dogs had to be put to sleep because they were so enervated they had no chance of surviving the treatment they needed for mange and other disorders. McCarthy insisted that conditions had only gotten out of hand recently and only then because he was a little short of help. He further insisted that it was

natural for dogs to eat the weaker members of a pack.

Justin McCarthy committed vicious and sustained acts of animal abuse. He inflicted unforgivable suffering on thousands of innocent animals, unrelenting grief on people who had entrusted their "pets" to him, and unusual strain on the resources of the Ulster County SPCA, which, with the help of other humane agencies, rehabilitated and placed many of the animals removed

from McCarthy's care. Furthermore, his finances were as tangled as those of any renegade savings and loan association: According to a local newspaper article, McCarthy owed the IRS \$232,000 in employee payroll deductions, interest, and penalties; and his bank deposits for 1985 alone exceeded by nearly \$60,000 the \$250,000 he had reported on his annual financial statement.

But when the whip came down in May of 1988, McCarthy was charged with a timorous 25 counts of cruelty to animals, spanning a two-year period. He pleaded guilty to four of those counts in November, thereby avoiding trial, and received three years' probation, along with a lifetime injunction against public fundraising or running an animal shelter. The Animals Farm Home was sold in order to satisfy creditors; and in order to satisfy his love for animals, McCarthy was permitted by the court to keep 23 of his "personal pets," a decision which Mullen called "an insult to the common sense of any thinking person." When last seen, McCarthy and his second wife were headed for Halifax County, Virginia, east of Danville, a conveniently remote location near the North Carolina border.

The McCarthy charade illustrates how much a person can get away with, yet it doesn't explain why anybody would behave in such a twisted fashion. A reasonable guess is that we're talking about a serious number of blown

synapses here. Or, as a Monticello, New York, veterinarian observed: "Sleeping with many dogs does not make you noble; it makes you a man with sores in need of psychological counseling." Yet psychological counseling is as rare among collectors as a clean water bowl. When the head doctors are called in to evaluate a collector, they generally ask a few name-rank-and-serial-number questions, then pronounce the individual fit.

Brenda Purvis reports that when two shrinks were called in to evaluate the D.C. woman who had been living with more than 100 cats and five years' worth of garbage, their examination "mostly consisted of asking her the date, the year, who the president was, if she was OK, and if she needed any help." On the evidence of this exhaustive assessment, the shrinks concluded that there was nothing wrong with the woman. "And this was not an isolated case," says Purvis.



Obviously, people who keep more than 100 cats and don't take the trash out for five years need to spend several hours with a no. 2 pencil and the answer sheet to a test that asks tougher questions than the kind a referee puts to a fighter who's been knocked on his kiester. If they fill in the wrong dots, then counseling should be mandatory—as part of their probation if they're convicted of cruelty or as part of their prison sentence on those rare occasions when a collector is obliged to do time.

In addition, says Barbara Cassidy, if there were a body of information available about the psychological workings of collectors, "it would help a great deal in prosecuting a case to be able to present that information to local authorities."

While the psychiatric profession doesn't offer much help understanding collectors, the legal system hardly does more to keep them from getting their hands around the lives of defenseless animals. In 1984 the Wisconsin Humane Society removed 179 cats from a "shelter" operated by James and Bobbie Bruflat of Milwaukee. (The Bruflats, in a gruesome display of irony, had named their haven the Full Bowl cat

shelter, though neither the bowls nor the decks appeared full in their case.) In November 1987 authorities raided the Full Bowl shelter again, and again the Bruflats were in violation of a Milwaukee ordinance limiting an unlicensed household to three animals. This time authorities found 88 sick and emaciated cats—along with many dead ones. The following month in a raid on another property owned by the Bruflats, authorities removed 102 cats. The Bruflats received three years' probation and were told by a judge that they could not own more than two cats. In May of this year, the Bruflats were locked up for being 22 cats over the limit—17 living and five dead. They insisted they weren't running a shelter, however; their house was simply the headquarters of NEST: Non-Euthanization Shelter Team.

The judge was not impressed. He ruled in early August that the Wisconsin SPCA

could adopt out or destroy the 19 live cats seized from the Bruflats (only seven were fit for adoption). Meanwhile the Bruflats are out of the slammer; and, predicts one Milwaukee SPCA official, once their probation is over, if not sooner, "they'll be starting up again someplace. They'll acquire more cats than they can possibly care for, and they'll create another filthy situation."

The remaining hostages to the fortunes of humane societies in dealing with collectors are individual guilt and public opinion. "People who no longer want their pets often feel guilty about leaving them in a shelter," says Brenda Purvis, especially if the reason for getting rid of a pet is trivial.

"These people call us all the time," Purvis reports. "They all say, 'You won't kill it, will you?' They're the ones who give their animals to collectors—out of an overwhelming sense of guilt that they want to alleviate by being able to say 'I found it a good home, I didn't cause it to be killed.'"

Equally disconcerting are the endorsements that collectors receive from people

Continued on next page



## We need to get the word out. Here's how you can HELP US!

- If you don't see this magazine in your local health food store or special interest bookstore, ask the manager to call **1-800-435-5003** to find out how to carry it.
- **STUDENTS!** Make sure The ANIMALS' AGENDA is available to other students in your school or college library and bookstore.
- Call or write us at our Connecticut address for subscription flyers. Tuck them into correspondence, into boxes as you fulfill mail-orders, pass them out at rallies, when tabling, etc.
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- Sondra Woodvine - UCSPCA/NYSHA

Nearly 500 dogs were found locked in dark, unheated barns when the Animals Farm Home was raided.



Continued from previous page

who ought to know better. "It can be quite frustrating," says one humane official, "if you get a judge or an attorney or some bleeding-heart social worker who feels sorry for people like this and claims that they're being harassed and abused." The lawyer for a Salt Lake City collector, a repeat offender whose house was so revolting it had to be demolished, defended his client by explaining, "Christ was hassled, too."

Yet if a humane association takes action against people who are portrayed by the media as kindly eccentrics or well-meaning saviors of animals, warns the HSUS, "cruelty investigators might be depicted as the ones who are heartless and insensitive to the sufferings of others." After all, what right does the SPCA have to hassle a person who's down to her last 50 or 60 cats?

To make matters worse, the media—which doesn't always speak kindly of those who would save animals—seem eager to praise those who would confine and abuse them. When Samantha Mullen learned in 1985 that *Reader's Digest* was planning a feature on Justin McCarthy, she offered to send information about the state attorney general's investigation of McCarthy to the person writing the article; but the writer, who praised McCarthy as a Dr. Dolittle in a puff piece that eventually ran in August 1986, did little to follow this lead. Instead, as Mullen complained to the editor-in-chief of the *Digest*, the writer "rebuked me for attempting to illuminate him about the state attorney general's investigation." Consequently, said Mullen, she knew of several persons who had "surrendered pets to Justin McCarthy...because of your publication's endorsement of the facility and its manager."

When Bill Cosby was a young comedian, he did a routine about the Americans and the British flipping a coin to see who would wear the bright, red uniforms and march in a line and make a lot of noise and who would get to skulk around in the bushes in earth-colored clothes during the Revolutionary War. We know who got the red suits, and we know who lost the war.

So far, humane societies have been given the red suits in the struggle against animal collectors. The one flexible weapon in the humane-society arsenal is the animal-limitation ordinance, which restricts a person to a minimal number of animals, usually between three and seven.

People who violate this ordinance are presented with several options, depending on the way the ordinance is written. Some jurisdictions allow no exceptions to

the mandated limit. Violators are given between 30 and 60 days, on the average, to find homes for their excess animals, or else the jurisdiction will do it for them. Other places allow people to apply for an exemption permit that authorizes them to keep a greater number of animals than ordinary. The exemption permit—which is granted if an applicant is able to care for the animals properly—raises the limit on the number of animals a person can keep and makes that person subject to periodic inspections.

"Exemption permits," says Barbara Cassidy, "protect the responsible, multiple-pet owner. Unlike collectors, these persons present no problem. They know where to draw the line, and their animals are sterilized, properly groomed, and well fed."

Limitation ordinances also provide authorities with a way to monitor convicted collectors after probation. While the constitution frowns on walking into a person's house without sufficient preamble and snooping about looking for excess animals, there's nothing that says

based on probable cause if they notice strong odors or other indications of abuse coming from a collector's house.)

Though animal-limit ordinances enable authorities to put the brakes on collectors before they jump the tracks, these ordinances are only as good as the people willing to abide by them or the people willing to report those who don't. Too often complaints don't get registered until the animal limit has been exceeded by a power that offends the nose or ears.

"That's why we recommend an animal census every two or three years," says Barbara Cassidy. "A census turns up collectors, increases dog and cat licensing, and provides good educational opportunities."

Early identification of collectors is the first step in eliminating their abuses. Dealing effectively with collectors once they have been identified, says the HSUS general counsel's office, will require a more imaginative step: progressive legislation that regards animals not as property or as evidence in a cruelty case, but as the special watch and ward of the state—similar to the status that minor children have under law.

HSUS argues that "under no circumstances" should an abused animal be returned to a person convicted of cruelty or neglect. And if someone convicted of abuse is allowed to own animals, that person should be supervised by a local humane society or other knowledgeable authority—which has the right to make inspection visits at will. This approach, says HSUS, "would amount to a minor revolution in the interaction of criminal procedure and animal welfare law" because it would focus less on punishing the defendant and more on the long-term welfare of animals.

"We need to enlighten the judicial system, secure better ordinances, and obtain inspection capabilities that will help prevent collections from happening, never mind progressing to the stage of cruelty," says Barbara Cassidy.

Until we do, animal collectors, like Pac men running amuck in a video game, will continue to gobble up blameless animals and subject them to tortures that no living creature should ever have nightmares about, much less endure.

HSUS would like to hear from persons who have case files, documentation, or news clips relating to animal collectors. This information would be useful in prosecuting subsequent collector cases. Send material to the attention of Barbara Cassidy, HSUS, 2100 L St. N.W., Washington, DC 20037.



a humane inspector can't drop by to say howdy to folks like the Bruflats. They don't have to let the inspector in if they don't want to, but if the inspector spies a dozen cats running around the drawing room, he or she could write a citation on the spot. In places that don't have animal-limit ordinances, authorities have to wait until there's firm evidence of neglect or cruelty before they can take action against a convicted collector—or a first-time offender. (In some cases, humane agents can obtain a warrant



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THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20037



# Out Of The Cage:

## The Movement In Transition



**T**he animal rights movement is winning! Incredible as it seems to some movement veterans, the idea of animal rights is already changing society as profoundly as the concepts of women's rights, ecology, and desegregation. Public sympathy is revealed in polls showing majority support for banning leghold trapping, ending cruel product testing, and having companion animals spayed and neutered; by bestselling pro-animal books such as John Robbins' *Diet For A New America* and Cleveland Amory's *The Cat Who Came For Christmas*; by the appearance of pro-animal themes on prime-time television; by the cautious identification of political figures with some of the movement's most popular positions.

Most of all, it's obvious the movement is winning from the scale and tactics of

the counteroffensive launched against it: ♦ American Fur Industry president Elliot Lippin has vowed to "intimidate and harass" activists, as the fur trade spends triple the total budget of all anti-fur campaigns trying to defend itself.

♦ The pharmaceutical industry has formed a well-endowed coalition to "direct public relations and legislative activities" in support of the avowedly anti-animal rights aims of the National Association for Biomedical Research.

♦ The American Medical Association, boasting of having "led the battle against anti-vivisectionists years ago," has

**BY MERRITT CLIFTON**

adopted an action plan calling for "development of legal means for contesting the tax-exempt status of animal rights groups"; "formation of a special investigative unit within government to examine animal rights activities"; "building a private data base on animal rights activities"; and "development of a Foundation for Animal Health to attract funding away from animal rights groups."

♦ Trying to discredit animal defenders, one protest target, U.S. Surgical, hired undercover agents to coax an unstable fringe activist into placing a bomb at the company parking lot.

"One is honored by one's friends; distinguished by one's enemies," observed longtime FBI director J. Edgar Hoover, who distinguished the late Martin Luther King by similar aggressive efforts to discredit the civil rights movement.

Used to frustrating uphill struggle, 50 national animal rights group leaders were somewhat surprised to be confronted by the movement's success at a recent planning workshop hosted by The ANIMALS' AGENDA. The message came from the outside perspective of Social Movement Empowerment Project analyst Bill Moyer, a lifelong student of how change happens, who had never before been involved with animal rights. Based upon nearly 30 years' close observation of the civil rights, antinuclear, and antiwar movements, Moyer unequivocally placed the mainstream of the animal rights movement close to the mainstream of western public consciousness.

"Remember," Moyer stressed, "movements for social change are by definition efforts based on widely-held fundamental values, such as being kind to animals and the preservation of life on the planet. Because these values are already fundamental to our society, you are not on the fringe. You are not outside the social milieu. Even though you are seeking specific major changes in how our society operates, you are part of the social mainstream and you will have public recognition and support in proportion to your ability to help the rest of the mainstream recognize the contradictions of their already-held values in their present lifestyle."

In Moyer's observation, social change movements progress through eight stages of activity. In the first stage, a relatively small number of people recognize that a problem exists. In stage two they attempt redress through existing channels and are rebuffed, because the "powerholders" hold the trust of a majority of the public. Stage three is a phase in which the opposition gradually gathers support, as more people respond to the problem and to the failure of the status quo to do something about it. Stage four comes as catalytic events bring the cause to public consciousness, and turn opinion in favor of the movement. New organizations spring up, mass marches and demonstrations are staged, and the status quo launches a counteroffensive.

At this point, Moyer sees movements either bogging down in a fifth stage of burnout and despair, when the stage four turning point fails to bring immediate change, or making a leap to stage six, where "the movement undergoes a transformation from a spontaneous protest movement to a long-term popular struggle to achieve positive social change."

During stage six, Moyer explains, "a new social and political consensus grows that erodes the powerholders' ability to continue their policies." Ironically, turnouts for mass marches decline, along with membership in militant front groups, but the movement gains strength at the

grassroots, where primary objectives are implemented by countless established local and regional bodies—town councils, school boards, scout troops, and, in this case, humane societies. This leads to stage seven, the consolidation of objectives through the national political process, and stage eight, in which the movement ensures that newly won goals are not lost to backlash, and "circles back" to pick up further dimensions of the struggle that must now be advanced from earlier stages.

Pointing out that social change movements tend to include many sub-movements, each progressing at a different pace, Moyer sees components of the animal rights movement at every stage. But the mainstream, he believes, is even now leaping from stage four to stage six; activists should neither be distracted nor discouraged by their passage through and around stage five.

Similar optimism comes from Michael O'Sullivan of the World Society for the Protection of Animals, who has had frequent contact with Third World animal rights movements now confronting the same situations our forebears did in the 19th century.

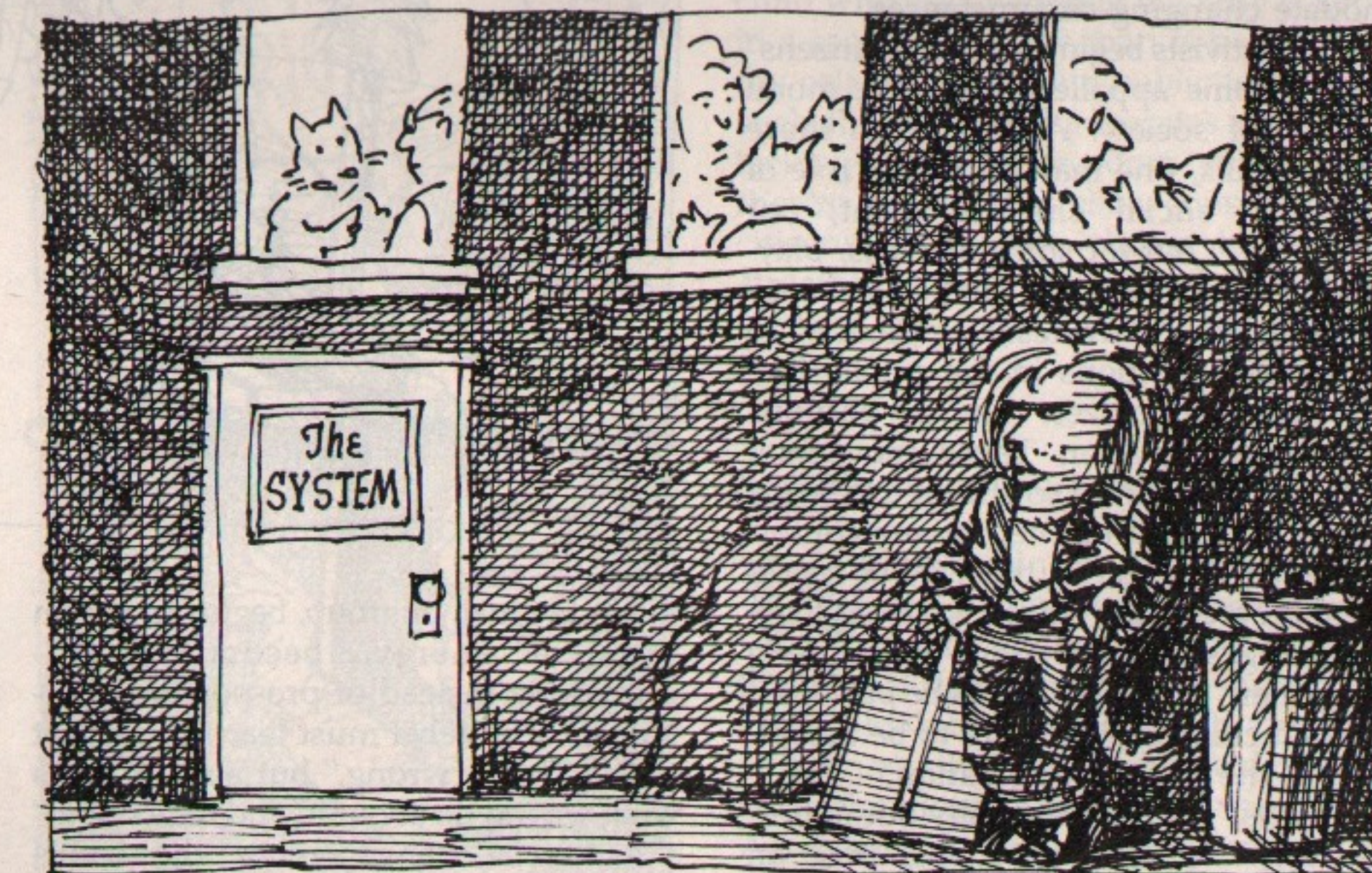
"I don't think we have to worry very much about the counteroffensive," O'Sullivan counsels. "In the first place we have the moral momentum. We know

with the tenacity we can, and can't get the good feeling we do by saying and doing what we do. In a psychological war of attrition, we win."

Part of the stage four to stage six transition involves restructuring organizations to empower the grassroots, integrating newcomers into the struggle, broadening movement influence, and bringing the movement closer to the public. Argues Keith Akers of the Vegetarian Union of North America, "I do not think it is possible to create a lasting movement for social change through elitism. It is possible to create such a movement by encouraging grassroots democracy, both within the movement and in society at large."

However, Akers notes, "Democracy takes practice. You can't just say, 'Now we're going to be democratic,' and do it. There is a need to approach this task carefully and sympathetically," which requires what may be termed a feminization of leadership.

This does not necessarily mean women replace men as the heads of organizations, though they may. It does mean that the charismatic, confrontational style of leadership effective in the earlier stages of the movement yields to a nurturing, coalition-building style that reunites what once was a dissident cause with a realigned social mainstream. As the social mainstream edges closer to accepting



what they're trying to do to us, and why. In the second place, we are creative, energetic people, used to working under difficult circumstances with limited resources for long hours without seeing immediate results. There is nothing the animal exploitation industry can do to make life hard for us that we're not already used to dealing with. We wouldn't be here if we got discouraged in an unequal battle. Finally, we're right. Our opponents can't hold their positions

movement positions, the dramatic gestures once appropriate to awakening consciousness can become alienating and counterproductive.

During this feminization process, it is natural and understandable that some leaders who played the charismatic authority role during early movement stages may feel betrayed as "their" movements leave them behind. Such feelings can produce factionalism. As well as

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putting a more friendly face on the movement as seen by outsiders, nurturing democratic leaders must find means of gently persuading the old autocratic leaders that the time has come when compromises can be negotiated from strength, not weakness, that the purr can now be more effective than hissing with a rake of the claws, and that the transition of the movement does not mean the charismatic leaders are no longer loved and appreciated. They still have a job, but it's now less the job of hero than that of a wise parent who knows when to stand back and how to set a positive role model.

### Changing roles of activism

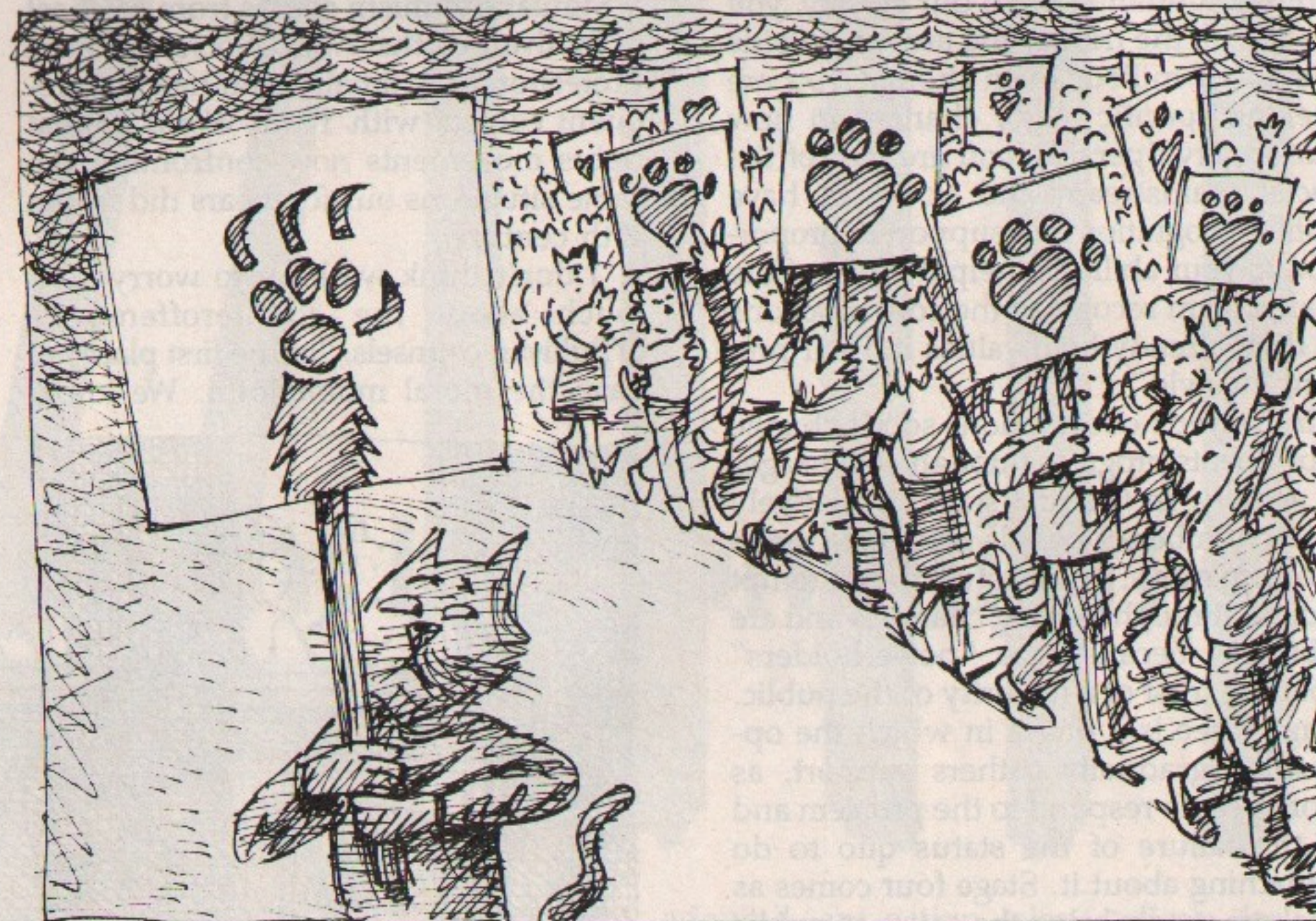
Along with the feminization of leadership, the movement leap from stage four to stage six requires the maturation of individual activists in their relationships to society. Moyer has identified four roles of activism—played by groups as well as individuals—each with a positive and negative side, each with a vital function in achieving social change. Though activists are often limited to one role, ideally each person would be able to utilize them all, interchanging the roles to accommodate changing circumstances.

Most activists begin as normal "citizens" who become appalled at specific moral failings of society. Awakened to these systemic ills, one may adopt the role of "rebel," "social change agent," or "reformer"; but for some activists, playing the role of "citizen" can be a primary function that provides "legitimacy" to movement positions in the public eye. The role of citizen has a perilous downside, however. These movement conservatives can be so attached to social values and so threatened by nonconformity that they get in the way of movement progress. Yet, citizen is a role Moyer discourages activists from abandoning altogether. "Activists need to be perceived as solid citizens if they are to be acceptable to the general population."

"Rebels," who are typically but not exclusively the idealistic young, pose an open, obvious direct challenge to the way things are. Often the challenge spills over from one injustice, for instance a classroom dissection lab, to many aspects of the society condoning that injustice. As Rosa Feldman of the Student Action Corps for Animals points out, "Students who refuse dissection are breaking new ground in changing human attitudes about whether animal lives can merely be used and thrown away. . . . Students who refuse dissection are refusing the act of animal exploitation and refusing the learn-

ed mindset that allows school-sponsored animal exploitation to be considered normal and necessary. Many students find themselves in the painful self-questioning process of where to draw the line in their stand, or even if there is a line to be drawn." Beginning with refusal to dissect, the young rebel may rapidly progress to other animal causes; and upon meeting opposition from school and parents, may identify rebellion against animal abuse with more general and typical adolescent rebellion against all authority.

The rebel role can be catalytic, especially since it is in this phase that the newly awakened individual is most likely to perceive the connections between specific abuses and general habits of society. The rebel is most sensitive to hypocrisy, the failure of society to fulfill professed values and ideals. However, the rebel role becomes counterproductive if at any point



the individual, or group, begins to run on negative energy, becoming anti-everything instead of pro-positive alternatives. The rebel must learn to say not only, "This is wrong," but also, "This is what we can do about it, and here's how."

As "social change agents," the maturing rebels first propose and then demonstrate alternative models. As "reformers," onetime rebels learn to operate within the system, to make change happen through the very political process they once rejected. The risks for social change agents are utopianism or failure through excessive ambition and inexperience; for reformers, the risks are co-option by the status quo, a willingness to compromise too much, or the acceptance of inadequate reforms that actually block further advances by the movement.

### Opposition tactics

Feminization of leadership and maturation of activism should allow the movement to sidestep its aggressive opponents, whose strategies depend upon scaring the public with images of activists as negative rebels. "To defeat the animal rights movement," states the AMA Animal Research Action Plan of June, 1989, "one has to...isolate the hardcore activists from the general public and shrink the size of the sympathizers. . . . The animal activist movement must be shown to be not only anti-science but also responsible for violent and illegal acts. . . . and a threat to the public's freedom of choice (to eat meat, wear furs, attend rodeo, etcetera)." The May, 1985 document *Defense Of The Fur Trade*, prepared on the advice of Thomas Grey Inc. by the Canadian Department

years approximately equals the annual activity of cattle rustlers in any major ranching state. The movement has overwhelmingly taken to heart and followed the 106-year-old creed of the American Anti-Vivisection Society, "You cannot do Evil that Good may result," while rejection of that creed is the very cornerstone of the opposition's contention that possible benefits to people warrant cruelty.

Otherwise, the opposition is attacking in areas where general support for animal protection is strong and the ultimate success of movement aims seems inevitable: the use of animals in science, for food and clothing, and for entertainment.

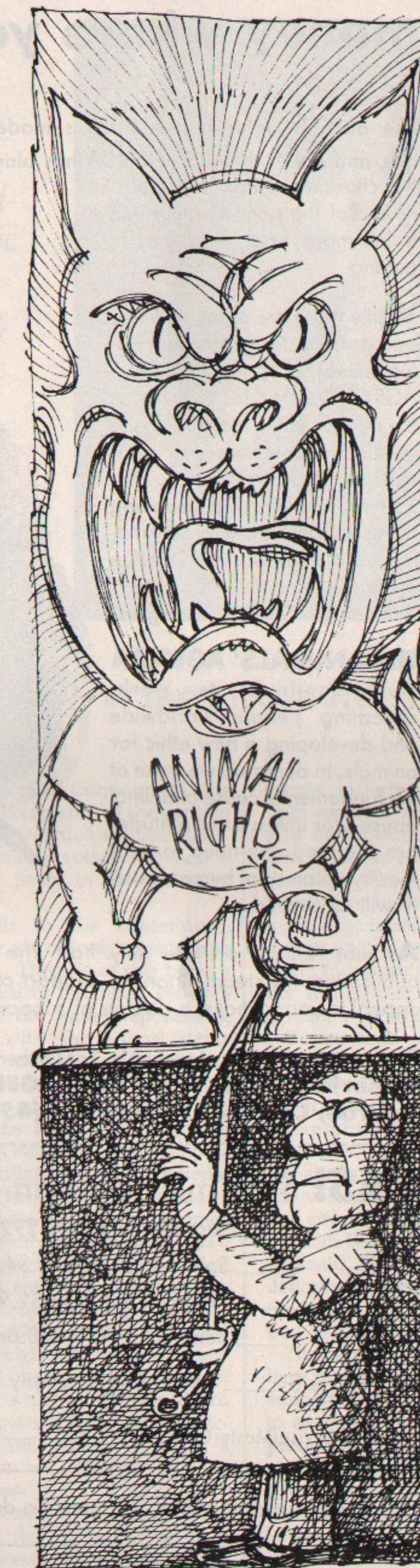
Attempting to portray the animal rights movement as anti-science runs afoul of mounting scientific evidence, including from the most prolific and aggressive vivisectionists, that animals feel physical and psychological pain. It is inherently self-contradictory for the biomedical research industry to claim both that animals are appropriate models for testing cures for humans, and that the subject animals do not suffer as we do. Within the movement are a legion of credentialed scientists and physicians, supported by others completely outside the movement, who advance non-animal research models as both better science and more efficient use of tax dollars. Even the Chemical Manufacturers' Association contends in a current lawsuit that animal testing is not an accurate or appropriate means of assessing human health risks. It is possible that as Bina Robinson of CIVIS contends, "The tide against animal experimentation has already turned."

Attempting to cut animal rights activists off from mainstream society by pointing out that they're against eating meat overlooks the fact that vegetarianism and even veganism have quietly entered mainstream lifestyles, for a combination of economic, health, and ethical reasons. A single vegetarian cookbook, *Laurel's Kitchen*, has sold more copies than the combined membership of every animal rights group. Beef and pork consumption per capita has declined in the U.S. every year of the 1980s. A confrontation over meat-eating may be just what activists want.

Notes Akers, "In my opinion there is essentially one major animal issue, the suffering and death of animals for food. There are few kinds of animal exploitation that cannot be convincingly defended, provided that one makes the concession that it is all right to eat meat."

"We see the problems of farm animals as a top priority," agrees Henry Spira of the Animal Rights International Coalitions, "because 95 percent of all animal suffering in the U.S. is in factory farming. More than five billion farm animals suffer from birth to slaughter each year.

Thus, every one percent reduction in their suffering can accomplish more than all



other animal campaigns put together." A confrontation over meat-eating could

become the last stand of animal-exploiting industries, for as Susan Smith of the Farm Animal Reform Movement writes, "Hardly a week passes without a news report on the effects of fats, cholesterol, carcinogens, antibiotics, hormones, and even genetic manipulation of farm animals on consumer health. Other stories recount the rising cost of food, water pollution, depletion of topsoil and groundwater, loss of wildlife habitat (to farming), spread of world hunger (largely due to the diversion of grain crops to feed livestock), and incidents of farm animal abuse. Each such event presents a unique opportunity to advance our view. Ultimately our view will prevail, if only because we will run out of the resources required to sustain animal agriculture or because the American people will get tired of getting sick and dying prematurely."

Even if the hamburger and chicken merchants are still wringing out record profits, the argument that activists are anti-meat is by now unlikely to cause most of the aware, voting public to do much more than shrug and maybe ask for recipes. For that reason, at least six animal rights groups now publish recipe books, cards, or newsletters.

Finally, the cruelty to animals who are confined in zoos or flung to the ground in rodeos is obvious even to the smallest child who asks why that big kitty is kept in a cage or why the man is beating up the calf. In asking the public to boycott such abuses, animal advocates are not attacking anyone's freedom to choose; they're asking their fellow conscientious citizens to exercise choice in ending atrocities many have condoned only because they haven't previously noticed them.

### Specific movement strategies

While feminization of leadership and maturation of activism are trends underway across much of the animal rights movement, individual groups look to the 1990s with a variety of unique initiatives. Of particular long-term significance may be those of the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights, Farm Sanctuary, and WSPA—who are, respectively, two of the smaller groups in the field and one of the largest.

Charging that the American Veterinary Medical Association puts ethical concern for animals below making money, at cost to public trust in vets, AVAR is in the midst of a three-year plan whose objective is "promoting responsibility toward the nonhuman patient as the way to enhance" the veterinary image. Implicit in this campaign is the belief that at least

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a majority of humans who take animals to vets have already accepted that animals have rights, even if the AVMA has not. In this sphere, anyway, animal rights has already advanced from transition to influence.

Farm Sanctuary's shelters for abused livestock actively encourage visitors, who see firsthand the individuality and intelligence of animals when they aren't treated as mere abstract units of production. Located out in the country, the Farm Sanctuary shelters also pose a moral challenge to farming neighbors, many of whom share revulsion at how animals are treated in modern commercial agriculture. "We don't pretend we can rescue all farm animals," says co-founder Lori Bauston, "but the mere fact we're doing this," one of the most unabashedly idealistic projects in an idealistic movement, "makes a lot of people take notice and think."

Extending humane education and anti-cruelty campaigns into Africa and Latin America, WSPA seeds the notion of animal rights among societies whose economic infrastructure is yet to be developed. Though the trends in Third World development have thus far been discouraging, mostly emulating our own rape of the wilderness and the Industrial Revolution, such Western-style development hasn't yet raised most Africans and Latin Americans out of poverty. It is still possible, and urgent, given the global importance of southern hemisphere rainforests, that future development will take a more gentle direction. In societies still dominated by tribal worldviews, but also still inclined toward animism, animal rights could help bring about ecological consciousness essential not only to the survival of endangered animals, but to the survival of both Third World peoples and, ultimately, ourselves.

Thanks to the following groups who responded to our request for long-term strategic plans: American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Animal Rights International Coalitions, Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights, Australian and New Zealand Federation of Animal Societies, Centro Informazione Vivisezionista Internazionale Scientifica, Compassion In World Farming, Disabled and Incurably Ill for Alternatives to Animal Research, Doris Day Animal League, Farm Animal Reform Movement, Farm Sanctuary, Focus On Animals, Fur-Bearers, Gaia Institute, International Society for Animal Rights, International Vegetarian Union, Lifeorce, Lynx, Manitoba Animal Rights Coalition, Psychologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Scientists Center for Animal Welfare, Student Action Corps for Animals, Vegetarian Union of North America, World Society for the Protection of Animals.

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Eventually, a "bird day" was celebrated in Assisi with musicians and a symbolic releasing of doves.



ITALY—

## National Referendum Sought to Abolish Hunting

A coalition that to date includes some of Italy's most progressive political and social movements—the Lega Anti-Vivisezione (Anti-Vivisection League); the World Wildlife Fund (WWF); the Lega Ambiente (Environmental League); Lega Ecologica (Ecological League); the Amici della Terra (Friends of the Earth); Liste Verdi (Italian Greens); Sinistra Indipendente (Independent Left); and the P.S.I. and the P.C.I., Italy's socialists and communist parties, respectively—are actively campaigning to have a referendum approved that would effectively abolish hunting in that country.

The referendum's demand is to render illegal all "sport hunting," including the current "right" of hunters to invade private property without the owner's prior authorization.

The referendum's organizing committee has seen its hopes quashed twice before—once in 1980, then again in 1986—as Italy's Supreme Court threw the petition out. This time, however, with the presence of two of Italy's most influential parties of the left, the

Socialists and Communists, the Court's acceptance of the petition is widely regarded as guaranteed. If so, Italian voters will cast a decisive ballot in the spring of 1990.

Threats to the referendum, however, are not only coming from without. There is at this point a great deal of infighting between some of the leading sponsoring forces, with the animal rights groups and radical ecologists demanding total and absolute abolition of hunting, while the P.S.I., the P.C.I., and the more reformist environmentalists appear to be settling for "an accommodation." The Socialists and Communists, for example, had promised to deliver approximately 700,000 signatures; they have fallen seriously short of their initial commitment, contributing so far only 150,000. Although this is still the largest single contribution by any party, it has created a climate of distrust which is slowing down other aspects of the effort. To be accepted, the petition requires a minimum of 750,000 validated signatures.

Characteristic of these inner splits is the threat by the more radical forces, including the Lega Anti-Vivisezione, to drop out of the referendum effort altogether, unless the sponsoring parties agree to endorse a series of basic

points, including, upon referendum approval, an immediate five-year moratorium on all hunting. This would in effect abrogate current Law 968, enacted in 1977, which specifically allows for hunting in Italy; in addition, the radical groups wish to see this law rewritten to transform the current wildlife management system into a genuine wildlife protection agency.

Concurrent with the anti-hunting effort, the same coalition, minus the Socialist Party, is seeking to put to the vote another referendum on the use of pesticides. Approximately 800,000 signatures are required for that. Animal rights groups have joined the effort under the slogan, "I Pesticidi Fanno Male. Anche Agli Animali." The coalition is actively denouncing what they define as the "poisoning and chemicalization of agriculture."

The referendum sponsors believe that most Italian voters will support their positions. According to recent opinion polls, up to 80 percent of the public is ready to stamp out hunting, but, as it happens in other nations, the pro-hunting lobby is powerful and well-entrenched, counting among its members some of Italy's leading industrialists and socialites. Besides, a total ban on hunting is also fiercely resisted by rural small-property owners, the equivalent of

rich peasants, who resent Rome's intrusion into their lifestyles.

With the second-largest concentration of hunters in the world, after Malta, the ferocity and ecological illiteracy of Italy's "sportsmen" is something of a cultural contradiction for a country well known for its gentility. By all accounts, tradition still plays a disproportionate role in Italy, a nation with Europe's longest uninterrupted history. It is expected therefore, that, even if the referendum is approved, enforcement of the new law's provisions may remain for some time spotty or nonexistent. As some coalition leaders admit, that particular hurdle may eventually prove as tough, if not tougher, than winning a dramatic reversal in the letter of the law. *Main sources:* Walter Caporale, (Liberiamo la Cavia, Lega Anti-Vivisezione); *The ANIMALS' AGENDA* correspondents.

ITALY (II)—

## Protecting the Songbirds of Assisi

Ironically, every September in Florence, Italy, the famous *Fiesta Degli Uccelli* (Festivity of the Birds) inaugurates a new hunting season. The Viale Machiavelli is blocked off, and hunters strut up and down displaying guns, various types of ammunition, and wild

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## DATELINE: INTERNATIONAL

Continued from previous page

songbirds in cages, who are used to attract free-flying birds.

This year, however, the *Fiesta* was called off. Hunting, as mentioned above, has suddenly become a controversial subject in Italy, but, as far as the region's songbirds were concerned, a new significant factor had entered the fray in the soft-spoken but formidable person of Bert Schwarzschild, an electrical engineer turned ecoanimal activist, and whose personal resume includes being former director of Oakland's Whale Center, executive director of American Youth Hostels, and chairman of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

Schwarzschild's involvement on behalf of Italian songbirds began during a vacation in Italy in 1983. Intrigued by the idea of hiking up Mt. Subasio, where St. Francis of Assisi is said to have befriended birds and other animals in the 13th century, he found that the area now harbored a distressing reali-

came after Schwarzschild published an article on the subject in the Audubon magazine, recommending an immediate moratorium on the hunting of songbirds on Mt. Subasio. An avalanche of mail opposing the hunt poured into the town of Assisi, and before long Italian papers and magazines picked up the issue, turning it into a national controversy that continues today.

Eventually, a "bird day" was celebrated in Assisi with musicians and a symbolic releasing of doves. And the new minister of the environment, Alfredo Biondi, who attended the celebration, pledged his "complete support" for a return of the songbirds to Assisi.

Much of Schwarzschild's success may have resulted from his honesty and his talent for diplomacy. Appealing to Italian pride, he asked: "How can you, a civilized country with your traditions and your monuments of compassion—because the Italians by and large are very compassionate people—

Studies show that between 1974 and 1983, 64 percent of the songbirds decreased sharply in number, while 36 percent increased. Twenty of 37 species showed declines.

The practice of shooting songbirds is traditional in many countries. Besides Italy, Malta, France, Spain, Turkey, Greece, and Portugal are known to have an avid hunting population. Hunting, however, although it definitely worsens a bad situation, may not be the most serious factor accounting for the birds' decline. Many scientists in Europe attribute the bird population downturn to the invasion of bird habitats by agriculture, the spread of urban development, and the combined

effects of industrialization and the extraction of raw materials. Besides that, the unrestricted dissemination of pesticides and pollutants throughout delicate ecosystems may account for a significant share of the casualties. Readers wishing to join animal defense efforts in Italy may write directly to: Lega Anti-Vivisezione, Sede Nazionale L.A.V., Via dei Portoghesi, 18—00186 ROMA, Italy; Tel.: 06/6867835. Bert Schwarzschild may be contacted through the *Assisi Nature Council/USA*, 313, Goodhill Rd., Kentfield, CA, 94904. **Main sources:** Cynthia Hanson, *The Christian Science Monitor* (to whom we express our special gratitude); and *The ANIMALS' AGENDA* correspondents.

SPAIN—

### Expo-Sevilla '92: A Hidden Showcase for Bullfighting?

Spanish intellectuals and animal rights activists have recently intensified their campaign to denounce the showcasing of bullfighting at the forthcoming Expo-Sevilla 92. Expo-92, a gigantic fair designed to showcase industrial and cultural articles from all over the Hispanic world, is being planned to commemorate the discovery of America by Columbus, and the cultural bonds between Spain and Latin America.

The fight to denounce and stigmatize bullfighting in a nation where many regard it as their birthright is an uphill battle, but of late, as foreign and domestic pressure has increased to discontinue the pastime, many Spaniards have rallied to its defense, if for no better reason than to preserve their sense of independence.

Thus, international support may prove crucial in the years immediately ahead if bullfights, along with other brutal *fiestas*, are to be effectively stopped.

Bullfighting has long been denounced as barbaric by many critics in Western Europe and the U.S., and, notably, an increasing number of intellectuals in Latin America. In recent years, delegates to the European Economic Community (EEC) floated proposals barring Spain's entry to the Common Market unless that nation took measures to phase out such spectacles. Spain is today a full-fledged member of the EEC, so that particular lever has vanished, but the criticism continues.

In recent months, Spanish activists have become particularly disturbed by what they perceive as UNESCO's complicity in making Expo-92 a perfect showcase for bullfights. As the United Nations organization for educational, cultural and social matters, UNESCO is widely regarded as a force for the improvement of ethical mores around the world, a mandate that seems directly contradicted, in the critics' view, by its endorsement of bullfights. UNESCO's endorsement of Expo-92 followed a request from the Mexican delegation. If acted on, it may mean support for the financing and organizing of up to 60 bullfights during the festivities.

The resilience shown by the bullfighting lobby has been lately reinforced by the appointment of Jorge Semprun as Spanish Minister of Culture. Semprun, a world-renowned novelist and scriptwriter who, as a longtime opponent of Franco, has spent most of his life in exile in France, supports bullfighting as part of Spain's "inalienable" cultural identity. His position on this issue is somewhat characteristic of the painful irony attending many leftist intellectuals in regard to animal liberation. Imbued with a super-humanism that makes our species the measure of all things, and instinctively nationalistic, they tend to side with animal exploiters and cultural jingoists, in spite of lifetimes spent fighting human exploitation, torture, injustice, chauvinism, back-

## DATELINE: INTERNATIONAL

wardness, and authoritarianism—in short, some of the very forces behind animal abuse. Semprun's influence in these matters may have also reached beyond Spain's frontiers. As a friend of Jack Lang, France's minister for cultural affairs, Semprun may have been instrumental in the recent subtle but distinct escalation in bullfighting observed in that country.

Readers wishing to protest Expo-92's plans may do so by writing directly to Mr. Enrique Barreiro, Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores, Palacio de Santa Cruz, 28012, Madrid (Spain). In addition,

protests may be sent to Javier Perez de Cuellar, Secretary General of the United Nations, United Nations Secretariat Building, New York, NY 10017. Make clear that you wish UNESCO to reconsider its participation in Expo-92 as long as bullfighting is included in the festivities. U.S. activists wishing to contact fellow activists in Spain, may do so by writing our special correspondent: Jorge Roos, Dracena, 40, 28016 Madrid; or A.L.A. (Alternativa para la Liberacion Animal), Apdo. 38.109, 28080, Madrid (Spain). **Main sources:** Jorge Roos.

## INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

by Merritt Clifton & D.P. Greanville



**Trying to control rabbits,** Australia may soon release a virus that has already killed 32 million rabbits in Italy. Australian rabbits are now mostly immune to a South American virus that has cut the rabbit population to 200 million from 600 million. The Italian virus causes the rabbits to scream in pain for about four hours before death.

**Fritz Hartmannsgruber of the Republican Party of Germany's** Committee for the Protection of Animals and Humane Legislation seeks exchange with U.S. and Canadian groups concerning a proposed amendment to the German Animal Protection Act of 1987, which would totally abolish testing and experiments on live animals. Write him at 8 Munchen 90, Konradinstrasse 16, West Germany.

**Eight thousand allegedly diseased** Australian sheep spent two months on shipboard in the Persian Gulf recently. Saudi Arabia claimed they had sheep pox and blue tongue. Australia said Saudia

Arabia was playing politics to favor native sheep breeders, that those diseases don't exist Down Under. Jordan and Egypt also refused the sheep before an Italian firm took them for resale.

**The Swiss Federal Court has ruled** that drivers who brake for animals are not liable for ensuing accidents.

**"Every third truck had a soldier playing with a parrot on his hand or shoulder,"** reported Sidney Schanberg of the Vietnamese withdrawal from Cambodia. Cambodian parrots were among the Viet soldiers' most favored souvenirs.

**Watch the international animal trade** through *The Traffic Bulletin*, published by the World Conservation Monitoring Centre, 219-C Huntingdon Rd., Cambridge, CB3 0DL, United Kingdom.

**France is reintroducing wood bison** to the sparsely populated Margeride region. Bison were hunted out of France 1,300 years ago. The last wild bison in Europe

## INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

was killed by a poacher along the USSR-Poland border in 1919, but a captive herd of nine has grown to 411 in Poland's Bialowieza Forest, enough to provide 15 for the French experiment.

**Irish farm productivity** may drop by a third this year because a flatworm accidentally imported from New Zealand is wiping out native earthworms.

**The sisters of Our Lady of the Passion** at Daventry, England, locked themselves into the coop with their 5,000 hens in an unsuccessful effort to keep Agriculture Ministry officials from killing the hens for allegedly harboring salmonella.

**Canadian trade minister John Crosbie** has asked the Green Party to help fight overfishing by Spain and Portugal off Newfoundland by bringing the issue before the European Parliament.

**As maritime Canada prepared for another seal hunt,** Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd Society debated the merits of the hunt with former Newfoundland premier Brian Peckford in St. John's, the provincial capital, before a hostile audience of 600 Memorial University students. Two members of the student body have formed Young Newfoundlanders Fighting Back, a group dedicated to reviving the clubbing of newborn harp seals. Presently the seals are shot when a few weeks older.

**The U.S. and the Soviet Union have agreed** to cooperate in monitoring driftnetting and adopting sanctions against nations that don't respect international fishing quotas.

**The Alberta Trappers' Assn. is offering \$100 bounties** for each wolf killed in designated areas this winter, augmenting pelt prices of \$50-\$70, and will spend another \$200 having each pelt mounted for auction by the Foundation for North American Big Game, a group supported by makers of hunting equipment. The bounty funds come from the Alberta Fish and Game Association. The groups charge the wolves eat too many caribou and elk. 370 wolves were trapped in 1986-1987, and 296 last winter, from a population estimated at 5,000. The object of the bounties is to wipe them all out in two years.

**A poll of British youth** by *Sky* magazine shows 40 percent are opposed to animal-based research. 84 percent are aware of the Animal Liberation Front, 25 percent en-

dorse animal rights but not violent tactics, and 20 percent believe ALF tactics are justified. One youth in four aged 16-19 agreed with the statement, "I approve of their actions; they are extreme but the only way they will get attention for their cause."

**Indonesia has revoked 70 logging concessions** over the past two years for breaking conservation laws, and has announced plans to reforest 50 million acres over the next 65 years, at 740,000 acres per year. This is the fastest the nation can afford, the government says, without international help.

**Of 37 golden lion tamarins** reintroduced into Brazil from U.S. breeding programs since 1987, 34 survive, say program directors, who are having to teach the monkeys jungle survival skills. Thirteen of 15 reintroduced in 1984 died from lack of the special training.

**The Animal Liberation Movement of Poland** is seeking donations of literature from U.S. activists. Address Radoslaw Kisieleski, ul. Zwierzyniecka 19-A/4, 15-312 Bialystok, Poland. Kisieleski states Poland's 90,000 hunters killed roughly half a million animals in 1988, along with "about 10 people."

**The Animal Welfare Board of India** covers the Indian animal scene in *Animal Citizen* quarterly, available for donation from 51 First Main Road, Gandhinagar, Madras-600 020, India.

**Elephants have been added to Appendix One** of the endangered species list maintained by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), thus triggering a global moratorium on the ivory trade, effective 1990-1992. Still, the ban's prospects for a dramatic improvement in the situation affecting the African elephant remain problematic as five ivory-trading nations (Zimbabwe, Botswana, Mozambique, Malawi, and Burundi) said they would go on selling ivory anyway. South Africa supports this position, too.



**A Malaysian elephant** killed a hunter October 7, a rare reversal of the usual.

Continued on next page



ty. "As I started walking up, I heard shotgun blasts in the valley below," he recalls. "Then I started to notice hundreds of shotgun casings on the trail, and feathers in the bushes. And I realized I didn't hear a single songbird...The songbirds of Saint Francis were no more, and had been decimated by hunters." Songbirds are a delicacy in Italy, where they are roasted, baked in bread, or prepared in other ways.

Shocked by what he saw as a "barbaric" and "unsporting" tradition, Schwarzschild, in collaboration with Maria Luisa Cohen, established in 1984 the Assisi Bird Council/Europe. A campaign to save the songbirds soon followed, but perhaps the decisive point

how can you allow this to happen?"

A moratorium has been placed on songbird hunting on Mt. Subasio, and the Italian government recently approved the boundaries of a park on the mountain, although no funds have been set aside for its administration. Meanwhile, the actual status of songbirds remains in doubt. According to the International Council for Bird Preservation in Oxford, England, hundreds of millions of songbirds (perhaps up to 15 percent of those migrating) are shot, trapped, netted, or caught with lime-sticks (branches coated with a sticky substance) as they move across the Mediterranean flyway.



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## INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

*Continued from previous page*

After spending \$76,380 on studies, the Pig Research Council of Australia has concluded that pigs don't reproduce or grow as well when harshly treated.

**Wildlife habitat could be devastated** by 30 large dams and 3,000 small ones the Indian government plans to build along the Narmada River, flooding thousands of farms and villages.

The U.S. Senate has passed a measure that would bar import of shrimp from nations whose shrimpers don't use turtle-exclusion devices.

**Asinara, an island off Sardinia,** doubles as a maximum security prison and a nature preserve.

The price of frog's legs is up 40 percent over the past two years, after China, India, and Bangladesh restricted exports to preserve their frog populations. Japan and the Philippines are filling the supply gap.

The Group of 100, Mexico's most prestigious environmental organization, has asked the Mexican government to ban netting tuna "on dolphin."

**Australia now allows emu meat** to be sold for human consumption. The Australian captive emu population is about 2,500, in about nine farms.

**Two Quebec bowhunters were charged** with jacklighting and using an illegal crossbow after killing a game warden near Ste. Agathe-des-Monts. Upset that murder charges were not filed, the provincial game wardens' union told members to avoid confronting poachers and not answer night calls.

**Bald eagles and osprey,** nearly wiped out by pesticides a decade ago, have made a striking comeback in Nova Scotia, feasting on roadkilled deer and unwanted male chickens killed and dumped outdoors by poultry farmers.

**Last year's seal plague** cut the population of the Wadden Sea, just north of the Netherlands and West Germany, by 60 percent.

**Arson recently leveled 1,000 acres** of Israel's biggest wildlife preserve, the 7,000-acre Carmel National Park.

**Bergen-Op-Zoom, The Netherlands** has installed flushing sidewalk toilets for dogs.

**Ten dead belugas washed up** alongside the St. Lawrence River in Quebec during 1987; 21 in 1988; nearly 30 in 1989. Researcher Pierre Beland blames pollution.

**University of Guelph, Ontario researcher Frank Hurnik** is developing an automated, self-contained chicken housing system that gives them freedom of movement, the opportunity for sand bathing, and dark areas for laying. Hurnik has also developed a robot sow to nurse and comfort runt piglets, abandoned by their natural mothers. Seven have been sold at \$14,000 each.

**Anticipating a big market for food animals acclimated to desert conditions** resulting from the "greenhouse effect," Israel is busily developing special strains of ostriches, goats, and other animals. The birds, whose meat is touted as being "practically cholesterol free," are said to weigh over 400 lb.

**Thirty percent of Japanese cats** carry feline AIDS (not transmissible to humans), and 20 percent of British cats, compared with under one percent in North America, where many more cats are neutered and confined to houses.

**Maine hunters are outraged** at Quebec counterparts who use moose calls to lure the animals over the border, then shoot them.

**British singer Ozzy Osbourne,** who once bit the head off a live bat onstage, has been charged with threatening to kill his wife.

**A Quebec radio station advertised** that 99 turkeys would be dropped from a helicopter for Thanksgiving; then dropped paper turkeys instead, redeemable for frozen turkeys at a nearby truck. CHIK-FM station manager Michel Audy stated the stunt was to illustrate the "need to protect animals," leaving the local SPCA and news media shaking their heads.

**An unknown German shepherd** dashed down a Toronto alley October 21, rousted two men as they robbed and tried to rape a 20-year-old woman, and vanished into the night.

## ANIMAL NEWSLINE

### Unhappy Outcome in Montana Wolf Relocation

Three dead wolf pups, maybe four; a dead adult male; the mother of the dead pups roaming the mountains of Montana alone. This was the outcome of a recent attempt at wolf relocation in Montana, an attempt that was by all accounts a total failure.

Historically, the grey wolf ranged throughout western Montana, Idaho, the eastern one-third of Washington and Oregon, the northern two-thirds of Wyoming, and in the Black Hills of South Dakota. But since the 1930s, no viable wolf populations have existed in these lands, a direct result of eradication campaigns in the 1920s designed to forestall wolf predation on livestock.

Today the wolf is listed as endangered, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the agency responsible for wolf recovery, has established a zone management system for wolf recovery in this bioregion. In Zone One, wolf recovery will be encouraged. In Zone Two, wolf presence will not be encouraged, but wolf presence will be tolerated because these areas may contain important habitat or serve as travel corridors. In Zone Three, wolf presence is "undesirable"; if wolves occur in this zones, they can be relocated. If a wolf has been relocated and returns to zone three, he or she can be killed.

West of Kalispell, Montana lies the town of Marion. It is a region of relatively low rolling forested hills, good for logging and ranching. And it was here that some wolves tried to make their home.

In April of last year, a rancher shot and killed a wolf near Marion. He claimed he didn't know that the animal was a wolf, and there was no evidence to the contrary. At the same time, Ed Bangs of the FWS heard reports there was a litter of wolves in the area. He stated that the FWS would trap and move the wolves before they attacked livestock.

In late August, five dead calves were found in the Marion area. The cause of the deaths remains undetermined, but as usual, wolves were blamed.

Leghold traps were set, beginning August 23rd. By September 9, four wolves had been caught. Two were five-month-old pups, one was the mother of the pups, and one was an older male. A third pup was not captured; isolated from the pack, his or her chances of survival are low.

The captive pups were kept in a veterinarian's office in Kalispell,



sometimes on display for visitors, but mostly drugged and in isolation. Under extreme stress, the pups cowered at the sight of humans.

The first choice for relocating the wolves was the Great Bear Wilderness, but after protest from Montana Governor Stan Stephens, they were released in the Nyack drainage of Glacier Park.

The wolves split up, and the pups quickly starved. The older male's foot, which had been mangled when trapped

and hadn't healed, became infected. Unable to catch game, and starving, he began to stray near cattle near the Nyack Flats area of the Rocky Mountain Front, where he was shot.

The mother continues to roam alone. In early October she was seen under an apple tree in a residential area of Rattlesnake Canyon near the town of Missoula, hundreds of miles from Glacier Park.

—Greg Bechle

### Animal Research Facilities Protection Act Update

A flurry of amendment bills followed the introduction of the Heflin and Helms bills into Congress last fall (see November 1989 issue). The Heflin and Helms bills, S-727 and S-1330, would respectively make breaking into laboratories and agricultural facilities a federal crime. S-727 would also outlaw any unauthorized possession or use of lab documents, including to secure enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act. HR-3270, introduced by Rep. Charles Stenholm of Texas with 44 cosponsors, combines the Heflin and Helms bills into one. HR-3349, introduced by Rep. Henry Waxman of California, limits similar provisions to federally

funded facilities. HR-3223, introduced by Rep. Charles Rose of North Carolina, exempts activities that do no lasting physical damage and are undertaken to document Animal Welfare Act violations. Rose is also author of HR-2345, which would give private citizens the right to sue the federal government on their own behalf or the behalf of an animal to compel AWA enforcement.

Write your Senators and Congressional reps urging that HR-2345 be attached as an amendment to any or all of the above bills, and urging passage of both HR-2345 and HR-3223.

—M.C.



## Leave Them Wild

An apparently housebroken 18-month-old bear raided four homes recently in North Evergreen, Colorado, concluding his spree by guzzling a boxed gallon of wine—a behavior he might have learned from watching humans.

Knowing a hungover bear with no fear of people might become a menace, warden Susan Werner reluctantly shot him dead as he slept it off in a nearby tree.

The incident again underscored that wild animals belong in the wild, and should never be domesticated no matter how cute and friendly they are as cubs.

Illicit trade in wolf hybrid dogs has boomed recently, with consequences noted by Washington activist Rik Pfaelzer. First, prices of up to \$1,500 per puppy encourage poachers to take young wolves out of the wild, sometimes killing parents or whole packs, and always reducing the gene pool of often highly endangered local populations. Second, the wolf hybrids tend to become unmanageably aggressive at sexual maturity. Third, charlatans pass off crosses of domestic dogs as wolf hybrids, who then become good companion animals and inspire other people to want a supposed wolf hybrid.

Some wolves do thrive in captivity, including those of the acclaimed Mission: Wolf and Clem and Jethro Lecture Service, who visit classrooms to help dispel stereotypes that have caused the extirpa-



tion of wolves from most of North America. (For details call or write Pamela Brown, P.O. Box 5817, Santa Fe, NM 87502; 505-983-8602.) And, as *Wolf Trilogy* author Aubrey Hampton wrote us about Erich Klinghammer's controversial Wolf Park in Indiana, (see *News Shorts*, July/August), "Many of the wolves there would be dead if not there. One wolf in particular killed a baby. It did so not because wolves kill human beings, but because the wolf was kept in someone's back yard and mistreated." While the judge in the case did not allow the wolf to be released into the wild, he did allow Klinghoffer to "turn the wolf's attitude around," according to Hampton, "by showing it love and attention and mak-

ing it realize that not all humans mistreat wolves....Whether or not I approve of wolves in captivity (at all) is another matter," added Hampton.

Almost any animal may be promoted as a companion animal, no matter how unsuitable. The Pennsylvania SPCA has found prairie dogs for sale in pet shops at \$90 apiece. Prairie dogs require an extensive social network of other prairie dogs and large underground burrows to be healthy and happy; they deliver a bite, despite their small size, comparable to that of a pit bull terrier; and they can do major damage to yards, streets, and sidewalks if they get loose in an urban environment.

—M.C.

## Anti-Fur Crusade Continues

Trans-Species Unlimited's Fur Free Friday, once the opening event for anti-fur campaigns, was more a mid-campaign rally this winter, as major efforts started in October. (A full report on Fur Free Friday shall appear next issue.)

This year, TSU put anti-fur ads on Manhattan phone booths before Halloween. In Defense of Animals held anti-fur demonstrations October 21 in seven major Midwestern cities. Canadians Against Furs began weekly picketing outside Toronto fur salons. An anti-fur ad from Friends of Animals ran in *Rolling Stone*, but was rejected by *Time* and

### Correction

Apologies to Alison Pascoe, who was misidentified as Alison Paska in "Helping Hands," November 1989.

—M.C.

## Helping Hands

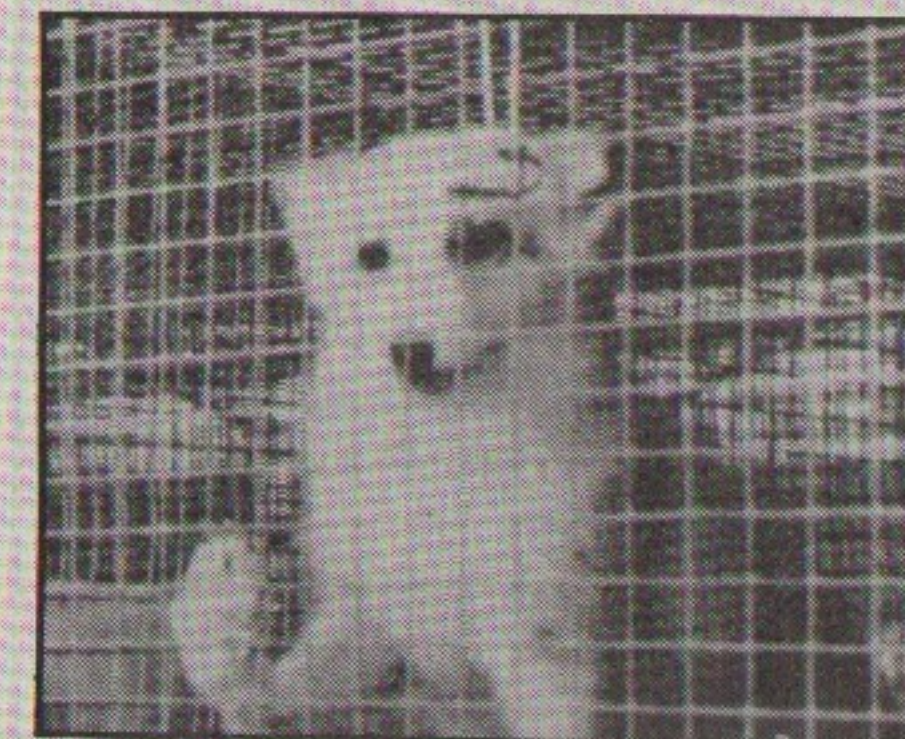
Responding to criticism of the Helping Hands program to train capuchin monkeys to assist quadriplegic veterans, Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs chairman Alan Cranston writes, "Because I believe it is necessary to attempt to ensure that monkeys used in any such VA program are properly treated, I proposed and the Committee included in the bill ordered favorably reported to the Senate a requirement that VA's Chief Medical Director must take steps to ensure that the welfare of the monkeys is protected. Toward the same end, I plan to offer a floor amendment to this legislation to require the Chief Medical Director, before

any animals are placed with veterans under the pilot program, to provide for the conduct of an independent evaluation of the treatment of the monkeys....This evaluation would be required to be conducted in consultation with representatives of appropriate animal welfare groups." (See "Helping Hands," November 1989.)

*Newsweek*, perhaps because it might have offended ad agencies that represent both the fur trade and more significant magazine advertisers.

Friends of Animals met similar resistance from New York City billboard agencies—but an ad reading "Get A Feel For Fur. Slam Your Fingers In A Car Door" was eventually displayed by Vickary Eckhoff of the firm Ogilvy-Mather, which formerly represented Black Diamond Mink.

One store, the Chicago Fur Outlet, tried



to boost sales with a hotline (348-FURS) on which a so-called Furry Godmother explained how to buy a fur garment. But many of the calls came from protesters. In Greenville, South Carolina, Peaceable Kingdom persuaded Furman University not to offer a continuing education course on fur-buying as investment—while people who did buy furs as investments watched the prices of used garments and unused pelts decompose to new lows.

Even new mink coats, imported from China, were sold for as little as \$350 in the pre-Christmas season, usually the fur trade's strongest sales period. The cheap imports further undercut the domestic fur garment manufacturing industry, whose North American workforce has fallen from over 20,000 at peak to under 5,000 today. But furs weren't moving at any price, obliging the Jindo chain, whose garments are made in South Korea, to close several of its British salons. (Jindo is going ahead, however, with plans to expand its South Korean mink ranch stock from 10,000 to 500,000 animals over the next five years.) Sears Roebuck closed out its fur line. The Fur Vault Inc. reported a net loss of \$2,406,000 for the first quarter of sales year 1989-1990, while Evans Inc., accounting for about 10 percent of U.S. retail fur sales, lost \$2,006,000 (with a six-month loss of \$4,291,000). Business was so bad that the Montreal Fur Baron's Ball was cancelled due to poor ticket sales.

Among prominent U.S. furriers going out of business were Rachel's Furs of Denver, whose owner, Dennis Gene Dailey, had mounted an aggressive campaign of intimidation against the Rocky Mountain Humane Society, and had been sued by RMHS for harassment. Bad karma also caught up with Willmar, Minnesota furrier Scott Johnson, who was fined \$5,000 and sent to prison for 30 days, with 23 months suspended, for dealing in illegally trapped furs during 1985-1987.

On October 31, Suffolk Superior Court in Massachusetts issued a preliminary injunction against the opening of trapping season before a verdict is rendered on whether padded leghold traps cause animal suffering. Leghold traps are banned in Massachusetts, but the state department of fish and game has claimed that padded leghold traps are not leghold traps, and has continued to license trappers using them. The Massachusetts Supreme Court in 1989 agreed that padded leghold traps are not leghold traps by strict legal definition. A consortium of animal protection groups countered in the new suit that regardless of how traps are defined, padded legholds are still in violation of the stated purpose of the law: to ban cruel trapping methods. Plaintiffs included HSUS, ASPCA, PETA, CEASE, MSPCA, the Animal Rescue League, the Massachusetts Audubon Society, and private citizens Karen Bunting and Dorothy O'Brien.

HSUS reminds readers to report cases of non-target animals getting caught in traps, of any type. Write Pat Ragan, HSUS, 2100 L St. NW, Washington DC 20037.

—M.C.

## Hunting Peace and Justice

The Fund for Animals challenged hunting in five states on successive weekends recently, seeking to overturn hunter harassment laws and end hunting at wildlife refuges. Last year a challenge overturned Connecticut's hunter harassment law as unconstitutional, but a similar law remains in effect in Maryland and 40 police turned out to enforce it. Six activists were arrested for following bow hunters and saying such things to them as "Why is it necessary to kill deer with a bow and arrow?", "These animals deserve a basic amount of respect," and "This is hideously cruel." The six were convicted October 17 in a lower court, setting up the appeal on constitutional grounds that the Fund hopes will strike the law down.

One day earlier, another six activists were arrested at Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge in Virginia, again for trying to stop an archery deer hunt. Three activists chained themselves to the refuge gate, delaying entry of the deer hunters for four hours, by which time the prime shooting period (just after dawn) was long over. Three more activists, including Fund director Wayne Pacelle, were charged with trespassing. Hunting had been barred at Mason Neck since the refuge was established in 1969 as a sanctuary for bald eagles. The Fund is seeking to block a rifle deer season in court, on grounds the shooting will disturb the eagles. The eagle nesting area is closed to the general public, but not to hunters, according to Pacelle, who also noted that the alleged

*Continued on next page*

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Continued from previous page

overpopulation of deer the hunters are combatting only started with the appointment of a new pro-hunting refuge manager.

Pacelle also led actions against pheasant hunting in Connecticut, bow hunting for deer in Kentucky, duck hunting in Texas, and rifle hunting for deer in Maryland. Under pressure from the Fund, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department pledged to keep bans on hunting at 96 of 105 state parks. Hunting was banned in all 105 until 15 years ago; six parks were opened to hunting 1986-1988, and more were to be opened until Dana Forbes of the Fund mobilized protest petitions and motorcades. (Letters in support of the no hunting policy may be addressed to Charles Travis, Executive Director, Texas Parks and Wildlife, 4200 Smith School Rd., Austin, TX 78744.)

Other groups are also active in anti-hunting efforts. The Society for the Protection of Animal Rights and Ethics is protesting the closure of Rock Cut State Park in Illinois during a two-month archery deer season. Rationale for the hunt is as usual alleged deer overpopulation; an official count of 275 deer by the park office was inflated to 500 deer by the Illinois Dept. of Conservation. The Rocky Mountain Humane Society again tried to stop deer hunting at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, first with an unsuccessful lawsuit, then with a series of demonstrations.

While activists demonstrated for animals, so-called sportsmen demonstrated their sportsmanship. An Arkansas squirrel hunter delayed reporting his discovery of the corpse of a missing girl to get in an extra day's shooting. Golf pro Tom Watson and 25 others were arrested

for baiting mourning doves into shooting range at Lee's Summit, Missouri. Florida hunters spread dismembered deer parts over county judge Marshall Clements' lawn shortly before he tried 13 people for

hunting deer with hounds out of season. Florida hunters are allowed to set hounds on deer for 20 days in October and November 11 through January 1 each winter. —M.C.

## Presidio Greyhounds Win Reprieve

Nineteen former racing greyhounds whose legs were to be broken in a test of synthetic bone-grafting material won a last-minute reprieve through the intervention of San Francisco Congressional Representative Barbara Boxer. The 19

military affairs, Boxer initially asked the Army to suspend the tests "pending further review of the necessity for this experiment, and a review of the treatment of the animals to minimize pain and suffering." Days later, after the tests were suspended, Boxer and four other Congressional reps called for complete cancellation of the project, while In



were to be the first of 118 greyhounds slated for use in the tests, which were financed by the 3M Corporation, and were to be done at the Letterman Army Institute of Research in San Francisco (better known as The Presidio.) As a member of two House committees on

Defense of Animals filed a lawsuit seeking to force cancellation. The opponents agreed vital information about the experiments had been withheld, and that in Boxer's words, summarizing a review by the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, "the experiment, as described, had little scientific validity, would not yield the desired information, would cause unnecessary suffering to the animals involved, and was therefore a waste of taxpayers' money."

Boxer, In Defense of Animals, and the Marin Humane Society also allege the dealer who sold the greyhounds to Letterman obtained at least six of them via fraud, from trainers who thought they would either be adopted out or euthanized and were unaware they might be used in research. When the testing was suspended, the Army released all 19 to the Marin Humane Society, for either adoption or return to their original owners. —M.C.

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## Nevada Horse Rescue

Concerned citizens of Las Vegas have helped 41 of 42 starving horses recover their health and find new homes. One filly had to be put down.

According to rescue coordinator Douglas Trenner, president of K-NEWS radio, the horses were discovered by the Nye County Sheriff's Dept. on September 22, 1988. "To say they were saved in the nick of time would be a gross understatement," said Trenner, noting lack of hoof care and other medical problems in addition to complete lack of feed in their paddocks. Emergency feed was donated by singer Wayne Newton; Newton's veterinarians donated medical care; and Mel Larson and William Bennett of Circus Circus furnished boarding facilities, while Trenner and his wife personally supervised transportation and the initial recovery period.



Horse owner Gordon Wheeler eventually was convicted on 27 of 42 cruelty charges, receiving 450 days in jail and a \$12,200 fine. Nye County meanwhile foreclosed on a lien against Wheeler for the costs of care for the horses, who were then sold at auction "to good homes in the southern Nevada area," Trenner stated. They fetched \$21,000.

In a similar case, Osceola County, Florida seized 25 starving horses and euthanized another. The horses belonged to one Rhonda Wright; some might have been among 21 starving horses seized in Seminole County two years ago but returned when a judge dismissed cruelty charges. A defamation of character suit by Wright against the Seminole County Humane Society is pending.

—M.C.

## Helping Animals Come Hell Or High Water

Animals as well as people were left cold, wet, hungry and homeless after Hurricane Hugo roared through the Caribbean and up the South Carolina coast last September. Relief efforts by the American Humane Association, World Society for the Protection of Animals, North Shore Animal Protection League, and others are still underway—and will be needed for many months more, according to AHA representative Rich Meyer, who was on St. John, one of the Virgin Islands, when Hugo hit.

The situation after the San Francisco earthquake October 17 was by contrast "pretty fortunate," Meyer observed. AHA and WSPA were also ready to help out there, but San Francisco area humane societies and shelters escaped most of the quake damage, and had their own contingency plans up and running within hours.

"There were injuries to pets from falling debris, and some frightened animals jumped out of windows," confirmed Michael O'Sullivan of WSPA, "but they had their food and veterinary supplies, mostly broad-spectrum antibiotics." The biggest problem in the wake of the earthquake was temporarily housing animals for people who had to be

relocated and couldn't take dogs or cats with them.

Everything was a problem in the Caribbean, where Hugo flattened most of the few existing shelters. The worst situation was probably on Vieques, an extremely impoverished island off Puerto Rico. Homeless, hungry cats, dogs, horses, and burros have overrun Vieques for decades; animal control there, said Meyer, traditionally consists of crushed glass rolled into rotten meat. Meyer assisted Penny Miller and a handful of other volunteers from the tiny Vieques Humane Society in distributing animal food, highly praising her efforts as well as those of Puerto Rican SPCA director Megan Haley and staff. Meyer also lauded Puerto Rican veterinarian Dr. Cesar Gonzalez, who often visits Vieques to help the VHS spay/neuter program and continued his work through the hurricane aftermath.

The AHA sent emergency generators to shelters on St. Thomas and St. Croix, along with two tons of dog and cat food donated by Gaines and Ralston Purina and 1,000 doses of vaccine donated by Norden Laboratories. Meyer noted that "Among all the people I've called to get help," not only food but also pharmaceuticals, "I have not yet been turned

down." Some manufacturers even paid transport costs to the Caribbean, averaging \$250 per ton.

The International Primate Protection League shelter at Somerville, South Carolina was probably the hardest-hit animal care facility on the U.S. mainland. The roof was torn off a gibbon house, trees crushed the fence around a compound for eight Asian otters—who had been removed to safety inside founder Shirley McGreal's house—and other buildings were damaged. But IPPL's biggest problem was lack of electricity and lack of appropriate food for the more exotic animals in the immediate area.

McGreal reported that local shelters for people who lost their homes had refused to take companion animals, increasing the stress on dogs and cats who suffered not only from Hugo itself, but also from separation from their families.

Contributions toward disaster relief may be addressed to IPPL at P.O. Drawer 766, Summerville, SC 29484; the South Carolina SPCA at P.O. Box 4296, Greenville, SC 29608; AHA at P.O. Box 1266, Denver, CO 80201; and WSPA at P.O. Box 190, Boston, MA 02130.

—M.C.



## "It was a miracle to all of us..."

"We thank you from the bottom of our hearts!"

"I truly thank God for having your assistance..."

"... difficult to express the gratitude I feel."

"Let me thank you for the millionth time..."

My name is Bette Rapoport and I have the most rewarding job in the world... as president of the National Dog Registry, I constantly get to reunite missing pets with their grieving owners. Over and over every year, on calls from all across the nation, I have the deeply satisfying pleasure of saying, "Mrs. Jones, we have located your Shepherd, Duke, at a pound in Centerville. He is healthy, safe and they are awaiting your call." It's hard to describe the kind of reactions people respond with; some folks yell with joy, others are amazed and shocked. Many cry.

You see, most people are very complacent about the safety of their pet, and when it is suddenly lost or stolen, they are usually stunned. Since you began reading this article, 30 pets have died in shelter and pound euthanasia programs, many simply because their grieving owners cannot be traced. If you also count research laboratories, another 140 animals died during that same period of time and many of them are wanted family pets. These statistics are very sad and very unnecessary because a simple solution exists. By reading this entire article, you've taken a major step toward becoming part of it. Due to the constant demand for laboratory animals and for other uses such as dog fighting and fur (yes, I said fur... in gloves and coats **you can't really tell pussycat from bunny or shepherd from fox!**), the ugly trade of pet theft has grown by alarming proportions. Pet theft is a well organized multimillion dollar business that lurks in shadows and goes unnoticed until it strikes your home and your pet. If it happens to you and if you haven't planned against it, **you will almost certainly never see your pet again.**

Nearly one out of every five dogs in the U.S. will be lost or stolen this year. Sadly, pets that are usually kept inside the house are the most vulnerable, for once outside they become easily disoriented and lost. Thousands of

times each year we speak to astonished pet owners that say things like, "I can't believe it, my Sheltie was locked in a fenced-in yard. Now she's gone"; or "We were just out for a drive. Lady must have spotted a rabbit because I opened the door, she was gone in a flash";... "my spaniel never goes outside without a leash...it was an accident." "The paperboy left the gate open and my retriever just followed my wife's car...it's been three days, can you help?" Well, chances are, if their pet was registered with a simple, permanently identifiable, three minute, painless tattoo, **the National Dog Registry did help.**

Since developing the concept of a nationally registered tattoo in 1966, the **NDR has saved thousands and thousands of pets** that have become accidentally lost or deliberately stolen. Every day NDR works with shelters, pounds, humane societies, veterinarians, laboratories, dog wardens and police agencies across the country to make sure your registered pet is returned safely to you. NDR distributes thousands of tattooed pet "Wanted" posters each year bearing our toll free number (1-800-NDR-DOGS) for the reporting of a found tattooed pet. We've earned a singular reputation for dependability and integrity and are endorsed and used by organizations such as: Guiding Eyes for the Blind, Inc., Action 81, Inc., Aid Dogs for the Handicapped Foundation, Inc., Foundation for Animal Protection, Inc., and Our Animal Wards, to name a few.

I am sad to say we have seen many copycat-type pet protection services, using every gimmick, come and go. Some organizations make outrageous claims about the abilities of their system. Many new registries are filled with good intentions at the beginning, until they become disenchanted with the tremendous pressure and expense of staffing a **24 hour, 7 day a week, 365 day a year hot line** such as we have done for almost a quarter of a century. Then, they are gone, leaving the pet you registered totally unprotected and you ripped off.

The NDR tracking program is based on a state-of-the-art IBM computer system with extensive custom-developed software that far outstrips the search and cross-comparison abilities of any other pet recovery system. The NDR offers a pet owner their choice of numbers such as the Social Security Number or an NDR-computer encoded

number. AKC number or any other number which has no registered duplicate in our files.

**An NDR registration follows a pet and its owner for life.** Should the ownership of a pet be transferred (there is a form for such a purpose in your owner's kit), there is never a charge.

Beware of a few important things: **collar tags have limited value.** They are too easily lost or removed. Pet recovery systems based on collar tag information are virtually useless when a pet is stolen. **Just as foolish as not registering a tattoo at all** is only registering with a local type of system. Statistics indicate that 95% of stolen pets are almost immediately ferried across state lines to avoid detection. What is the value of a local recovery system then? It only makes sense to provide your pet with the proper national coverage.

**Ear tattoos...don't do it!** Laboratories regularly report purchasing dogs and cats with missing ears. Do you think for a moment that an unscrupulous dog thief would hesitate lopping off an ear to keep from being caught in possession of stolen property? Use our system only. A proper tattoo takes only three painless minutes to apply on your pet's right inside thigh. Absolutely no anesthetic is necessary. It simply does not hurt.

OK. So now you know about the National Dog Registry system and you're asking yourself if this is something you should do for your pet. Well, here's another reason why you should...the fee. You pay the fee one time, not every year like some other services. **It covers every pet you ever own and have tattooed in your lifetime.** The one-time fee is \$35.00. How's that for value. NDR has always been operated on high ethics, not the pursuit of profits. We adhere to the finest written Code of Ethics in the industry. NDR is an organization operated by people whose lives are devoted to animals. Call or write to us, **NDR, Dept. AA P.O. Box 116, Woodstock, N.Y. 12498**, for information or the name of a qualified tattooer in your area.

**An NDR registration is the least expensive, most important pet insurance you'll ever own.** Ask anyone who has lost a loved pet, if they wouldn't pay \$35.00 to have it returned. Don't wait until it's too late. Do it...because, it's a dog's life.

## NEWS SHORTS

EDITED BY MERRITT CLIFTON



■ **Under half the 12,000 alligator eggs** Florida grabbed for captive hatching this year produced live young—and only 10 percent of the eggs from polluted Lake Apopka. 229 licensed alligator hunters meanwhile massacred their quota with bangsticks, harpoons, bows and arrows, and even axes.

■ **Kenneth Lawrence Hershey**, accused of fraud and cruelty in running what investigators allege was one of the nation's largest puppy sales scams, has been extradited from Florida to California to face charges.

■ **Stating "Polar bears belong in the wild, not stuffed,"** White Bear Lake, Florida mayor Gerald Briggs refused to display a mounted polar bear with baby seal donated by a local businessman.

■ **Cruelty-free hair care product maker** Paul Mitchell Professional Salon Products is sponsoring a rock album with an animal rights message.

■ **The orangutans used in Bobby Berosini's act** at the Stardust Hotel in Las Vegas had been hit with a steel bar as shown on videotape, and were inadequately cared for, confirmed two of three experts who did examinations pursuant to court order. (See *News Shorts*, November 1989.) Urge Stardust general manager John Miner to permanently cancel Berosini: 3000 S. Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89109. Ask the USDA to revoke Berosini's exhibitor's permit: Dr. Dale Schwindeaman, USDA-APHIS, 6505 Belcrest Rd., Federal Bldg., Room 206, Hyattsville, MD 20782. And ask the U.S. Dept. of the Interior to revoke Berosini's endangered species permit: Office of Management Authority, Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 432, Arlington, VA 22201.

■ **Gibber Italicus canaries** are bred for vulture-like humped backs, which inhibit normal flight.

■ **Congress has allocated \$850,000** to start the Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuge in West Virginia and Pennsylvania—which the Fish and Wildlife Service plans to open to hunting.

■ **The Arkansas state fair** quit giving ducklings as prizes after one was dropped from a ferris wheel.

■ **Florida congressmen Porter Goss** has asked the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to cancel the National Aquarium's dolphin capture permit, because the Florida dolphin population is down and the museum has been unable to keep dolphins healthy.

■ **The USDA's Animal Damage Control program plans to use 15 golden eagles** in tests aimed at bringing back lamb collars loaded with Compound 1080, a predator poison banned from commercial use since 1972. The collars, required to be eagle-proof, each contain 300 milligrams of 1080, enough to kill 60 coyotes—who usually attack lamb's bellies and hindquarters, however, not their throats. The golden eagles are permanently injured trapping victims.

■ **Researchers at Boston's Massachusetts General Hospital** seek permission to test transfusions of modified cow's blood into humans.

■ **Steel drums used for shipping bulk foods** are often coated with animal fat to inhibit rust. Jewish, Islamic, and Seventh Day Adventist groups have joined in protest.

■ **Rodenticides spread to kill rats** have apparently annihilated squirrels as well in New York's Central Park—again. This also happened a year ago.

■ **Saber-toothed tigers** shared their kills with injured and elderly pride members who could no longer hunt, say experts at the La Brea tar pits in Los Angeles.

■ **Local bans on pit bull terriers** have been overturned by judicial decision in New York and the state legislature in California.

■ **The California Energy Dept.** is extracting methane from excrement saved during 30 years of radiation tests on beagles.

■ **After 15 years of giving cheese** to school lunch programs, spending up to \$2 billion a year to buy it, \$60 million to store it, the USDA

has used up the surplus. But most school lunches won't contain any less animal fat, which recent studies have blamed for increasing childhood obesity: they're just serving more pork and hamburger, except in California. There a new state law sets limits on school lunch fat and cholesterol levels, and encourages more servings of fruits and vegetables.

■ **Cabot Creamery is the third-biggest polluter** in Vermont, according to newly released 1987 statistics. Dairy manufacturing makes both air and water pollution as well as large-volume toxic solid wastes.

■ **The California Court of Appeals has refused** to lift the state's 17-year ban on hunting mountain lions, calling the Fish and Game Commission's impact report "woefully inadequate." Proposed mountain lion seasons have been cancelled by court action three years in a row, and petitions are being circulated to place a permanent ban on next year's statewide ballot.

■ **George Bush, a hunter**, recently watched *The Bear*, perhaps the most moving anti-hunting film ever made, at a private screening (see *Reviews*, December 1989).

■ **California condors may be released** back into the wild by next year, says San Diego Wild Animal Park bird curator Bill Toone. The last 32 condors, netted two years ago, are breeding ahead of schedule in captivity.



■ **Hundreds of white pelicans** have died alongside Los Angeles water supply sources, possibly due to an unknown pollutant.

■ **The Cui-ui fish**, food staple of the Paiutes, is endangered by dams cutting access to their high Sierra spawning streams.

■ **The Smithsonian Institution accepted custody** of a 10.5-pound, 40-year-old lobster at Bethesda, Maryland dentist purchased from a tank in his local Safeway.

More NOTES on next page.



Continued from previous page

## NEWS SHORTS

■ **Two of five highly endangered** Mt. Graham squirrels captured for population study by the University of Arizona died from handling shock. Earth First! charges that construction of the university's Mt. Graham observatory may send the squirrel to extinction.

■ **Recent flooding has helped** the threatened paddlefish reclaim habitat in Ohio.

■ **West Virginia** lacks a state endangered species act.

■ **American Humane's current shelter survey** shows humane societies are receiving fewer animals now—fewer dogs, but more cats; cats are less likely to be claimed by owners and more likely to be euthanized; and humane societies with animal control contracts have higher euthanasia rates than either pounds or non-pound-affiliated shelters. (The survey is \$12, from AHA, P.O. Box 1266, Denver, CO 80201.)

■ **A little-publicized Adopt-A-Duck campaign** brought just one call, so Manhattan Beach, California had Los Angeles County Animal Control kill 83 birds and two turtles—many of them discarded companion animals—who inhabited a 15-acre city park.

■ **U.S. wild ducks number 64 million**, says the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The all-time low was 62 million in 1985.

■ **Lake Champlain**, between New York and Vermont, is in rapid biological decline due to pollution, according to the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources.

■ **Sales of eggless bread** were up 20 percent last year, according to *Supermarket News*.

■ **Miss America, Debbye Turner of Arkansas**, is promoting the use of animals in biomedical research.

■ **Borden Inc.**, the world's biggest dairy, and a leader in the pasta, wall coverings, and glue businesses, is cutting dairy operations by a third, laying off 7,000 workers.

■ **Dolphin swim and "dolphin therapy"** programs are proliferating despite increasing evidence that dolphins are neither happy nor healthy in tanks, and despite one woman's claim that a captive dolphin raped her.

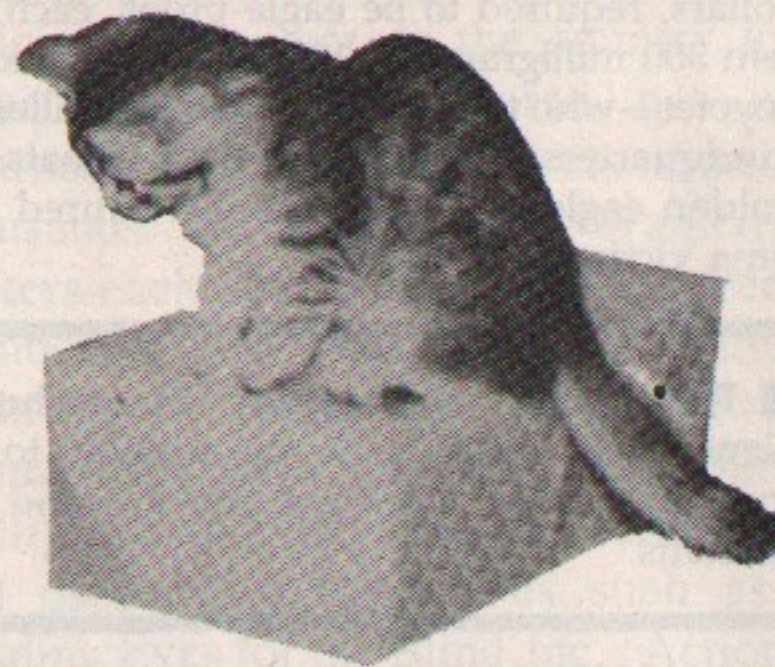
■ **Mattel, Hasbro, and Kenner** have joined Tonka and 130 other toy makers in abandoning product tests on animals.

■ **Though barred by law most places**, Rip and Randy Tyler still force a toothless, clawless bear to wrestle wherever dive owners either don't know or care about health and cruelty laws. Greenville, Mississippi plumber James Morgan bit the bear during one recent match.

■ **Western Michigan footballer** Paul Johnson got two years' probation and had to pay \$175 for ripping the head off a swan last spring. He also has to undergo alcohol counseling and perform 100 hours of community service.

■ **Possessions of trapper Claude Dallas**, serving life for killing two game wardens, were auctioned in Reno recently for \$10,000, to benefit his appeal fund. Forty Nevada lawmen picketed.

■ **A Decatur, Georgia man** arrested for the torture killings of 77 cats said he got them by answering newspaper ads offering free kittens.



■ **Gonzalez, Louisiana is building** a new shelter, is installing proper sewage facilities, and has adopted out or euthanized all animals from the old shelter, after Legislation in Support of Animals documented gross abuses including open pits of dead dogs and feces. Until last Sept. 29, shelter animals weren't even fed, nor were their cages cleaned, from noon each Friday to Monday morning. LISA is now giving cruelty investigation seminars to other groups. **New York state health inspector Janet Vandenburg** faces over 100 cruelty charges in connection with 118 starving, parasite-infested Russian wolfhounds rescued from her VanZar Kennels in mid-September. Vandenburg was suspended without pay, after another state health official called the site the worst mess he'd seen in 19 years. Samantha Mullen of the New York State Humane Assn. coordinated efforts by over 20 humane organizations to shelter and feed the dogs, none of whom were immediately euthanized.

■ **Federal district judge Eugene Spellman** has upheld Hialeah, Florida's ordinance against animal sacrifice, ruling the First Amendment protects only religious beliefs, not practices.

■ **Disney World (Florida) and five employees** face state and federal cruelty charges for

shooting hawks, killing vultures with sticks, and disturbing the nests and eggs of egrets. Eighteen dehydrated vultures were rescued from a small shed where up to 70 had been held without adequate food or water.

■ **The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** has announced its intention to prosecute firms responsible for the deaths of migratory birds in Oklahoma oil field waste pits.

■ **DNX Inc. of Princeton, New Jersey** has obtained the first patent on a process for moving genetic material from one kind of animal to another.

■ **Harcourt Brace Jovanovich** has sold the Sea World amusement park chain to Anheuser-Busch for \$1.1 billion.

■ **Goldfish farmer Marvin Carpenter** has been convicted on 32 of 36 counts in connection with massacring over 9,200 protected birds over a five-year period.

■ **The Bureau of Land Management** has found 45 dead tortoises in 288 acres near Las Vegas, evidence that a respiratory ailment imperiling the species is spreading. 59 square miles of Mojave desert are already off limits to people and grazing animals to protect the tortoises.

■ **California Congressional rep Barbara Boxer** has introduced a bill requiring warning labels on tuna possibly netted "on dolphin."

■ **Lee County, Florida** has adopted ordinances to protect manatees from speed-boaters and prevent aquariums from catching dolphins in county waters.

■ **The New England Aquarium** euthanized an 800-pound sea turtle who beached herself twice along the coast of Maine. Tired turtles often beach themselves to rest, but museum officials said this one showed impaired coordination.

■ **Oklahoma horse trainer Theodore Goehl**, who beat a restrained horse with a grain shovel, was fined \$6,000 after pleading no contest to six cruelty charges.

■ **Pressed by loggers**, Ford, Exxon, and Dean Witter followed Stroh Breweries in pulling funding from a recent National Audubon Society TV special on the ancient forests of Oregon. Turner Broadcasting aired the special anyway. A Congressional conference committee meanwhile approved compromise legislation that would protect spotted owl habitat while releasing to logging roughly half the timberland now impounded by Federal courts.

■ **Edward Taub**, convicted on six cruelty counts in 1981 for mistreating monkeys at the Institute for Behavioral Research in Silver Spring, Maryland, is now a psychology professor at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. The convictions were overturned by the Maryland Court of Appeals in 1983, on technical grounds. The surviving monkeys remain in custody of the National Institutes of Health, in solitary confinement; People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals still seeks their release to any of several sanctuaries.

■ **Sema Inc.**, a Rockville, Maryland medical research lab, has been fined \$2,500 for blocking federal inspections during 1987. PETA and chimp researcher Jane Goodall have been outspokenly critical of Sema's primate handling.

■ **The Chincoteague, Virginia Volunteer Fire Company** raises \$40,000 a year selling "wild" ponies caught in the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge on Assateague Island. The firemen pay the refuge \$180 per year to graze the herd, which supposedly must be thinned to save vegetation, but has been boosted repeatedly by introducing new breeding stock. The Humane Society of the U.S. has documented extensive abuse during roundup: four mares died in 1988, and two more in 1989. Protest to Constance Harriman, Asst. Secretary for Fish and Wildlife Parks, Dept. of the Interior, 18th and C Streets NW, Washington, DC 20240; and John Schroer, Refuge Mgr., Chincoteague NWR, P.O. Box 62, Chincoteague, VA 23336. A smaller herd of wild horses on nearby Carrot Island numbers 19, down from 67 two years ago. About 20 starved, while the rest were removed and sold. Even so, the remainder are reportedly overgrazing, and may also be removed soon.

■ **Louisiana State Penitentiary warden Hilton Butler** has been fired on eight counts of malfeasance, including using inmates and prison property to raise fighting cocks. Cockfighting is legal in Louisiana, but not in the joint.

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## NEWS SHORTS

■ **Of 700 greyhounds who raced** at the Green Mountain track in Pownal, Vermont during 1988, over 300 were euthanized by the Pittsfield branch of the Massachusetts SPCA before year's end. The MSPCA killed 175 greyhounds in 1987, 207 in 1989, and has killed up to 400 a season. The number brought to the MSPCA



dropped sharply when the shelter doubled its euthanasia fee. **Idaho legislator Jim Stoicheff** says he'd have voted against legalizing greyhound racing if he'd known dogs were killed. The racing came to Idaho in 1988. The legislature is now considering a bill to restrict disposal of the corpses; citizens object to finding them in public dumps.

■ **Of 594 hunters injured in Georgia** since 1980, 214 fell out of trees. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed permitting hunting of so-called nuisance grizzly bears around Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks. The period for public comment closed December 19. Protest to your Senators and Congressional reps.

■ **Current investment in biotechnology** exceeds \$5 billion, says *Technology Review*.

■ **W.B. Allen, chairman of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights**, told the California Coalition for Traditional Values on October 7 that the animal rights and gay rights movements are demeaning to minorities because extending rights to animals and homosexuals would put them all

on the same footing. Protest to George Bush, your Senators, and your Congressional reps.

■ **Procter and Gamble has purchased** Noxell. Both firms are leaders in developing nonanimal testing methods (Noxell no longer uses animals), but the former is suspect for organizing a pro-animal testing industry coalition.

■ **Field testing genetically modified plants and microbes** won't be dangerous if done carefully, claims the National Academy of Sciences. Biotechnology critic Jeremy Rifkin counters that since these will be new organisms, there's no way of knowing for sure.

■ **Sleeping sickness has killed** a young boy in Mississippi and three horses in Louisiana. Though formally called equine encephalomyelitis, the disease is carried by mosquitoes, not horses. Ducks and other wildfowl are carriers; people and horses are end hosts.

■ **Alaskan sea otters** can identify clams contaminated with the lethal red tide microorganisms, report University of Washington researchers. People can't.

■ **California governor George Deukmejian** signed a bill banning eating dogs and cats, but asked the state assembly to pass a follow-up bill imposing civil penalties instead of jail time.

■ **The Lac du Flambeau Chippewa tribe** turned down an offer of \$35.6 million from Wisconsin for their spearfishing rights. The state wants to encourage so-called sport fishermen, who spend more money.

Please send clippings and news releases to: The Animals' Agenda News Department, Box 129, Richford, VT 05476.

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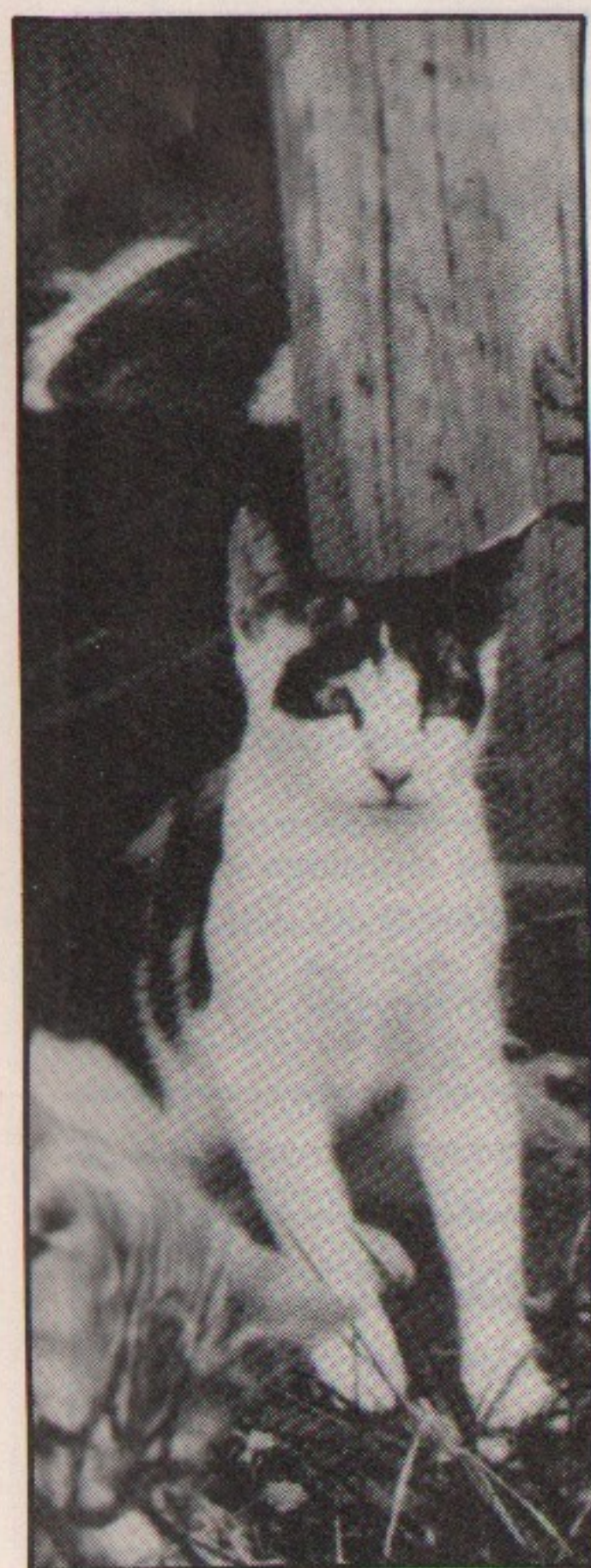
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Largely Preventable Tragedies (I)—

## HOLOCAUST AT THE ANIMAL SHELTER

BY DAVID PATRICE GREANVILLE



### The long arm of human chauvinism

The brutal toll exacted by speciesism on animals can often be seen in issues where no group or interest profits. Such is the case with two of North America's most neglected animal tragedies: the continued killing of millions of healthy cats and dogs in the nation's shelters, and the unrelenting crushing of a huge number of domestic and wild animals on the country's streets, roads, and highways.

That speciesism has a lot to do with this state of affairs is indisputable. How else can we account for the rather inexplicable conformity with which both government officials and the public seem to regard these familiar holocausts? Is it possible to imagine a truly civilized society sending upwards of 17 million healthy children to their deaths every year for no other reason than a failure to attract foster parents? Or one in which every three years up to a billion toddlers would be allowed to perish under the wheels of ubiquitous vehicles, victims of nothing more evil than rampant indifference, poorly designed highway deterrents, and appalling driving habits?

Inconceivable? Of course. That's the point. No matter how degenerate and uncaring some societies may be these days in the treatment of their human populations, it's hard to find even one that will look so cavalierly on the liquidation of so many of its most defenseless members. That kind of placidity is reserved for animals.

But if placidity, born of human chauvinism (and reinforced by mass ignorance), can explain the public's inattention to these issues, what can possibly explain the similar passivity encountered among animal liberation activists?

### Light at the end of the euthanasia tunnel

Now, we need to keep things in perspective. Although wholly unjustified, because in them we can't even find the rationale of human self-interest, the two issues are by no means equally intractable. To be licked, roadkills will require (besides an aggressive consciousness-raising campaign), a vast rethinking of many technological realities we take for granted today, from the manner we build highways and cars, to the way we use them. (Our next column will review this issue in some detail.)

Domestic animal overpopulation on the other hand, although by no means a pushover, is far more amenable to solution. Here, I'm afraid, much of the defeat remains self-inflicted. The essential ingredients for the cure have long been at hand, but, in a curious twist, considering the talents shown time and again by some SPCA leaders, the vision to bring them forth and deploy them effectively has been missing.

Perhaps that's why I found the analysis of this subject in the latest issue of *animalines*—a

grassroots publication often referred to as our movement's "conscience"—so compelling. If nothing else, in just four pages, Ed Duvin has put together not only a thoroughly researched paper brimming with facts and insight, but, just as important, an exciting blueprint for immediate action. Indeed, I am confident that Duvin's recommendations, if implemented, could dramatically hasten the arrival of the day when animal shelters will be finally able to retire from the killing business altogether.

Some of the *animalines* analysis will surely strike some as unduly severe. If so, I'd like to make clear, most emphatically, that neither Duvin nor I intend this critique to be perceived as a blanket condemnation of the shelter community. Facing almost impossible odds—as anyone who has visited a shelter will attest (the burnout rate is staggering in this field)—many workers and administrators exhibit exemplary standards of commitment and personal sacrifice. And some shelters, having adopted a firm if unofficial "no kill" policy, have devised ingenious ways to keep their wards alive indefinitely until a suitable home is found.

Yet, however noble and inspiring, these victories cannot turn the tide. As we all know, domestic animal overpopulation is a systemic problem with deep roots in society's most casually accepted values. Until such roots are exposed and dealt with, no real solution will be possible.

And here, precisely, lies *animalines'* contribution to this issue. For Duvin, while keeping an eye on these structural questions, has furnished us with a well-balanced accounting of both glaring deficiencies in the existing operational approach and the possible remedies.

In a nutshell, Duvin holds shelters accountable for placing a higher priority on treating the symptoms of overpopulation than addressing fundamental causes. With unrelenting logic, shelters are characterized as "processing plants" that have become mired in institutional inertia, lacking incentive for creative evolution because euthanasia is still viewed as an acceptable solution. Four major factors seem to be perpetuating the problem: the prevailing self-defeating mindset among workers and administrators; a managerial style allowing for serious omissions (such as the lack of a credible data base); a gross misallocation of resources; and a rather inexplicable absence of innovative efforts designed to break the cycle of death (no doubt directly derived from the mindset problem). I briefly review below some salient aspects of these of questions.

### A mindset which insures defeat

Pessimism about the possibility of reversing existing conditions may be the single most important factor explaining the pervasive conformity encountered throughout the animal shelter community. As *animalines* notes,

Perhaps the most troubling dimension of the shelter community is the prevailing mentality regarding the un-

conscionable death toll, what *animalines* refers to as an assembly line of slaughter. Even some of the most "progressive" shelter directors and boards define their preeminent responsibility as *preventing suffering rather than preserving life*. This position is perplexing on many levels, for although euthanasia cannot be completely avoided at the present time, it borders on the obscene to describe the killing of many millions of innocent and healthy beings as a merciful act. Whether picked up on the street or surrendered at the shelter, the vast majority of these animals experience the kind of psychological trauma and terror that we find so abhorrent for caged laboratory animals but tolerate in our own facilities. Some are exposed to various forms of physical mishandling and abuse, and all suffer from the anguishing ordeal of being processed and warehoused in a foreign and frightening environment. Euthanasia might be a relatively painless end to this journey of terror, but each death represents an abject failure—not an act of mercy. ["In the Name of Mercy," *animalines*, Vol. 4, No. 11. Italics mine.]

The operational disarray undoubtedly compounds this feeling of hopelessness, especially since the shelter community, adrift in a statistical vacuum, is literally unable to gauge the shifting dimensions of the problem or even its own resources. In fact, at present no one seems to know with certainty how many shelters and SPCAs there are in the U.S. The latest survey (1987), undertaken by the American Humane Association (AHA), puts the number between 3,000 and 5,000, a figure considerably crippled in its usefulness by a stunning error margin, and the AHA had to rely on its own shelter directory to compile the master list. The response, incidentally, was less than overwhelming. Out of 1,000 randomly selected questionnaires mailed out, only 141 shelters bothered to fully respond, a dismal showing by any reckoning.

A simple explanation for this may be the fact that many shelters are short of administrative personnel willing or able to collaborate in such efforts. But the most likely reason may be that the AHA is not a national association in the true sense of the term—that is, an institution created, funded, and controlled by its members—but itself a group trying hard to act as an umbrella for a vast quilt of organizations with few synchronized priorities.

### Resource misallocation

Against this backdrop, it's not surprising that strategic planning, resource utilization, program development, and community outreach (a vital link), are all woefully deficient—and the shortcomings often apply even to the largest and wealthiest shelters.

The results confirm this diagnosis. According to the AHA survey—again, keeping in mind the large statistical error margins—anywhere from 65 to 75 percent of all animals received in shelters are eventually killed. (To be precise, 62 percent of dogs and 77 percent of cats.) This means that the current placement rate (including redemptions for lost animals and "take-backs" by repen-

tant "owners") fluctuates between 15 and 35 percent.

How is one to understand this perplexing record? For one thing, as Duvin argues, shelters seem to exhibit an almost total preoccupation with internal operational components at the expense of community and youth education. This management practice insures that no more than 4 percent of the total shelter budget is spent on consciousness raising—a pitiful amount when we consider that, while the public is certainly not blameless for this catastrophe, the burden of education rests squarely on the shelters' shoulders. And yet, even this figure requires some qualifying. To again quote *animalines*:

[This] disgraceful figure includes both community outreach and in-school programs, and this combined total represents the lowest percentage of any budget category. [Hence] since only about 3-4 percent of companion animals are adopted from shelters, this indicates that some 96 percent of shelter resources are expended on 4 percent of the overpopulation tragedy!

### A blueprint for action

Which way out of the wilderness? It's clear from the preceding critique that no reversal of the current situation is possible without a drastic reevaluation of traditional management approaches, and without a substantial expansion in the area of community involvement and education.

The public's understanding of the situation is poor, to put it politely. For in large measure current education efforts are hampered not only by the paucity of resources allocated to them, but, perhaps just as much, by the "sanitized" way in which unpleasant realities are being communicated. If something is to change, the killing of our companion animals must be removed from behind closed doors, making the public and the local media perfectly aware of the role they play in this largely preventable slaughter.

As a practical step, the creation of a genuine national shelter association, working in partnership with AHA, HSUS, API, FOA, and other concerned organizations, might facilitate matters for all parties concerned. This is a perfectly feasible proposal. Although we have no precise data, we estimate (using a conservative mean figure) that there are approximately 4,000 animal control and humane society shelters in the U.S., with a combined budget of \$2.7 billion (that's right, \$2.7 billion dollars!) and a paid staff of about 50,000. Thus, if shelters contributed a mere one-tenth of one percent of their current budgets—surely not a prohibitive amount—\$2.7 million would become available for the creation of a national organization recognized by all.

What might this new organization do? For starters, it might furnish members with reliable statistics—both local and national. Second, it could institute vital projects such as the develop-

Continued on next page

**"Even some of the most 'progressive' shelter directors and boards define their preeminent responsibility as preventing suffering rather than preserving life."**



**Animal breeding should be stigmatized. Pet stores, animal breeders of various stripes, and even the American Kennel Club, should be put on the spot for what they are: exacerbators of a needless tragedy.**





**Domestic animal overpopulation is a systemic problem with deep roots in society's most casually accepted values.**



*Continued from previous page*

ment of new and easily implemented dog and cat birth control methods, and create an urgently needed national volunteer outreach corps, perhaps something along the lines of United Way's in-office and neighbor-to-neighbor network. Lastly, it could help significantly in the professionalization of all shelter operations.

The economics of saving lives through an ambitious public information and community involvement offensive speaks for itself. In the end it will cost society far more to go on collecting, warehousing, and dispatching animals than investing creatively in the elimination of the causal factors.

But educating the public about the basic facts may not be enough. The shelters must also become outspoken—alongside animal liberation activists—in the struggle to knock out other pillars of the problem. Animal breeding, for example, should be stigmatized. Pet stores, animal breeders of various stripes, and even the American Kennel Club (and the whole snobbish claptrap that surrounds it) should be put on the spot for what they are: exacerbators of a needless tragedy. We must begin to criticize the breeding of cats and dogs as we have stigmatized the wearing of fur. Who knows—maybe in five years we might be at last in a position to see some light at the end of the euthanasia tunnel.

In sum, the *animalines* challenge to action can't be brushed aside. Shelters can't wait for the public to lead these struggles, or to knock on their doors. It is they who must take the initiative by approaching every school, media outlet, club, civic organization, professional association, shopping center, and wherever people congregate or will listen. As Duvin puts it,

[Shelters] represent the last line of defense for millions of vulnerable beings, and if they fail to wage a full-scale educational war on behalf of these beings, then they cannot rightfully call themselves a shelter—which, by any definition except our movement's, is a *safe* haven.

Admittedly, these are tough words, but, considering the situation, how can we avoid such judgement? We badly need new shelter models, new ways of tackling the problem. A revitalization of this entire field is in order. This is, as opposed to other issues, a largely preventable tragedy, and our failure to act renders us all complicit in its perpetuation. Readers are urged to write *animalines* (814 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114), for a copy of "In the Name of Mercy," quoted in this column, or for additional information.

## I told you so

Readers who normally choke on my columns (regarding them as excessively "political," or who still operate under the amazing assumption that the animal liberation struggle is devoid of inherent political implications), may find the results of a recent survey of liberal/conservative voting

records instructive.

Published in the fall 1989 bulletin of PsyETA, and based on several reliable indicators, the survey originated as an attempt to answer a common accusation: that "animal rightists" tend to favor the rights and needs of animals over those of humans.

To solve the problem, Robert Kimball, author of the survey, decided to compare the voting records of Congressional representatives as a way to determine what, if any, correlation might exist. His contention was that representatives who showed a marked interest in the welfare of creatures who can't vote would also exhibit a strong interest in legislation that directly supported the liberties and freedom of expression of individuals who *can* vote. His data base was mainly drawn from two sources, the National Alliance for Animal Legislation's "Congressional Report Card," and *The Almanac of American Politics*.

The results were unequivocal. By a wide margin, the ratings increase on the liberal side as the number of endorsements of animal protection bills increase. In other words, the most liberal people were also the most steadfast supporters of animals. The conservative curve showed a completely reverse correlation. As Kimball concluded, "It came as no surprise that representatives who favor the needs of big business, a strong national defense ('might makes right'), and other conservative causes also are less interested in cosponsoring any bills that seek to better the lot of animals."

Well, the survey's findings didn't surprise me, either. Many years ago, as a young man sorting out the merits of various political doctrines, I came upon Clinton Rossiter's classic, *Conservatism in America—The Thankless Persuasion*. Rossiter, a card-carrying conservative and political science professor who often contributed to Bill Buckley's *National Review*, found little in the conservative soul that might pass for warmth and authentic kinship—kinship, that is, beyond the immediate boundaries of family, friendship, or property. Cataloging the temperamental flaws of conservatives—about which he knew much—he mentioned, among others, materialism, meanness of spirit, selfishness, smugness, callousness, and negativity. He also thought his conservative brethren were, by and large, an anti-democratic, anti-humanist, and anti-intellectual lot. In short, a mess.

Prof. Rossiter's motivation for this compilation remains obscure to this day. And the fact that, armed with this knowledge, he chose to remain a conservative till the end is even more puzzling. In any event, the facts are as I describe them. Those who doubt my word, or will throw their hands up in the air for my being too hard on the crusty old boys, may look up the passage themselves: pages 59-61, in the paper Vintage edition. They'll find that my summary is, in fact, rather short and sweet.

**NEXT: Roadkills—the orphan issue.**

# Dogs On Ice:



## Is It Exploitation?

**S**led-dog racing and pulling—they're rugged sports, but are they cruel? They're demanding, but are they exploitation? As sled-dog events boom throughout the North American snowbelt, in Scandinavia, France, West Germany, Italy, and Switzerland, animal rights observers are challenged to make heads or tails of contests in which humans do the same things as the dogs, musher and team often behave as family, and a majority of canine contestants appear unabashedly enthusiastic about undertaking even the most difficult tasks.

Indeed, aside from breeding, the leading question posed by sled-dog sports is whether motivating an animal to perform tasks out of love can be considered exploitation. Lab rats don't beg to be injected. Race horses don't choose the artificial cadence of their

competitions. Yet many well-treated sled dogs will yelp for the harness, even if allowed to run free.

The problematic side of sled-dog sports is simply that the dogs are used for human amusement. While International Sled Dog Racing Association spokesman Kent Allen argues that "The incidence of injury to animals in our sports is very low, way lower than in any other animal sport," dogs may still suffer cut or frozen feet, wrenched backs, muscle pulls, even fatal heart attacks in their effort to drag more weight farther, faster. The dogs may be motivated by their love for their musher, but can the musher's love for them be genuine when his or her demands may cause suffering and death?

There's no question dogs love to pull: any dog enjoys tug-of-war. There's no

question, either, that physically fit dogs can run extraordinary distances. Dogs who broke out of the crowd near the starting lines have reputedly "won" the Buffalo and Seattle marathons in recent years, outracing the fleetest humans despite frequent pauses to lap from puddles, make friends with spectators, and investigate other dogs along the course.

It's also significant, though not a clinching argument for the sport by any means, that in long-distance dog-sledding the mushers do almost the same work as the dogs. Running behind the sleds as much as possible on level ground, pushing on uphill stretches, jumping off to brake on downhill, a long-distance musher is literally on the same footing as his or her dogs. Anything that happens to sled-dogs in such events happens to mushers, too.

"This isn't anything like greyhound

*Continued on next page*

**BY MERRITT CLIFTON**



Continued from previous page

racing," Allen states, "where the dogs go only one way for just a couple of minutes, and because there's gambling, you have all sorts of problems with drugging. We have to overcome that image of greyhound racing that people have. It isn't good for our sports," where despite the growing popularity of pulling contests and sprints—including gig sprints, using wheeled carts instead of sleds—the big prestige events are still treks of up to 1,000 miles. Gambling was a big part of sled-dog competition until quite recently. Competition probably started with wagers among the dog-keeping Inuit, or Eskimos. Gambling also initiated the races and weight-pulls staged by the trappers, traders, and miners who invaded Inuit/Eskimo territory during the 19th century. Tens of thousands of dollars reputedly changed hands at the first formal race on record,



the 408-mile All Alaska Sweepstakes, run from Nome to Candle and back in 1908. But formalized pari-mutuel betting has never been part of sled-dog competition, and even private high-stakes side-betting is more history than present reality.

Perhaps in consequence, though ISDRA rules provide for drug testing, and drug tests are done at most major sled-dog events, the circuit has thus far avoided the drugging scandals recurrent in both greyhound and horse racing. Drug testers look mainly for anabolic steroids, used to artificially build strength and endurance in dogs just as in human athletes, and anti-inflammatory steroids, which could be used to keep a dog running despite an injury. The testers also seek stimulants and sedatives. Stimulants are most likely to be given to sprinters and weight-pullers,

as artificially stimulating a distance-racing dog could be counterproductive. However, according to Vancouver veterinarian Dennis Jackson, chief tester for Yukon Quest thousand-miler, positive findings are "extraordinary." The testing is mainly a precaution. "We want a family image," explains Allen. "We want to attract people who care for dogs as pets."

That's because the real money in sled-dogs comes not from prizes or side bets, but from breeding. Virtually every competitive animal represents a breeding kennel. As Allen explains, "We have what we call our foundation dogs, who produce our dogs for competition. Not every dog has the size or strength or temperament to race or pull, but most of the dogs that look like they won't make good sled-dogs in youth do make excellent pets. These are sold," financing

setters [in sprints]. I'd be real surprised to see a dachshund," Allen allows, "but otherwise you'll see anything, and our rules forbid discriminating against any dog based on breed or breed type." An ISDRA provision prevents the organization of pulling divisions for inappropriate kinds of dogs. The four ISDRA pulling divisions (the International Weight Pulling Association recognizes six) are divided strictly by weight, so that pulling breeds pull and non-pullers stay home.

"I presently have 40 or 50 dogs," Allen continues, and although he acknowledges a companion animal overpopulation problem, "I never have want to find a place for one I can't use myself." The competition breeds and crossbreeds, Allen claims, aren't commonly picked up by pounds, a contention disputed by the American SPCA, Canadian SPCA, American Humane Association, and Humane Society of the United States. Allen's kennel is small compared to some; 1986 and 1987 Iditarod champion Susan Butcher of Manley Hot Springs, Alaska keeps 125 dogs.

Women mushers were rare until recently, but have since dominated sled dog competition of all sorts. The most renowned of all sled-dog races is the Iditarod, running nearly 1,200 miles from Anchorage to Nome, held in commemoration of the sled teams who in 1925 saved the latter city from a diphtheria epidemic by rushing in serum. In 1973 Dick Wilmarth's team won the first Iditarod in 20 days. The first woman winner was Libby Riddles, 12 years later. Susan Butcher won her first Iditarod the next year in just 11 days, 15 hours.

According to Dee Dee Jonrowe, who last year won Minnesota's 500-mile Beargrease Marathon, women are more successful because "we understand the dogs and are gentler with them." Despite an image of mushers as macho brutes, an image ISDRA struggles to shake, there's no question that the gentle approach works best. Even Jack London pointed out as much, in his 1903 novel *The Call of The Wild*:

**T**he crowd fell silent; only could be heard the voices of the gamblers vainly offering two to one. . . . Thornton knelt down by Buck's side. He took his head in his two hands and rested cheek on cheek. He did not playfully shake him, as was his wont, or murmur soft love curses; but he whispered in his ear. "As you love me, Buck. As you love me," was what he whispered. Buck whined with suppressed eagerness. . . . "Now, Buck," he said. Buck tightened the traces, then slacked them for a matter of several inches. . . .

"Gee!" Thornton's voice rang out, sharp in the tense silence.

Buck swung to the right, ending the movement in a plunge that took up the slack and with a sudden jerk arrested his 150 pounds. The load quivered, and from under the runners arose a crisp crackling.

"Haw!" Thornton commanded.

Buck duplicated the maneuver, this time to the left. The crackling turned into a snapping. . . . The sled was broken out. . . .

"Now, MUSH!"

Thornton's command cracked out like a pistol shot. Buck threw himself forward, tightening the traces with a jarring lunge. His whole body was gathered compactly together in the tremendous effort, the muscles writhing and knotting like live things under the silky fur. His great chest was low to the ground, his head forward and down, while his feet were flying like mad, the claws scarring the hard-packed snow in parallel grooves. The sled swayed and trembled, half-started forward. One of his feet slipped, and



one man groaned aloud. Then the sled lurched ahead in what appeared a rapid succession of jerks, though it never really came to a dead stop again.

The ISDRA code of conduct prohibits "abuse of a dog, with or without implement" at any sanctioned event, and specifies that "A whip shall be used only to signal by snapping while the driver is driving the team. The whip shall not be used to discipline a dog except when required to break up a dog fight so unmanageable that it cannot be stopped by any other means without creating a threat to the safety of the driver, team dogs, and other persons."

ISDRA also requires all racing sleds to "be equipped with a dog bag capable of safely restraining a struggling dog and if necessary, covering a severely injured or dead dog." No longer may mushers cut exhausted or injured dogs loose to follow as best they can or die on the trail. "All dogs starting a heat shall complete the entire course," the rules stipulate, "either hitched in the team or carried on the sled. A dog becoming unfit after departure shall be carried on the sled."

The first sentence of the ISDRA guidelines for trail planning, measuring,

and layout states, "The trail must not endanger dog teams. . . . All avoidable hazards must be avoided." The guidelines even strongly recommend against trail designs that dogs may find monotonous, which might in turn cause mushers to become brutal in trying to make them run.

"This type of dog, you just don't force," says Ruth LaBarge, who owns a 200-pound weight-pulling Irish wolfhound. "He pulls just when he wants to." Adds a former Alberta sled-dog racing kennel hand, "You don't abuse a dog when you're going to depend upon it to get you back out of 500 miles of wilderness."

Still, allegations of abuse persist, particularly in the Lower 48, where both mushers and spectators include people new to sled-dog racing procedures. HSUS investigations division chief Gail Eisenrich and HSUS New England acting bureau chief Frank Ribauda have both

received calls and letters describing abuses—mostly, however, of a nature already banned by ISDRA.

"I get all the sled-dog referrals," Ribauda acknowledges. "I do have a file on sled-dog competition, but," he quickly adds, "it's not a fat file"—not comparable to the stacks of complaints received each summer about ox, horse, and pony pulls, or greyhound and horse racing.

Whether sled-dog competitions become a direct target of animal rights activism would seem to depend most upon how successful ISDRA is at continued self-policing. Weight pulls, sprints, and gig races all offer opportunity for stress and abuse, as crowds and purses swell. As long as mushers run with the dogs, long-distance races may be of less concern. But the contribution of sled-dog breeders to dog overpopulation, direct or indirect, will be an increasing concern as more breeders produce more teams to meet increasing interest in the sport. And then there's still the nagging question: Is exploitation that plays on love really much better than exploitation that plays on fear?

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## MORE LETTERS

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As for "fundamentalist underpinnings," French's description of the movement in the 19th century still applies: "If the antivivisection movement resists any simple or clear-cut characterization of its sectarian composition, this is not to say that religion was irrelevant to antivivisection sentiment. It was not people who professed a particular formalized creed who would necessarily embrace antivivisectionism, but those, of a number of different communions, whose psychic and intellectual investment in certain issues was greatest."

The significant fact, however, about Mr. Beck's letter is that he is not alone in the effort to associate antisemitism with the animal rights movement. This effort has now gained considerable momentum as a strategy for degrading the movement. As a Jew, it's nice to know that the charge of antisemitism is regarded as having such power. There was a time when people (and there are still some) were proud to be antisemites and racists. We've come a long way!

—Roberta Kalechofsky  
Jews for Animal Rights  
255 Humphrey St.  
Marblehead, MA 01945

### The AMA Poll

It seems the American Medical Association poll of 1989 is still being quoted as "proof" that 77 percent of the public favors animal research. As one who has a copy of the poll and its results, I'd like to offer a few insights.

In one of the four questions pertaining to animal research, 77 percent apparently did state a belief in the need to use animals in research, but, in another question, only 64 percent said they actually supported the use of animals. Thus, in terms of public support, the actual response was a significant 13 percent less than usually claimed.

The poll also found that hispanics and blacks were much less likely to support animal research than whites; yet, as noted in the appendix of the poll, 85 percent of those polled were white. It seems logical to assume that had more blacks and hispanics been included in the poll, the degree of support for animal research could have been much less.

Had the questions in the 1989 AMA poll been posed five or ten years ago, I believe a higher percentage of support would have been found. So, regardless of what percent of the population supports animal research today, I'd say it's much less than in the past. Those helping to educate the public as to the scientific and moral deficiencies of animal research are to be congratulated.

—Stace Aspey  
Long Beach, CA

### Unity, Not Conformity

Speaking recently in Seattle, an organizer of the June 1990 national march for animals stressed two themes: 1) this will be a time to show our unity, and 2) we want the rest of the country to see that we are people with whom they can identify—not a bunch of "crazies" wanting to "blow up things."

Regarding the first theme, I think the organizers of the march may be confusing unity with conformity. The march format (statewide contingents with no other organizational identity, silent procession, a theme of mourning, etc.) ensures an optimum degree of sameness. I believe the strength of our movement comes from unity in diversity. Because concern for animals cuts across every conceivable economic, religious, political, and social category, it is advantageous to continue highlighting the marvelous variety and increasing specialization of our constituent groups and activities. Notwithstanding the "celebration" planned for the end of the march, the choice of mourning as the tone to project along the parade route is an error. Anger, determination, hope, and mourning are all validly intermingled in ourselves and in our work for nonhumans.

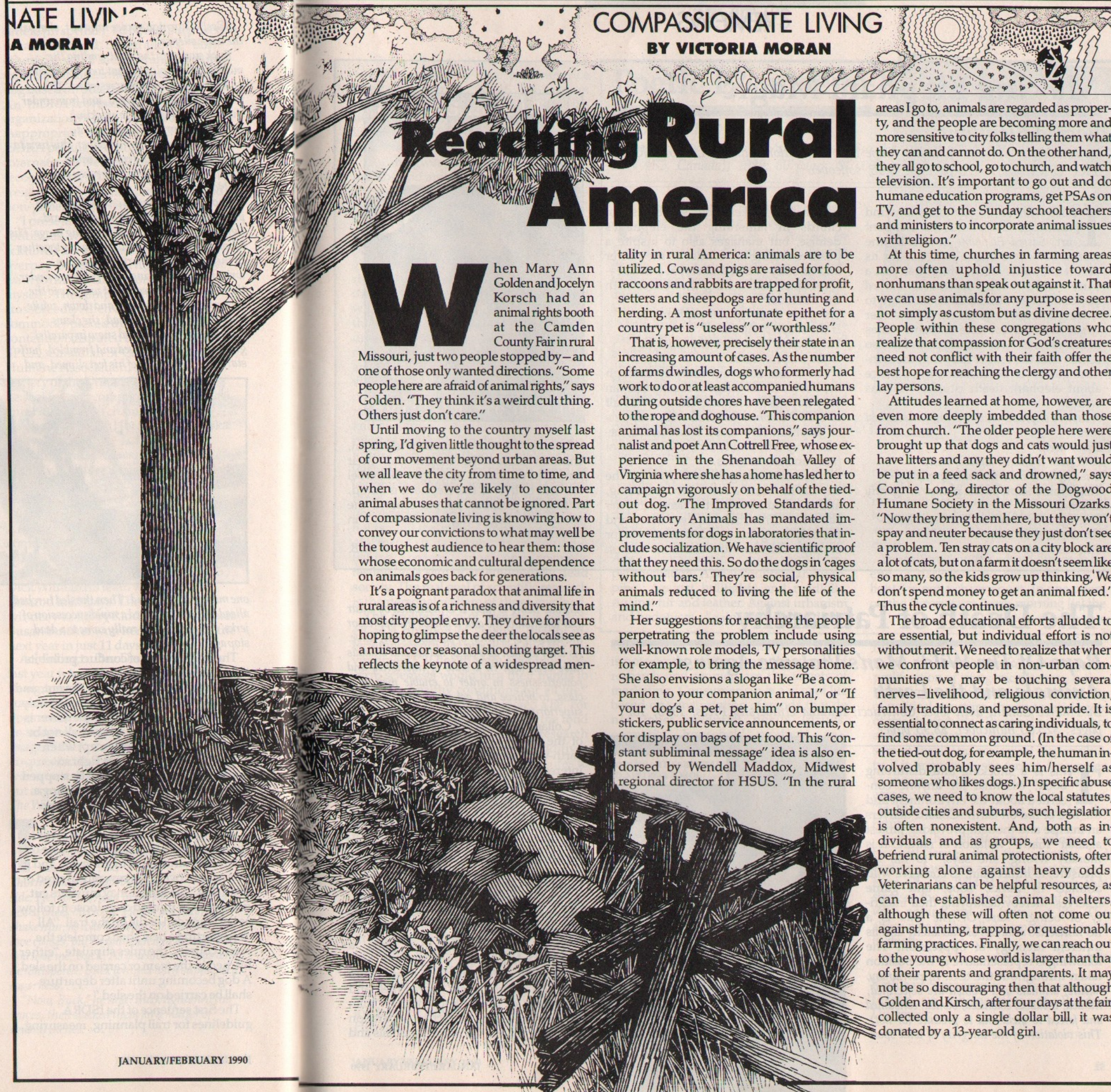
I do not agree with the march organizer that the perception of animal rights activists as "crazies" is common or widespread. It is crucial that we not fall into the trap of pressuring each other to become "respectable" in order to gain acceptance from a middle class wrongly defined as being apart from us. It is through no failing of our movement that relatively modest gains have thus far been made. Animal abuse is well entrenched and heavily financed, and our society is riddled with addiction to violence at every level.

Progressive social change has never been won by winnowing out dissent, exerting pressure to muffle differences, or through caricature. These typically are the hallmarks of a movement's decline rather than its success. In wanting to emphasize our common roots, let us take care not to saw off the movement's branches.

—Daniel Raphael  
Seattle, WA

The ANIMALS' AGENDA welcomes letters from readers, and regrets that they cannot all be published or answered personally due to the large volume of mail. Succinct, typed messages of no more than 250 words are preferred. We reserve the right to edit all letters chosen for publication. Address them to: LETTERS, The ANIMALS' AGENDA, 456 Monroe Turnpike, Monroe, CT 06468.

NATE LIVING  
A MORAN



COMPASSIONATE LIVING

BY VICTORIA MORAN

## Reaching Rural America

When Mary Ann Golden and Jocelyn Korsch had an animal rights booth at the Camden County Fair in rural Missouri, just two people stopped by—and one of those only wanted directions. "Some people here are afraid of animal rights," says Golden. "They think it's a weird cult thing. Others just don't care."

Until moving to the country myself last spring, I'd given little thought to the spread of our movement beyond urban areas. But we all leave the city from time to time, and when we do we're likely to encounter animal abuses that cannot be ignored. Part of compassionate living is knowing how to convey our convictions to what may well be the toughest audience to hear them: those whose economic and cultural dependence on animals goes back for generations.

It's a poignant paradox that animal life in rural areas is of a richness and diversity that most city people envy. They drive for hours hoping to glimpse the deer the locals see as a nuisance or seasonal shooting target. This reflects the keynote of a widespread men-

talinity in rural America: animals are to be utilized. Cows and pigs are raised for food, raccoons and rabbits are trapped for profit, setters and sheepdogs are for hunting and herding. A most unfortunate epithet for a country pet is "useless" or "worthless."

That is, however, precisely their state in an increasing amount of cases. As the number of farms dwindle, dogs who formerly had work to do or at least accompanied humans during outside chores have been relegated to the rope and doghouse. "This companion animal has lost its companions," says journalist and poet Ann Cottrell Free, whose experience in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia where she has a home has led her to campaign vigorously on behalf of the tied-out dog. "The Improved Standards for Laboratory Animals has mandated improvements for dogs in laboratories that include socialization. We have scientific proof that they need this. So do the dogs in 'cages without bars.' They're social, physical animals reduced to living the life of the mind."

Her suggestions for reaching the people perpetrating the problem include using well-known role models, TV personalities for example, to bring the message home. She also envisions a slogan like "Be a companion to your companion animal," or "If your dog's a pet, pet him" on bumper stickers, public service announcements, or for display on bags of pet food. This "constant subliminal message" idea is also endorsed by Wendell Maddox, Midwest regional director for HSUS. "In the rural

areas I go to, animals are regarded as property, and the people are becoming more and more sensitive to city folks telling them what they can and cannot do. On the other hand, they all go to school, go to church, and watch television. It's important to go out and do humane education programs, get PSAs on TV, and get to the Sunday school teachers and ministers to incorporate animal issues with religion."

At this time, churches in farming areas more often uphold injustice toward nonhumans than speak out against it. That we can use animals for any purpose is seen not simply as custom but as divine decree. People within these congregations who realize that compassion for God's creatures need not conflict with their faith offer the best hope for reaching the clergy and other lay persons.

Attitudes learned at home, however, are even more deeply imbedded than those from church. "The older people here were brought up that dogs and cats would just have litters and any they didn't want would be put in a feed sack and drowned," says Connie Long, director of the Dogwood Humane Society in the Missouri Ozarks. "Now they bring them here, but they won't spay and neuter because they just don't see a problem. Ten stray cats on a city block are a lot of cats, but on a farm it doesn't seem like so many, so the kids grow up thinking, 'We don't spend money to get an animal fixed.'" Thus the cycle continues.

The broad educational efforts alluded to are essential, but individual effort is not without merit. We need to realize that when we confront people in non-urban communities we may be touching several nerves—livelihood, religious conviction, family traditions, and personal pride. It is essential to connect as caring individuals, to find some common ground. (In the case of the tied-out dog, for example, the human involved probably sees him/herself as someone who likes dogs.) In specific abuse cases, we need to know the local statutes; outside cities and suburbs, such legislation is often nonexistent. And, both as individuals and as groups, we need to befriend rural animal protectionists, often working alone against heavy odds. Veterinarians can be helpful resources, as can the established animal shelters, although these will often not come out against hunting, trapping, or questionable farming practices. Finally, we can reach out to the young whose world is larger than that of their parents and grandparents. It may not be so discouraging then that although Golden and Korsch, after four days at the fair, collected only a single dollar bill, it was donated by a 13-year-old girl.



# Making Elephant Magic

## Sacred Elephant

By Heathcote Williams; Jonathan Cape Ltd. (32 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3SG, U.K.), 1989; 175 pages, £ 9.95, softcover.

Filled with stunning photographs and drawings of elephants and elephant art, *Sacred Elephant* is visually the sort of book one might purchase for its decorative value alone. More than just a coffee-table book, however, *Sacred Elephant* is best described as an elegy to a dying species. Reminiscent of his earlier *Whale Nation*, Heathcote Williams writes in atonal lyrics, weaving myth and fact so tightly that the reader may find them indistinguishable. For instance, in a passage about elephant death rituals, Williams writes:

*A captive elephant will perform the same last rites  
Upon itself.  
And from a shared aquatic past,  
The elephant inherits the one quality  
That Homo sapiens has always arrogantly assumed  
Distinguishes him from the brute beast—  
An elephant in distress  
Will weep salt tears.*

Williams strikes the somberest of chords in lamenting the elephant's demise, but manages also to inspire a positive feeling of wonder at the power and mystery of this archetypal creature—sometimes astonishing the reader with the obvious:

*The shape of an African elephant's ear  
Is the shape of Africa.  
The shape of an Indian elephant's ear  
Is the shape of India...*

The poem runs out midway through the book with an image of finality one can only hope is premature. The second half of *Sacred Elephant* is filled with snippets of elephant lore taken from books, articles, reports, and letters, some of them from ancient sources.

I finished reading *Sacred Elephant* on the day CITES voted a ban on ivory trading, and it called to mind the scene in *Peter Pan* when Tinkerbell was near death and the only thing that could save her was for enough children to believe in fairies.



Whenever the show is aired on television, children across the nation clap their hands in unison so as to give Tinkerbell the will to live. If the elephant is saved, it may be because people around the world are beginning to "believe" in elephants.

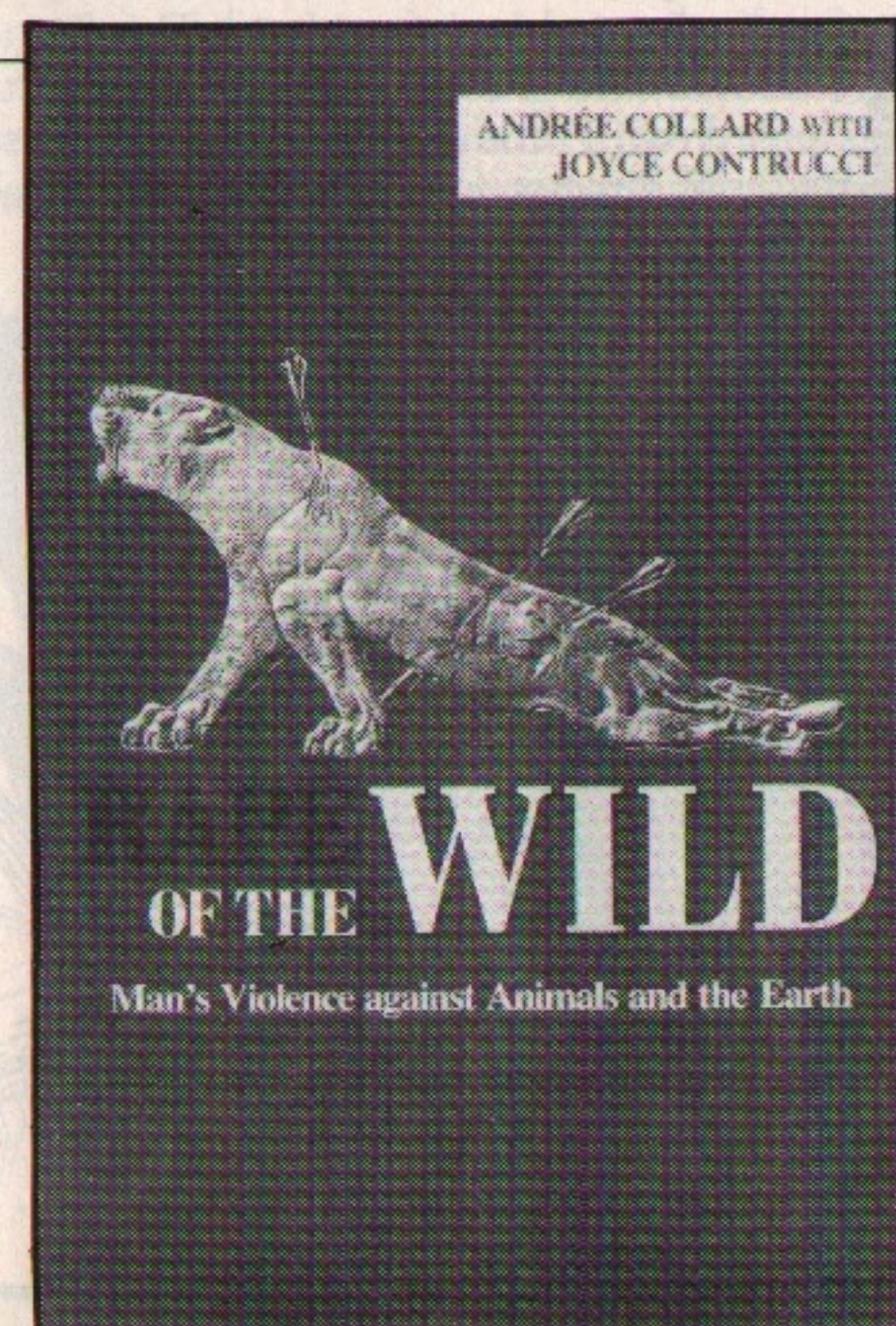
—K.B.

# The Death of Patriarchy

## Rape Of The Wild: Man's Violence Against Animals and the Earth

By Andree Collard with Joyce Contrucci; Indiana University Press, 1988; 187 pages; \$25.00 hardcover, \$8.95 paper.

This is a shocking and disturbing book, essential for anyone concerned about the environment and the fate of life on earth. Collard delivers an intense and thought-provoking protest against "man's" violation of nature. It is morally wrong, she says, "to kill for pleasure, to inflict pain, to conserve wild animals in parks, zoos, and game reserves, thereby destroying their integrity of being." *Rape Of The Wild* is a no-nonsense analysis of patriarchy and its inherent ideology of oppression. The following is representative of the position taken throughout the text: *In patriarchy, nature, animals and women are objectified, hunted, invaded, colonized, owned, consumed and forced to yield and to produce (or not). This violation of the integrity of wild spon-*



*taneous Being is rape. It is motivated by a fear and rejection of life and it allows the oppressor the illusion of control, of power, of being alive. As with women as a class, nature and animals have been kept in a state of inferiority and powerlessness in order to enable men as a class, to believe and act upon their "natural" superiority/dominance.*

Collard contrasts patriarchal experience of the world to that of matriarchy and earth-worshipping peoples. This chapter is interesting even though her claims cannot be proven. Historically, it is surmised that early civilizations were matriarchal, i.e., earth/goddess worshipers. Matriarchy entails a holistic approach to life. The healthy mind "perceives experience and expresses it without separating emotion and reason, feeling and thought, self and non-self." Earth worship may have persisted in Europe until A.D. 500 and it is still the dominant philosophy of Native American tribes.

When men invented their gods, a healthy relationship with nature was replaced by a life-destroying relationship based on individualism, hierarchies, and the values of power and control: "man named himself by an act of separation from and power over nature, animals and

women, ensuring his preeminence through ownership of all." Alienation from nature is evident in "man's" destruction of the environment, in factory farming, hunting, vivisection, racism, sexism, and other forms of oppression.

Collard gives an excellent analysis of hunting and animal experimentation. She argues that hunting is based upon a neurotic need for power and control. That which is regarded as violent, sick, and immoral in patriarchy is praised in patriarchy and is presented under the guise of a noble purpose. She rejects the rhetoric that hunters love nature and love their prey. Hunters love only how they feel when stalking and killing. She contends that animal pain and the researcher's drive for power and prestige are at the core of vivisection. Several experiments are cited as cases in point, e.g., physician-vivisector Robert White grafting a brain on the throat of a living dog, and removing the brains of monkeys and dogs and preserving them alive. Vivisection is rejected outright: "to devise methods of torture and apply them as often as one wishes is sadism. To publish them as legitimate scientific activities and to fund them as ways" of healing "is the institutionalization of cruelty." Vivisection does not benefit the mental or physical health of "men." It is taken, as is hunting, fishing, rodeos, zoos, and cosmetic testing, as a sign of an emotionally dead society. The real goal of scientific research is the personal welfare of those involved.

The proliferation of disease is regarded as a function of "man's" deadly interference with life processes and the environment: "If health were a genuine concern, scientists would turn their minds to restoring healthy conditions for all life." Concern for health is considered a lie. For example, Collard points out that the food industry participates in cancer research through testing carcinogenic additives and pesticide residues. "It contributes to cancer by marketing carcinogens. Thus it has reversed the function of food from health-giving to disease-inducing." Cancer and depression both have origins in social and environmental conditions; these disorders cannot be cured by animal research.

Collard draws a striking parallel between the rape and violation of nature and animals and the rape and violation of women. She compares the trafficking in animals by breeders to the slave and prostitute trades, the torture of Pavlov's dogs to the torture of women, the sadism of animal research to the sadism of male sexual violence, and the processing of foods to the alteration of women's bodies. Her analysis of marketing and con-

Continued on page 54

# Poetic License to Kill

## Recipes for Flesh

By James Strecker; Mini Mocho Press (Box 1138, Station A, Hamilton, Ont. L8N 4B3, Canada), 1989; 80 pages, \$10.00, softcover.

Like a duck blind concealing hunters (the blind hiding the blind), the external appearances of *Recipes for Flesh* disguise its insidious intent. Despite its title, it is not a cookbook. And contrary to its cartoon cover of cutesy though dead animals, it is not a children's book. The book is poetry. For adults only.

Title and cover are the most palatable parts of this chapbook. Once opened, all animal hell breaks loose. Other eco- and animal-rights-poets write through their tear ducts. James Strecker mixes into his ink blood, sweat, spit, adrenaline, and venom. No bile, though. Deceptively pleasurable to read, these poems can be as hard to stomach as a picnic in a slaughterhouse.

Cancel the picnic. Foreboding clouds darken the horizon. *Recipes for Flesh* is against slaughterhouses and carnivorousism, not about picnics and vegetarianism. Against milk-drinking and egg-eating. Against grazing and factory farming. Against vivisection and animal experimentation. Against hunting and trapping. Against bullfights and roadkills. Against fur and leather. Against urbanism and hedonism. Against harlotry and por-

nography. Against acid rain and food chemicals. The poems against far outnumber those about. About what? About hypocrisy and cruelty. About abortions and funerals. About decadence and death.

James Strecker, for whom "there is no end of darkness, no ember of eternal light," is not a cheery poet. In one poem on the factory farm "each morning [is] the

Continued on next page

robotization of work, the desensitization to life, the chemicalization of food stuffs, proliferation of iatrogenic diseases, extinction of animal and plant species, rigidity of political structure, the impoverishment of imaginative life." Personal achievement and acquisition are stressed to the exclusion of social and ecological responsibility. It is imperative, she writes, for women to engage in alternative theorizing, to imagine our own history and own values: "in these values lies our hope for the future."

Collard has shown that ecology is a feminist issue, that the identity and destiny of women and nature are merged. *Rape Of The Wild* is a bold work that stresses the absolute necessity of kinship with nature and all forms of life. The alternative to this all-encompassing vision is death.

—Kathleen Squadrito

Kathleen Squadrito is an associate professor of philosophy at Purdue University.



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## REVIEWS

Continued from page 53

birthday of nothing" while in another poem at the restaurant "the smoke of dead flesh flows rancid into tomorrow." He shares ranks with Leopardi and Baudelaire rather than with run-of-the-puppy-mill Wimpy the Pooh contemporary poets who tend to romanticize animals' lives as all fun and frolic. He instead discloses their deaths and denounces the humans who are responsible. "If you will not condemn," Strecker advises clamorously, "be silent with philosophy."

For the matador, he wishes "a darning needle driven hard through your own testicles." Vivisectors are "men who are given speech to say nothing." If hunters already are not cursed, "I curse you, killers of beauty." Meat-eater morality "smells of rotted flesh in the belly." While down on the factory farm, "hen and men are mad or going crazy." Man is, in short, "the user of woman and earth, the killer of lamb." And in the last stanza of the concluding poem, he implores, "father, forget them, for they know what they do."

The poet curses humans and specifically Western men because he loves nature and specifically exploited animals. Expressing love is not enough. He expresses

also opinions. Yet he is keenly aware of the danger and impotency of his enmity. He confesses two dreams. "In one I love my kind." But "in the other, I despair that he tortures what/is holy to me, so I shoot him." Not that he schemes to shoot any shotguns or to plant any pipe bombs. His pipe dreams are enough. He offers even his own critique of his book. "Would it be that poetry carried a loaded gun." Strecker's poetry compares to a Stinger missile, hand-held but capable of downing fighter aircraft.

Strecker's poetic pen is beautiful—and lethal. And his outrage most of us would agree is justifiable—though vengeful. Do not think, however, that his vengeance poisons his poetry. Given the chance to render some flying factory farm into a scrap heap and its farmer pilots into masses of protoplasm, Strecker would launch no missile. His missives are enough. Strecker need kill no carnivores. With cholesterol and salmonella, with cancer and heart disease, they are killing themselves.

—Mark Mathew Braunstein

Mark Braunstein is author of *Radical Vegetarianism*.

## SHORT TAKES

*Lady of the Beasts: Ancient Images of the Goddess and Her Sacred Animals*  
By Buffie Johnson; Harper & Row, San Francisco, 1988; 386 pages, \$34.95, hardcover.

The belief in a powerful, nurturing Goddess or Great Mother has long been rooted in human consciousness. In *Lady of the Beasts*, artist Buffie Johnson evokes the beauty, mystery, and historical significance of this sacred being through images of the Goddess created in prehistoric and ancient civilizations throughout the world. Over 330 illustrations and photographs focus on the Goddess caring for or otherwise relating to animals.

*Entropy Into The Greenhouse World*  
By Jeremy Rifkin; Bantam Books, New York, 1989, Revised Edition; pages, \$9.95, softcover.

According to environmental activist Jeremy Rifkin, humanity is heading for a global disaster of its own making. *Entropy* warns of the dangers of global warming in the 1990s, and introduces a new worldview for addressing the global environmental crisis.

*Rejuvenation: A Wellness Guide for Women and Men*

By Horst Rechelbacher; Healing Arts Press (One Park St., Rochester, VT 05756), 1987; 168 pages, \$10.95, softcover.

Written by the founder of Aveda Corporation, *Rejuvenation* is a cruelty-free guide to beauty, health, and longevity. We only become "old" when we stagnate mentally and spiritually; when we change with the times, we stay young—regardless of our chronological age. The cosmetics and toiletries produced by Aveda contain only natural ingredients, and Horst Rechelbacher extends this principle of purity to pharmacology and diet. Oddly, he stops short of prescribing a completely vegetarian diet, but he does discourage the consumption of meat and dairy products. Rechelbacher explains the theory of *ayurvedic* medicine and the concept of *yin* and *yang*. He recommends yoga and meditation for reducing stress, and time management for increasing productivity. The book should prove valuable to stressed-out activists in need of physical, mental, emotional, and/or spiritual balancing.

—K.B.

# TWO PRESSING ISSUES... TWO REVEALING VIDEOS...

## The Other Side of the Fence

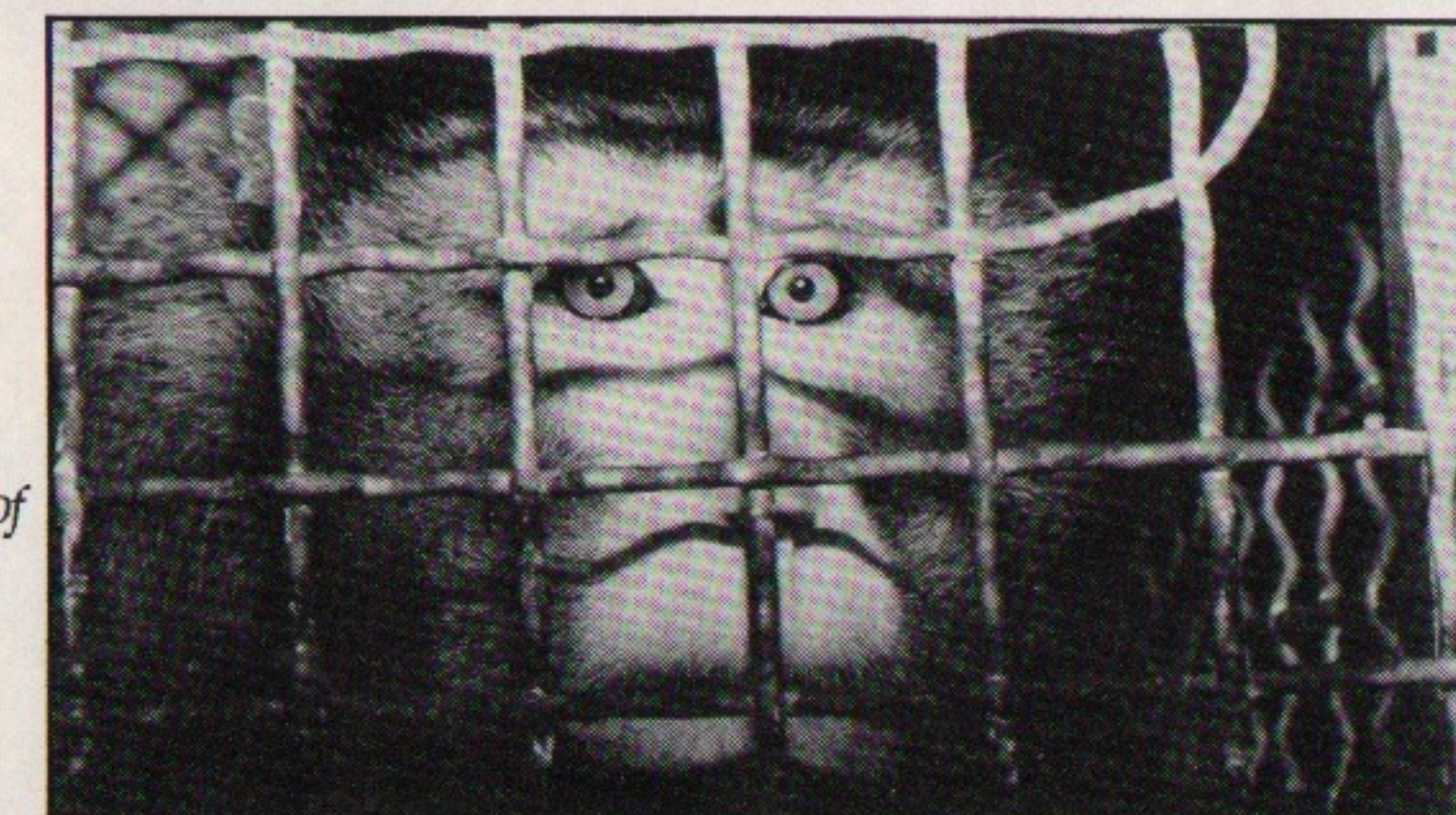


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Continued from page 19

arsenal of rifles, shotguns, muzzle-loaded weapons, handguns, and bows and arrows, sport hunters kill more than 200 million animals yearly (three to four times the total number of animals killed in laboratories). They cripple, orphan, and harass millions more—all for a pathetic idea of recreation. Here are partial results of their 1987 bloodletting:

♦ Hunters crippled and killed more than 10 million ducks—including threatened and endangered species—even though duck numbers are at their lowest level in decades.

♦ Hunters killed more than 50 million mourning doves. Much of the carnage occurred during September, the month the doves nest their young.

♦ Aided by high-powered weapons and sometimes by dogs and baits, hunters killed more than 25,000 black bears and more than 1,000 brown and grizzly bears. They also slaughtered wolves in Alaska, mountain lions in 11 of the 12 western states where they live, and more than 250,000 coyotes in the 48 contiguous states. These are the predators whose places hunters claim they must take to keep deer and other herbivorous species in check.

♦ Hunters shot more than 20 million ringneck pheasants and 25 million bob-white quail, many of whom were pen-reared and released into the wild or at hunting clubs just to be shot.

The hit list also includes deer, elk, moose, musk ox, bison, pronghorn, javelina, turkey, raccoon, rabbit, and squirrel, along with countless exotic animals slaughtered on private shooting preserves or game farms.

The main reason that almost any creature with four legs or two wings is unfair game for the American hunter is the way government wildlife agencies operate. Rather than concern themselves with protecting wildlife or biological diversity, they cater to the desires of the hunter. The prime function of state wildlife agencies (all of which are dominated by hunters) is to propagate "game" species for hunters to shoot. The agencies' expenditures demonstrate the bias. On average, they spend more than 90 percent of their funds on "game" animal projects. They manipulate habitat by burning and clearcutting forests; they build roads through wilderness areas to facilitate hunter access; they pen-rear and stock nonindigenous as well as native "game" to increase shooting opportunities; and they pour millions into law enforcement and hunter education, which includes the construction of target shooting ranges.

According to the U.S. Department of the Interior, there are approximately 16 million hunters in the U.S. who constitute

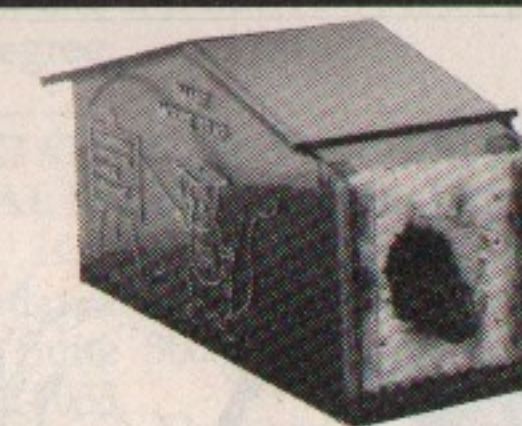
a mere seven percent of the population. They contrast with more than 135 million wildlife enthusiasts (nature walkers, bird watchers, photographers, etc.) who can appreciate wild animals without killing them. But this silent majority has long been excluded from wildlife policy making.

Short of stopping all sport hunting, wildlife advocates can make a moderate



demand: that state wildlife agencies begin to proportionately represent the interests of the general public. In short, it's not just an issue of the rights of wild animals, but also of the right of the nonhunting majority to have its voice no longer drowned out by the sound of gunfire.

*Wayne Pacelle is executive director of the Fund for Animals*



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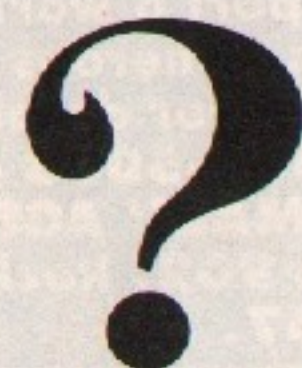
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