

PROBING THE MIND OF AN ANIMAL RESEARCHER

# the ANIMALS' AGENDA

THE ANIMAL RIGHTS MAGAZINE • JULY/AUGUST 1987 • \$2.00

**Do fish  
have  
feelings?**

■ **Exotics for  
the table?**

■ **PESTICIDES:  
Killing more  
than insects**





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## PAGE TWO

# Towards Unity in Diversity

The animal rights movement is not a monolithic entity. What we call "the movement" is actually a loosely knit network of millions of people who may have little in common in the way of political or economic demographics, but whose sensitivity and compassion for others extends beyond human boundaries. A wide range of philosophical belief exists, and differences in the level of commitment to the struggle for changing moral values are marked. Every sort of activism is practiced, from rescuing dogs in the street to lecturing at universities. Some activists demand immediate abolition of all animal exploitation; others work for gradual reform through legislative channels or within industries that use and abuse animals. Given the diversity of opinion and modes of action within the movement, is it possible for us to ever speak with one voice? More importantly, should we be working to achieve an ironclad unity?

One way of achieving unity—at least a semblance of unity—in corporate and governmental sectors has involved friendly mergers and hostile takeovers. Some animal protection groups think that such methods of consolidation are desirable strategies to achieve their own goals, and are seeking to expand their financial/political bases by gaining control of the boards of directors and assets of other organizations. One may only speculate as to the sort of organizational character that will emerge from humane group consolidation, but what is already clear is that recent power struggles have left in their wake considerable distrust and many hard feelings between activists and organizations. Instead of increasing movement unity, attempts at forcing group mergers may foster greater divisiveness and discord.

#### Bursting bubbles at the Summit

A high level of dissonance was evident at the 1987 Summit for the Animals held in April in South Carolina. What began in 1985 as an annual meeting at which national group leaders could discuss ideas and projects, was this year more of a sounding board for airing movement conflicts.

In a recent lecture on conflicts in the British movement, Mary Midgley (author of *Animals and Why They Matter*) noted: "All reforming and revolutionary movements are riven with internal debates." Brian Klug of the University of Chicago, a keynote speaker at the Summit, endeavored to come to terms with the contention, pointing out that "Internal debate—real disagreement about matters of importance—is the engine of progress in a movement. But civil strife, in which different approaches become antagonistic factions, is self-destructive." In analyzing recurrent patterns of self-destruction, Klug observed: "Groups draw distinctions, distinctions turn into oppositions, and oppositions become battlelines."

Three major areas of conflict were laid on the table at the meeting: 1) sharing of resources between groups; 2) public criticism of one group by another; and 3) credit-stealing for work done by others. The Summit itself came under fire for the "by invitation only" policy of its executive committee—a policy which has caused some organizations to be excluded from participation.

Although Summit participants sometimes engaged in angry exchanges, the frankness with which problems were discussed was viewed by most people present as having had a cathartic effect. After much deliberation, attendees voted to endorse most of a manifesto drafted by Klug, which included a code of conduct—a concept that had also been proposed by Alex Hershaft of Farm Animal Reform Movement. To what extent the manifesto will actually improve cooperation and change behavior remains to be seen, but it was a step in the right direction. The ANIMALS' AGENDA urges all animal activists, especially group leaders, to become familiar with the manifesto, printed on page 16, and begin acting in accordance with the principles of mutual respect and consideration.

#### Subscription changes

The ANIMALS' AGENDA headquarters hasn't moved from Connecticut, but subscribers will begin receiving circulation correspondence from the magazine bearing a New York address. We recently discovered that the task of processing subscriptions can be handled more efficiently and economically by computer firms that specialize in the arcane details of magazine circulation.

The editorial address remains the same, but all correspondence about subscriptions should be sent directly to *The ANIMALS' AGENDA*, Subscription Dept., P.O. Box 6809, Syracuse, NY 13217.

—The Editors

## A.I.D.Scam

The announcement by researchers at the University of California at Davis of the discovery of an "AIDS-like" virus in cats (Network Notes, May 1987) should be of concern to everyone in the animal rights movement. That press release represents far more than a new disease threat to cats. The biomedical research industry is in the process of deliberately repeating history in an attempt to justify new expenditures of billions of dollars and millions of animal lives in useless experiments.

When the "War on Cancer" was announced more than 15 years ago, biomedical researchers immediately called press conferences to announce what were actually dubious or entirely fictional advances in treating human cancer, re-writing their grant proposals to make them more "relevant" to cancer research (even if unrelated to the disease), and making every effort to get a piece of the hundreds of millions of dollars of new money available to support research on cancer. There was a standing joke at many research facilities about finding ways to work the word "cancer" into grant proposals—a classic example of grantsmanship at work. What did the American public gain from all these manipulations? Scores of laboratories were equipped and funded, careers were made, salaries guaranteed, buildings erected, and millions of animal lives lost.

As documented in several recently published papers, the "War on Cancer" is being lost. Except for a few rare cancers, death rates are no better or even worse than they were decades ago. In large part, this is attributable to an overemphasis on animal research and an underemphasis on prevention.

The research industry needs diseases in order to scare the public and Congress into giving them billions of dollars, and to justify their continued reliance on outdated vivisection protocols. The failed "War on Cancer" is now being replaced by the "War on AIDS". The cat AIDS-like virus press release is just another example of researchers stretching the facts to get more research dollars. We can expect more and more investigators to discover that their pet projects are suddenly relevant to AIDS. None of them will be, however, since AIDS is a uniquely human disease that no nonhuman animal can contract.

All of the progress to date on AIDS has come from using alternatives such as tissue and cell culture techniques (i.e., identifying, characterizing and growing the virus, and preparing the vaccines).

## LETTERS

### More Letters Page 52

Now is the ideal time to break the old cycle of disease, bogus animal models, research dollars, career advancement, new disease...since AIDS research does not require the use of laboratory animals, history should not be allowed to repeat itself. This time, the cost in animal suffering, dollars, useless research, and continued failure to protect the public's health and safety will be considerably greater than for the fraudulent "War on Cancer".

—John McArdle, Ph.D.  
New England Anti-Vivisection Society  
One Bulfinch Place  
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### Gillette Case was a Nightmare

My experience as an animal care technician at the Gillette laboratory was an absolute nightmare. My experience with the self-proclaimed leaders of the animal rights movement hasn't been much better.

After the ARK II press conference announcing the Gillette boycott, two Maryland-based organizations, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and Defenders of Animal Rights, asked for photos and information because they wanted "to help" us. Their idea of help consisted of using my photographs and information to fund-raise for their own groups. PETA went so far as to include a forged copy of my diary in their professionally prepared direct-mail appeal, and failed to credit my photos and mention my name in the newsletter. PETA's involvement in this case consisted of providing me with several rolls of film and the occasional use of a camera. All PETA's interest and support in my work ended when the Silver Spring monkey case again became their focus. In July 1986, I attempted to discuss my situation with Alex Pacheco of PETA. At that final meeting, he tried to persuade me to go

to another lab. After telling him that I wasn't prepared to abandon the animals in Gillette's lab, he told me "your case is history" and stormed out of the meeting. From that point on, PETA has attempted to undermine our efforts to end animal experimentation at Gillette.

With the help of a handful of innovative individuals, we were able to turn the Gillette case into a highly visible international boycott. I have found through my personal experience that you don't need "heroes", "leaders", or "experts" to make a real difference—creativity and commitment are the basic requirements. Support and action by individuals and groups whose primary interest is animals, not self-perpetuation, have been the key to the success of the "Boycott Gillette Campaign" from the beginning.

I hope that my experience will encourage others to go out and do what needs to be done without waiting for permission from groups.

—Leslie Fain  
Bethesda, MD

### All Beings are Majestic

I appreciated the letter captioned "Saving Little Lives" in the March issue. I do trash hauling, yard cleanup, etc., and often I find daddy longleg spiders, snails, and other creatures when I overturn an old piece of debris. The nautilus shell of a fragile garden snail is wonderful, as is the spider's graceful posture. I take the time to remove the critters the best I can, and put them elsewhere in the yard—much to the wonderment of my clients and fellow workers.

Regardless of what Peter Singer says about the level at which an animal does not feel pain, I know that these beings are majestic. They are kings and queens, and saving one is an important event.

The most upsetting thing for me in the

Continued on page 52



# Probing the Mind of the Vivisector

BY ALLAN BULLINGTON

*Dr. Michael Grant, a former animal researcher, talks about the defense mechanisms, personal ambitions and rationalizations utilized by many in the animal research community to suppress doubts about the actual morality of their work.*



Allan Bullington (left) interviews Dr. Michael Grant on "Animal Rights Forum", a cable television program.

The following is a recent interview conducted by Allan Bullington, Director of Animal Rights Information Service, Inc. (ARIS), and host of "Animal Rights Forum", with Dr. Michael Grant, Associate Professor of Psychology, University of Bridgeport, concerning "The Mind of the Vivisector." "Animal Rights Forum" is now airing weekly on cable in New York City and Buffalo, N.Y., Bridgeport, Conn., Arlington, Va., Ann Arbor and Detroit, Mich., and the whole eastern part of the state of Washington, including Seattle. Readers interested in serving as sponsors for the show in their local areas may contact ARIS at Box 20672, Columbus Circle Station, New York, NY 10023.

**Dr. Grant, what led you into research using animals?**

I believe that most people start animal research when they're children—playing around with anthills and the like is probably the first attempts people make

to manipulate the behavior of other species. Formally, I began in college in pre-medical programs, biology classes and as a lab assistant. However, the most serious types of research I engaged in were in graduate school in physiology research working primarily with mice and rats while doing research on the effects of various drugs. After about two years, I was approached by another researcher who was an admirer of my work and I remember vividly how he led me into his laboratory to show me a rack of cages of cats who were being used in brain stimulation experiments. According to him, I had now moved up the ladder of research to the level of using cats.

**So, in his mind, you had earned the right to "move up the evolutionary scale" away from research with rodents to begin using cats?**

Yes, it was recognition. Given the expense of various animals, primates being the most expensive, you find that there is a hierarchy of "working your way through the ranks" before you would make it to a primate lab.

**As in most businesses, and research is certainly a business, in order to get ahead, one doesn't "make waves." Related to this, did you or any of your fellow researchers ever bring up the subject of animal pain, the use of too many animals, or the so-called necessity of proposed research projects?**

I think it would have been viewed as inappropriate. In fact, it was just the opposite—there was a tremendous peer pressure to just go along and be a member of the team. There was morale-building, and an encouraging of one another to think that we were involved in something special. We actually had a softball team called "The Experimenters."

**What led you to think that there was something wrong with this whole scenario?**

Somehow, when I looked at those cats I knew that I couldn't do that type of research; I was in a state of conflict. I remember feeling that I didn't want to do this since there was too much interaction between the species. I politely said "no."

*Continued on page 6*

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## INTERVIEW

Continued from page 4

I never gave a reason to my fellow researcher and I'm not sure if, at the time, I was aware of the reason.

### Did you continue in animal research after graduation?

At the time of my first university position I insisted that they build an animal research facility. This center was a pre-condition written into my contract.

### What type of research did you perform?

I was working in psychopharmacology using rodents. This involves injecting substances into animals to test the effects. If you look at the size of the syringe used in the injection, on scale it's about the size of a small sword when compared to the rodent. I remember once when injecting a mouse that I made eye contact with the mouse and I got a sense of a feeling of helplessness from the mouse. Eventually,

I got less involved in the laboratory and let my students handle the research until the time I closed the lab.

Webster's dictionary defines "torture" as "any method by which pain is inflicted" and "vivisection" as "to cut while alive." Do you see any connection between the mindset of someone who can perform painful experiments on a conscious animal and someone who performs torture for political purposes or any other reason?

Quite a while after I stopped being involved in animal research, I began to ask "Why and how did I get involved in animal research?" The "why" part came about because of peer pressure and the school environment, but as to how I could do that, and not feel anything at the time, I had to search for the answer. I began to look at the analogy of the training of torturers and the training of researchers. It's done in small acceptable steps with the approval of you peers and your superiors. My premise is that dissection is the starting point on the road to vivisection.

In every society there are so-called "specialty groups" such as soldiers, police officers and the like who feel mandated to do society's "dirty work." Inherent in these groups is a strong sense of "machismo" in that they are strong and able to do what the rest of us aren't. Is this type of feeling prevalent among doctors and researchers in particular?

We definitely developed the feeling that we were special. We knew that we were skilled. Many of these procedures take quite a long time to master, and there is quite a sense of pride in having accomplished them. It was sort of an "us-versus-them" philosophy.

### How does the use of medical jargon fit into all of this?

The jargon is constantly changing and is one of the ways to show that you're sophisticated and up-to-date. The other side of this is that the jargon itself further serves to desensitize you to what's going on. For example, psychologists never talk about shock, they talk about "adverse stimuli" or "negatively reinforced response" and animals are never killed in the labs, they are "sacrificed."

### And, of course, animals are referred to as "models" or "tools."

That's right. Another area where jargon comes into play is in the writing of research papers. The points get more and

Continued on page 56

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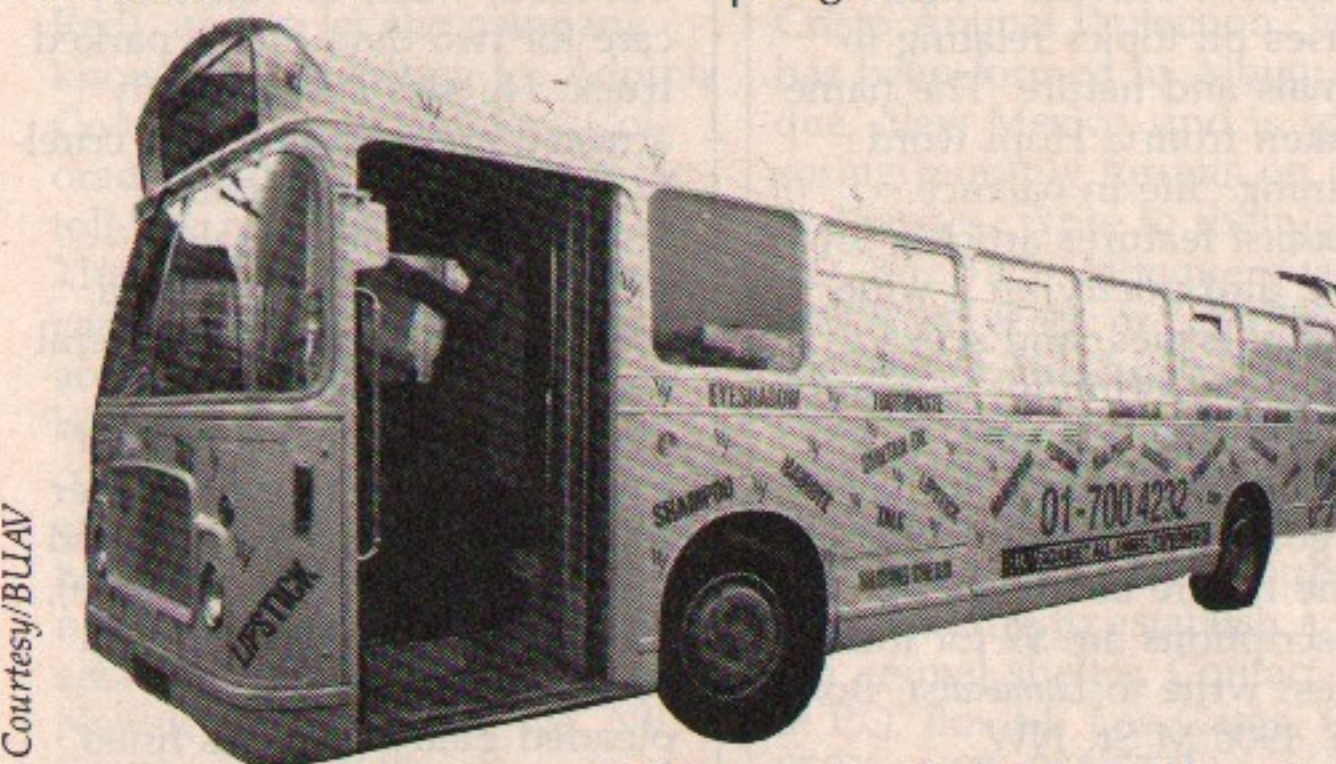
### Resources for Animal Advocates

A revised third edition of The Michigan Humane Society's *Handbook of Animal Cruelty Law* is now available. The updated handbook includes the latest court cases and statutes, as well as a wealth of information on investigating and prosecuting animal cruelty cases. It is available for \$11.40 including postage from MHS-North, Accounting Dept., 3600 Auburn Rd., Auburn Heights, MI 48057.

♦ The best-selling book *A Field Guide to Birds* by Roger Tory Peterson is now available in conjunction with a video. The video and book set enables viewers to become familiar with the appearance and calls of various birds for easy identification. The video alone costs \$59.00; the book and video together cost \$69.90. Ask your local library or video store to order the tape for rental purposes—or, buy one for yourself. Contact Aylmer Press, P.O. Box 2735, Madison, WI 53701; (608) 233-2259. ♦ *The View From Raspberry Corners* is the name of a new publication for vegetarian children. Published ten times a year, it features stories and drawings promoting vegetarianism and compassion towards animals. Write to the publishers at 25-C Anton Rd., Storrs, CT 06268.

### World Farm Animals' Day

Start planning activities now to promote vegetarianism and the rights of farm animals on October 2, Mahatma Gandhi's birthday. World Farm Animals' Day activities are being coordinated nationwide by the Farm Animal Reform Movement (FARM)—write them at P.O. Box 70123, Washington, DC 20088, or call (301) 530-1737 for more information.



Taking animal rights to the streets.

Courtesy/BUAV

### Animal Rights Year

Plans are underway for activities on behalf of animals in connection with the celebration of the U.S. Constitution's 200th birthday this summer in Philadelphia. Under the banner of "Animal Rights Year", a news conference, symposium, and a major rally are among events being planned for late August or September in conjunction with the possible introduction of a constitutional amendment on animal rights (currently being drafted). For more information, contact: Alex Hershaft, 10101 Ashburton Ln., Bethesda, MD 20817; (301) 530-1737.

### Choose Cruelty-Free

The British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection (BUAV) has launched a major new campaign to encourage the British public to purchase brands of personal and household products not tested on animals and free of animal-derived ingredients. An extensive array of promotional materials—including t-shirts, stickers, buttons and other items—has been produced to help promote the campaign. Also available is a videotape entitled "Through the Looking Glass", which exposes the cruelties of product testing. A specially-equipped campaign bus will be carrying the cruelty-free message throughout Britain this summer; on board will be displays, video showings, information, and humane products available for purchase. For more information, or to order any of the items mentioned above, write to: Choose Cruelty-Free, Freepost, London N7 8BR, England.

### Monkeys' Fate Still in Doubt

Six years after they were rescued from the Maryland labs of researcher Edward Taub, the fate of the Silver Spring monkeys is still uncertain. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) secretly transferred the monkeys to the custody of Tulane University's Delta Regional Primate Center in Louisiana last summer, reneging on promises to consult Congress before moving the monkeys. Delta has come up with four options on how to deal with the 14 remaining monkeys: 1) Kill the eight who have damaged limbs, and rehabilitate the other five; 2) Amputate the limbs of the eight, and continue to cage all 14 in isolation; 3) Do nothing, and continue to house all 14 monkeys in isolation indefinitely. A memo sent to NIH by the American Psychological Association suggested that half the monkeys be killed and the other half be used for breeding future generations of experimental victims. The U.S. Supreme Court recently denied an appeal by several animal protection groups seeking standing to sue for the custody of the monkeys. Activists are urged to write their Representatives in support of H.R. 1770 (the "Standing Bill"), which proposes granting legal standing to groups and individuals to sue the U.S. Department of Agriculture for enforcement of the Act.

### Letterwriting Works

We're happy to report that the Hartz Mountain Corporation has announced it will no longer make cat toys out of fur (see the previous item in the April 1987 Network Notes section), and the Coca-Cola Company has halted its plans to clear some 30,000 acres of tropical rainforest in Belize (May 1987 News Shorts) until an environmental impact assessment is conducted. The outpouring of negative sentiment from animal and environmental activists and groups helped turn the tide in these two instances.



—Leo Matiz/PIX

### Fowl play

#### State Cockfighting Bills

Legislation has been introduced in Texas and Missouri to outlaw the brutal "sport" of cockfighting. Missouri Senate Bill 54 and Texas Senate Bill 1061 to prohibit cockfighting deserve the vigorous support of activists in those states. Missouri activists may write to their legislators at: State Capitol, Jefferson City, MO 65101. By the time this issue reaches our readers, the fate of the Texas bill will already have been decided. Activists in that state may call the Texas Humane Information Network at (512) 323-9445 for current information. In Florida, a bill was introduced to legalize cockfighting, outlawed last year with the passage of the state's Animal Fighting Act (which also banned the use of live lures in greyhound training). The bill, pushed by the Florida Game-fowl Breeders Association (the organizational arm of the cockfighters) died in committee. Florida activists fear that the cockfighters may attempt to sneak the provision into other legislation, however. Activists may write to Florida Action for Animals, P.O. Box 95-3281, Stuart, FL 33495-3281 for current information.

### Alpo and Purina Support Hunting

Readers with companion dogs should be aware that the Alpo pet food company has offered its customers \$100 discounts on purchases of shotguns in an ad which ran in the pro-hunting magazine *Field and Stream*. Write to Alpo at P.O. Box 2187, Allentown, PA 18001 (or call toll-free: 1-800-523-9442) and tell them to get out of the shotgun business. Also, a week-long hunting trip to Callaway Gardens, Georgia has been offered as a sweepstakes prize by

Continued on next page



## NETWORK NOTES

Continued from previous page  
the Ralston Purina Pet Food Company (835 S. 8th St., St. Louis, MO 63102). Needless to say, there are numerous other reasons for animal advocates not to purchase most brands of commercial dog and cat food: almost all of these companies use as ingredients factory-farmed animal flesh and by-products, fish caught through methods which may harm marine mammals, and chemical dyes and preservatives which have no nutritive value. Readers are encouraged to seek information on humane natural diets for companion animals from Nature's Recipe, 309 Burr Rd., East Northport, NY 11731; and Harbingers of a New Age, 06784 Canary Rd., Westlake, OR 97493.

### Upcoming Conferences

The seventh annual Action for Life Training and Mobilization Conference will be held in Boston Labor Day weekend (September 5-7) under the auspices of the Cambridge Committee for Responsible Research and the Farm Animal Reform Movement. For more information, write to AFL, P.O. Box 1626, Cambridge, MA 02238, or call (617) 547-9255. ♦ The Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights (AVAR) will hold its annual meeting July 22 in Chicago, Illinois. Among the featured events is a panel discussion on the use of animals in veterinary and biological teaching. For more information, write to AVAR at Rt. 1, Box 170, Winters, CA 95694. ♦ A conference entitled "Vegetarianism: A Taste of Tomorrow" will be held August 5-9 in Toronto, Ontario. The event will feature cooking demonstrations and a variety of information on vegetarianism. Speakers include Paul Obis, editor and publisher of *Vegetarian Times* magazine, and Keith Akers, author of *A Vegetarian Sourcebook*. For further details, write to the International Vegetarian Union, P.O. Box 9710, Washington, DC 20016. ♦ A symposium on bioethics and applied ethology sponsored by the Animal Welfare Foundation of Canada and Tufts University will be held August 15 and 16 in Montreal. For details, write to P.O. Box 120, Station B, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3B 3J5.

### The Right to Refuse

Jennifer Graham, a 15-year-old sophomore at Victor Valley High School in Victorville, California, is waging a legal battle against her school district. At issue is the student's right to refuse to participate in a classroom frog dissection on moral grounds. Jennifer (an animal rights advocate whose goal is to become an oceanographer) offered to use plastic models and the computer program "Operation Frog" to study frog anatomy rather than cutting up dead frogs along with her classmates, expecting that the school would respect her beliefs. School officials refused her request. Though Jennifer maintains an "A" or "B" average in most courses, she was subsequently given a "D" for the frog dissection portion of the biology course due to her refusal to participate. The issue went before the five-member school board on May 4, and Jennifer was told that her refusal to dissect would be noted on her permanent transcript. That stipulation is a violation of her civil rights, say



Jennifer Graham, with a plastic frog model—a humane alternative to dissection.

Jennifer's attorneys. With the backing of the Humane Society of the U.S., a lawsuit is being prepared against the school board. Says Jennifer, "I've received many letters of support from people of all ages. Almost everyone, even if they went to school a long time ago, remembers the dissections and feels bad about them. Lots of students now are looking for alternatives. I'd like other students to know that they're not alone in their feelings. I felt like I was alone at first, too—but not anymore." Letters in support of Jennifer's stance may be sent to school board president Gerald Brown, Victor

Valley Union High School District, 16350 Mojave Dr., Victorville, CA 92392-3698. Also, readers are urged to bring the issue of a student's right to refuse to participate in dissection or vivisection before local school boards and PTAs.

### A Minnesota Alternatives Center?

A bill proposed by the Animal Rights Coalition (University of Minnesota chapter) pending in the Minnesota State House would, if passed, pave the way towards the establishment of a center for alternatives to animal testing at the University of Minnesota. The group also succeeded in having passed a non-binding resolution in recent student elections which asserts the students' right to refuse participation in classroom vivisection. Information on these campaigns may be obtained by writing to: Animal Rights Coalition, University of Minnesota Chapter, P.O. Box 8506, Minneapolis, MN 55408.

### Cruel Tests Still Legal in Maryland

A bill in the state of Maryland to ban the use of live animals in acute toxicity and eye irritancy tests for cosmetics and household products won overwhelming passage in both Houses of the legislature and was expected to be signed by the governor, but minor differences between the Senate and House versions could not be worked out and the bill died in the joint Judicial Committee. This ground-breaking bill will be introduced next session, and backers are optimistic about its chances for passage next time around. If enacted, the bill would make Maryland the first state to outlaw the cruel, unreliable, and unnecessary LD50 (lethal dose 50 per cent) toxicity test and the Draize eye irritancy test. Activists in other states may wish to pursue similar legislation. For more information, write to Maryland Legislation for Animal Welfare, P.O. Box 9110, Silver Spring, Maryland 20906, or call (301) 434-5944.

### Cattle Dealer Convicted

Individuals who cause suffering to farm animals are rarely charged with cruelty to animals—and convictions in such cases are almost unheard of. An exception recently occurred in Virginia, however. Cattle dealer Christopher Mellott of St. Thomas, Pennsylvania was trucking cattle to slaughter along I-81 in Virginia last October when his truck had two flat tires. All but one cow were transferred to another vehicle—but, according to Mellott, "This one cow got down and wouldn't get up, and the other cows were trampling on her." Mellott left the cow unattended and without food, water or veterinary care for two days in the parked truck. He was subsequently arrested and charged with cruelty to animals after State Humane Officer Cyreal G. Wilson received a tip from a concerned citizen. After several court delays (including one postponement so that Mellott could go hunting, and another so that the deputy who served the warrant could do likewise), the case was finally heard on February 27, 1987. Mellott pleaded guilty and was fined \$150.

### A New Venture

*Lomakatsi* is the name of a new magazine distributed by independent activists which focuses on topics relating to animals and nature. The name is taken from a Hopi word meaning "life in balance." *Lomakatsi* features articles, artwork, and poetry on a wide range of issues, and seeks to "provide a forum for communicating and networking with people in all areas who have the goal of returning a balance to the nature of things." Subscriptions are \$9 for four issues: write to *Lomakatsi*, Box 1315, 1900 M St. NW, Washington, DC 20036.

—Alan Warren/The Sun

## NETWORK NOTES



Is Coors the one?

### The Worst of the Rockies

The spending policies of the Colorado-based Coors beer company should place it squarely at the top of every humanitarian's boycott list. A company-sponsored program called "Coors Chute Out" provides nearly half a million dollars in bonuses and awards annually to participants in the brutal "sport" of rodeo. Coors is also a major sponsor of "Protect What's Right", a national pro-hunting and trapping propaganda campaign. The company recently put up \$25,000 in prize money for the winner of the Coors Michigan Big Buck Contest (a deer-killing competition), and donates money to Ducks Unlimited, a duck-shooters' organization. Coors has also come under fire from numerous labor, women's, environmental, and minority groups for its spending policies and hiring practices. Readers are urged to boycott all Coors products (Coors, Coors Light, Herman Joseph's 1868, Coors Golden Lager, Colorado Cooler, Masters III, and George Killian's Irish Red), and to let the company know this by writing to: Adolph Coors Company, Golden, Colorado 80401; or by calling their toll-free number: 1-800-642-6116. The National Boycott Newsletter can provide more information about the various ongoing boycotts of Coors and other companies, and features a special section on animal rights boycotts. Sample copies of the newsletter are available for \$2 each. Write to: National Boycott Newsletter, 6506 28th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98115.

### Congratulations

For the first time, an animal rights activist has received an award from the United Way of Massachusetts Bay. Dorothy Checchi-O'Brien of Plymouth, Massachusetts was honored on April 21 for her more than 15 years of advocacy on behalf of animals. ♦ Thumbs up to life science/health teacher Dennis Bolton of Traner Middle School in Reno Nevada, named this year's National Humane Education Teacher of the Year by the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education. Congratulations are also in order for runner-up Cathleen Campbell, a language arts teacher at Orchard School in San Jose, California.

### Through Vegetarian Eyes

San Francisco Bay Area activist Billy Ray Boyd is launching a new project—a book based on interviews with vegetarians who are involved in any of the wide range of peace, justice, labor, and planetary survival issues facing humankind. The goal of the endeavor is to widen the spheres of concern of all social change activists. Says Boyd, "I look forward to the day when self-described progressives of all stripes will view meat-eating to be as offensive and as 'politically incorrect' as a racial slur or a rape joke." For more information on the project, write Boyd at P.O. Box 40681, San Francisco, CA 94140.

### New Groups

The Westchester Coalition for Animal Rights was formed recently to address issues involving cruelty to animals in Westchester County, New York. They may be reached at: 1122 Yonkers Ave. #2D, Yonkers, NY 10704; (914) 237-8605. ♦ A new chapter of the group Sangre de Cristo Animal Protection, Inc. has been formed in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and is sponsoring monthly forums on animal issues. Write to them at P.O. Box 5179, Albuquerque, NM 87185-8599, or call (505) 897-1863. ♦ The Animal Society of Los Gatos-Saratoga specializes in spaying, neutering, and finding homes for neglected and abused animals. The group is also working to establish a no-kill animal shelter. Contact them at P.O. Box 64, Los Gatos, CA 95031; (408) 354-5572.

### PAWS vs. U. of Washington

The Progressive Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) recently sought and won a permanent court injunction which forces the University of Washington to open its previously-closed animal care committee meetings to the public. The university built its case on the idea that the committee was an advisory body as opposed to a policy-making one, arguing that this meant the meetings were exempt from the provisions of the state's Open Public Meetings Act. But Judge Gary M. Little of the King County Superior Court ruled that the committee had evolved into a policy-making body since its inception in 1964, and on April 28 granted PAWS' request for a permanent injunction barring the closed meetings. Other groups may benefit from studying PAWS' strategy; copies of the lawsuit are available for \$15 from PAWS, P.O. Box 1037, Lynnwood, WA 98046; (206) 743-3845.

### Common Ground

An event entitled "Connections" held recently in Madison, Wisconsin explored the parallels between the exploitation of animals and the exploitation of women. Jointly sponsored by two Madison-based groups, the Alliance for Animals and the Task Force on Pornography and Prostitution, the event included slideshows and a dance presentation which focused on ways in which women and animals are victimized by violence, objectification, and societal misconceptions. Organizers of the event report that for participants, "sharing information

and concerns about their respective causes proved to be an enlightening experience, and brought them to a clearer understanding of the underlying human attitudes of domination and power which make the abuse of both women and animals possible."

### Gillette Closes Rockville Lab

The Gillette Corporation has announced that it has closed its Rockville, Maryland lab, and according to a company form letter, "will no longer conduct animal testing internally, but will use accredited outside laboratories to establish the safety of the company's products." Leslie Fain, a former laboratory technician at the Rockville facility, exposed the animal suffering at the lab through photographic and video documentation last fall. Demonstrations have been held in recent months in numerous cities throughout the U.S. and Canada by the Boycott Gillette Coalition calling for an end to Gillette's use of animals in product testing. Activists are urged to continue boycotting the company's products (a list of the products was printed in the December 1986 issue of *THE ANIMALS' AGENDA*). Also write to Gillette and tell them that farming out their animal testing to other companies will not appease animal advocates. Write to: Gillette Company, Prudential Tower, Boston, MA 02199. For more information, or to purchase a copy of the 12-minute video entitled "Products of Pain" which documents the cruelties at Gillette, contact: ARK II, P.O. Box 11049, Washington, DC 20008.



Animal advocates are dumping Gillette.

—Richard Sabrucci





—Beverly Fahnhorst/ARC, MN



—Rhoda Karp



—Courtesy/SUPRESS



—Edward Souza/Stanford University



—Don Melandry/In Defense of Animals

(1) Activists form a human chain at a demonstration at the University of Minnesota; (2) Demonstrators at Cornell University in New York City are flanked by police; (3) Some of the more than 1,000 animal advocates who demonstrated at UCLA; (4) Protesters march on Stanford University in California; (5) One of the 49 arrestees at UC Berkeley; (6) A protester at Yerkes Primate Center in Atlanta dramatizes the animals' plight.



—Cam Macqueen

## World Day for Laboratory Animals—1987

This year's World Day for Laboratory Animals was observed on and around April 24 by thousands of animal advocates in 30 states and approximately 70 locations across the U.S. and Canada. Many of the actions were carried out by member groups of the April 24th Coalition. In Defense of Animals took on the role of coordinating coalition activities again this year, referring hundreds of activists to contacts in their local areas. Although activities varied widely, many groups demanded that their local universities and research centers:

1. Publicly funding for the development of research technologies that do not harm or kill animals.
2. Issue a clear policy statement that university science and medical students are not required to vivisection or dissect animals.
3. Work out arrangements to allow medically trained people chosen by the animal rights community unscheduled access to research facilities to monitor experimental procedures and the conditions under which animals are kept.
4. Immediately end the use of lost and abandoned pets as research tools.
5. Take immediate steps to end psychological tests on animals.

6. Start meaningful discussions with representatives of the animal rights community to develop a plan to phase out reliance on the experimental use and abuse of animals.

Space does not permit us to mention all of the actions which took place on World Day for Laboratory Animals, but here are a few. California led the way in April 24 actions—the largest protest occurred at the University of California at Los Angeles, where 1,000 participated in a demonstration organized by groups Last Chance for Animals and SUPRESS (Students United Protesting Research on Sentient Subjects). The main body of demonstrators blocked the doors of the university's medical school, and 23 were arrested after occupying the offices of medical school dean and American Heart Association president Ken Shrine. At the University of California's Berkeley campus, some 300 people demonstrated and 49 were arrested for blocking the doors of California Hall in an action sponsored by the Coalition to Stop the Northwest Animal Facility. Nine activists were arrested for blocking the hall outside the chancellor's office at U.C.'s San Francisco campus. At U.C. Davis, seven members of the Animal Rights Direct Action Coal-

ition were arrested after occupying the office of chancellor James Meyer and hanging banners out of the windows; more than 50 people demonstrated in support.

Also in California, nine were arrested and some 100 marched on the campus of Stanford University. In Sacramento and San Diego, chapters of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) vigiled on behalf of the Silver Spring monkeys. Elsewhere in the Western U.S., members of PETA's Arizona chapter held a rally at the University of Arizona College of Medicine, and 17 were arrested after chaining themselves to the doors of the facility. At Western Washington University, 15 activists from the Northwest Animal Rights Network held a vigil in shifts in a cage outside the psychology department for a total of more than 75 hours; 100 demonstrators rallied in support.

East Coast actions included a protest at Cornell Medical School in New York City, where 56 were arrested in a demonstration organized by Trans-Species Unlimited. Noxell Corporation outside Baltimore was the target of a protest by animal advocates from PETA-DC; 19 were arrested after linking arms and blocking the main entrance to the facility. At New York University, fifth grade students from the Brooklyn Friends School poster-

and leafletted the science buildings on campus, and distributed literature to psychology students and professors. The group Animal Rights Forum at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology held a walk-a-thon for lab animals in Boston. The Georgia Earth Alliance demonstrated at Emory University's Yerkes Regional Primate Center in Atlanta. In Connecticut, some 50 people demonstrated outside the headquarters of U.S. Surgical Corporation in Norwalk in an action sponsored by Friends of Animals; another 50 activists from the Animal Rights Front picketed outside a major department store in Hartford, urging passersby to purchase cruelty-free products. Members of the Quebec Society for the Defense of Animals marched from McGill University to the University of Quebec in Montreal.

In the central U.S., five were arrested and some 50 others demonstrated at the University of Minnesota in an action sponsored by the Animal Rights Coalition. At Tulane University in New Orleans (home of the Delta Regional Primate Center, where the Silver Spring monkeys are housed), some 60 members of the group Animal Peace demonstrated, wearing black and releasing black balloons. At the Medical College of Wisconsin, 150 activists participated in a

candlelight march and vigil sponsored by Citizens United for Animals. About 40 members of the group Protect Our Earth's Treasures marched through the medical complex at Ohio State University in Columbus.

A 22-day-long trial of activists arrested at last year's April 24 and July 21 direct actions at U.C.L.A. and Cedars-Sinai Hospital was recently concluded. The trial was one of the longest and costliest for misdemeanor charges in Los Angeles history, with one judge disqualifying herself because of her admitted sympathy for the animal rights cause. Facing four separate charges, ten of the activists from Last Chance for Animals pled "no contest" and were sentenced to one year's probation; the remaining 17 were acquitted of three charges, with 12 convicted of one charge of obstruction of a right-of-way at U.C.L.A. Eleven refused probation and opted for five days in jail; candlelight vigils were held for the jailed activists.

The April 24th Coalition has announced that it will now exist year-round, assisting individuals and groups in sharing information, ideas and strategies. For more information, write to the Coalition in care of In Defense of Animals, 21 Tamal Vista Blvd., Corte Madera, CA 94925.

—Leslie Pardue and Betsy Swart

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## RACING AGAINST DEATH: Adoption Programs for Greyhounds

Losing a race can be fatal to a greyhound. Dogs whose racing days are over—or whose careers never began—usually face death, abandonment or sale to research laboratories. A small percentage are placed in homes, due to the efforts of individuals and organizations concerned about the plight of the ex-racing dogs.

Those who work with the greyhounds and witness the destruction of the animals often express anger. "Something is wrong with a society that disposes of beautiful animals as if they were McDonald's wrappers," said Louise Coleman, founder of Greyhound Friends, Inc., a greyhound adoption group. Unfortunately, economic reality often dictates the destruction of unwanted greyhounds. Hugh Geoghegan, opponent of legalized dog racing and director of the Greyhound Rescue Association, estimates that between 700 and 1,000 raceable dogs are needed to keep each track operational. Thus, ex-racing dogs become the by-products of racetrack gambling greed. "Breeders don't feed losers," said Frantz Dantzler, director of the North Central Regional Office of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). "The dogs are not treated as living, breathing creatures, but as gambling devices," said Dantzler.

At least one greyhound placement organization is reluctant to speak out against dog racing. Retired Greyhounds As Pets (REGAP), the largest greyhound adoption organization, receives part of its funding from 12 of the 48 U.S. dog tracks. "I don't believe dog racing is cruel. I'm not anti-racing. I'm just looking out for the welfare of the greyhounds," said REGAP's Ron Walsek. Walsek formed the Florida-based nonprofit organization in 1982 after caring for the slender, aristocratic dogs. "I took care of about 150 greyhounds, and they were treated royally until their racing careers ended," said Walsek. "One day, when I arrived at work, I discovered that three of my favorites had made the inexcusable trip to the vet's—despite my offers to find good homes for them."

Walsek receives the racing dogs from owners and trainers, who select the animals for their gentleness and friendliness. "The greyhounds are so tame and anxious to please that they can go right into a home," he said. The average age of



The Peterson children of Lynnfield, Mass. with their adopted greyhound, "Touch" (left). Greyhounds are raced for one to two years, after which most are destroyed (inset).

—Bob Kramer Studio



—ISAR

REGAP dogs placed in homes is 18 to 24 months. "A lot of the dogs practiced for the track but were not fast enough," said Walsek. "For example, many of them run only 39 miles per hour instead of 41."

Although REGAP cautions adopters to monitor the dogs' behavior during the initial introductory period into their new homes, some humane organizations have reservations about turning ex-racing dogs into companion animals. The use of live lures (jackrabbits and other small animals who are chased and killed by the dogs) in training sessions may make it difficult for some greyhounds to adjust to living with smaller animals and children, according to Dantzler. Also, some humane societies say they are not able to keep the dogs long enough to successfully rehabilitate them.

Although REGAP's charter states that the dogs will be placed in responsible homes and not used for racing, breeding, hunting, or research, that document has apparently been violated on at least one occasion. Connecticut state police investigated an incident last year in which two persons who had relinquished greyhounds into REGAP's care learned that their dogs had been donated by the organization to the University of Pennsylvania's veterinary school for use as blood donors. "We examined the case

because all of REGAP's advertisements specify that the dogs will be placed only as household pets," said Detective Joe Osga of the Connecticut state police's legalized gambling investigative unit. Police had threatened REGAP with consumer fraud charges, but dropped the case after the university returned the dogs to REGAP (after removing their spleens). The university denies any awareness of wrongdoing in the case; it receives many greyhounds directly from the racetracks, according to a spokesperson. REGAP has also sent out letters to veterinary schools offering greyhounds for medical use in veterinary hospitals, according to Robert Baker, field investigator for HSUS.

REGAP, which has 24 representatives at 13 racetracks throughout the country, has never presented any documented figures on the number of dogs they have placed in homes. Walsek says that the group has placed about 5,000 dogs since its inception five years ago. Considering that up to 50,000 greyhounds are destroyed each year, the numbers saved are very small. Judith Donaldson, breeder of show-greyhounds and president of Run or Die, an Illinois organization which opposes legalized dog racing, points out that homes are difficult to find for even the most popular breeds of dogs. "Even fewer homes are available for the greyhound, an exotic breed that requires a fenced-in yard and protection from temperature extremes," she said.

Robert Baker says, "... unfortunately, REGAP has been used by the greyhound industry as a cosmetic gesture to give the impression that the unconscionably high number of greyhounds that are bred every year for mass destruction has ceased. In fact, REGAP has been so entwined with the greyhound industry that their members are often reluctant to speak

out against the greyhound industry's practice of mass production of dogs. This reluctance is in fear that they might lose the minuscule amount of money that the greyhound industry chooses to contribute to this organization. As a result, REGAP is alleviating merely a slight portion of the symptoms of this problem rather than attacking the cause—the creation of thousands of excess animals."

—Sylvia Phillips

The author wishes to thank Nancy Payton of the International Society for Animal Rights and Robert Baker of Humane Society of the U.S. for providing some of the information used in this article.

Activists in Ohio are gearing up to protest the National Trappers Association convention in Mansfield on August 22. Support is needed from groups and individuals around the state. For information, write to Protect Our Earth's Treasures, P.O. Box 10156, Columbus, OH 43201-0656, or call (614) 451-3605.

## VEGETARIANISM: The Religious Imperative

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## BRAVE NEW POLICY: The Patenting of Nonhuman Animals

On April 3, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office announced its intention to pursue a new interpretation of patent law which would allow patents to be granted on genetically-altered animals, with the exception of human beings. This sweeping new policy is expected to provide a strong added incentive to biotechnology companies working to develop increasingly specialized varieties of non-human animals for use in laboratories and animal agriculture. The Foundation on Economic Trends and the Humane Society of the United States are heading a coalition of major animal protection groups which has petitioned the agency to withdraw the policy—but patent officials have refused the request. Ultimately, the issue may come under consideration by Congress.

The first patent law was shaped in 1790 by Thomas Jefferson and others. Early in this century, attempts by scientists to obtain patents on biomedical techniques and procedures were viewed with public skepticism; it was felt that attempts were being made to profit from human suffering. The language of American patent law provides for the granting of patents on "any new useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter." Traditionally, this phrasing has been held to exclude living things.

In 1930, and again in 1970, Congress created exceptions to this general rule by passing statutes allowing for the patenting of some plants. The availability of patents on plants has encouraged the development and use of genetically-engineered seed strains in agriculture,



*This genetically-altered pig, born at the Department of Agriculture's research center in Beltsville, Md., carries a cow's growth hormone gene. He has difficulty walking on his short legs, and suffers arthritis and visual impairment. He will probably not live to be two years old.*

which has led to monoculturing (the large-scale planting of single species), loss of genetic diversity, and decreased use of native plant varieties. Thousands of beneficial natural plant species have been eliminated simply because, as products of nature, they could not be patented. In 1980, the patenting of genetically-engineered microorganisms was approved in a 5-4 Supreme Court decision on *Diamond vs. Chakrabarty*. The ruling

was based on the idea (put forth in an earlier case) that microbes are "more akin to inanimate chemical compositions such as reactants, reagents, and catalysts than they are to horses and honeybees or raspberries and roses." The Chakrabarty ruling resulted in an explosion of research into the genetic engineering of microorganisms, as biotechnologists sought the lucrative 17-year monopolies which the patents guarantee. Federal regulatory

agencies were overwhelmed; corporations attempted to circumvent regulations; and controversy, environmental risk, and litigation ensued. Since the Chakrabarty decision, courts have consistently held that no further revisions in U.S. patent law should be made into new and questionable areas without a "clear and certain signal from Congress."

It is expected that agribusiness interests will, as a result of the new Patent Office policy on animals, increase their efforts to produce ever more productive laying hens and milk cows, faster growing cattle and pigs, and leaner animal flesh. A recent article in *The Drovers Journal*, a beef industry publication, speculates that, "In theory, at least, it will be possible to so change the genetic makeup of animals that a kind of 'breathing slab of beef' could be produced without the need for legs, a brain or a nervous system."

Animal experimenters may be expected to develop specialized animals, or animals with built-in characteristics for use in specific types of experiments. For example, animals could be altered so as to produce excess amounts of hormones or antibodies, which could then be "harvested" from their blood. Such efforts have been in existence for years, of course—but the granting of patents will spur them on. Says Bruce F. Mackler, general counsel for the Association of Biotechnology Companies, "The ability to patent animals makes it more attractive economically to conduct research." The patenting of animals will inevitably lead to a situation similar to those which followed the patenting of plants and microbes: lengthy court challenges, loss of biodiversity, and environmental risks of unknown proportions seem certain if Congress allows the Patent Office to pursue the policy.

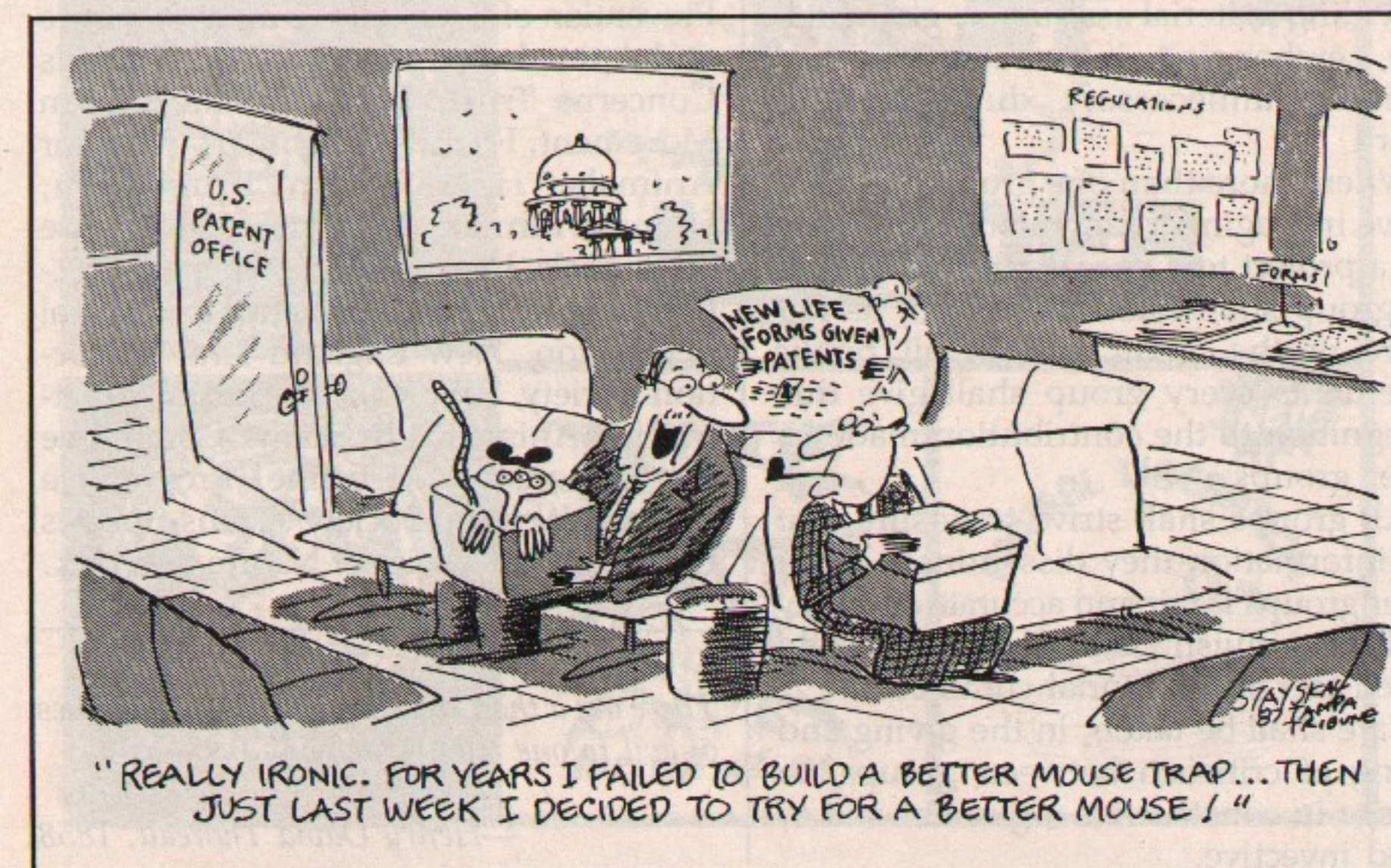
Tinkering with the genetic codes of animals can be expected to produce some additional problems not encountered with similar research on plants and

microbes. Animals have complex nervous systems and the capacity to suffer—a capacity which plants and microorganisms seem to lack. In the researchers' quest for patentable specimens, generations of animals will suffer and their lives will be discarded as researchers attempt to perfect techniques. Genetic alteration of animals will cause many to suffer abnormalities, deformities, and new forms of illness for which no preventative medicine will exist. The high cost of finding solutions to these problems will deter many patentholders from bothering to make attempts.

Perhaps the most troubling aspect of a policy allowing patents to be granted on animals is simply the notion that, as human beings, every living thing on Earth is ours for the taking, and that we have the right to manipulate nature to suit our own purposes—regardless of the consequences to ourselves, other animals, and the planet as a whole. In a recent *New York Times* editorial, Jeremy Rifkin of the Foundation on Economic Trends said, "A handful of nonelected bureaucrats in a government agency, sealed off and isolated from public participation, have taken it upon themselves to reduce all living things to the new lowly status of 'manufactured processes.' Is all life to be redefined as a manufactured process subject to patenting and ownership by private companies? Or are living things to be spared this ultimate form of technological reductionism?"

—Leslie Pardue

*A bill is currently being drafted which would, if passed, amend the Patent Act to prohibit the granting of patents on genetically-altered vertebrate and invertebrate animals. Readers are strongly urged to write their U.S. Senators and Representatives asking for their support of such legislation.*



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## ANIMAL NEWSLINE

### Summit Report

The third annual Summit for the Animals, hosted this year by the International Primate Protection League, was held April 2-5 in Summerville, South Carolina. Some 50 or so representatives of animal protection groups across the country were invited by the Summit's executive committee. Chaired by Tom Regan, the three-day conference heard Jim Mason speak on the state of the movement, and other speakers briefed the Summit on their groups' activities. Intended originally to bring group leaders together to discuss issues and ways of working more closely, this year's Summit, with the theme "cooperation among humane organizations," became chiefly a forum for airing points of contention among animal groups. Alex Hershaft of the Farm Animal Reform Movement (FARM) and philosophy professor Brian Klug both addressed the problem of disunity with some concrete proposals for achieving greater cooperation among animal protection groups. Summit participants endorsed the idea of establishing an arbitration panel to help settle disputes. Approved was a nine-point "manifesto" laying out some basic guidelines for ethical interaction. Its norms of conduct read as follows:

1. All groups shall keep in mind that the movement to promote the cause of animals is larger than any single group and they shall act accordingly.
2. Where different groups are working in the same field or pursuing the same initiative they shall endeavor to avoid conflict. Depending on circumstances, this might take the form of combining forces, providing material assistance, giving advice, exchanging information or just avoiding unnecessary duplication of effort.
3. Where more than one group has been active in waging a campaign or in bringing a project to a successful conclusion, no group shall claim more than its fair share of the credit and in all public statements every group shall give due recognition to the contribution made by other groups.
4. All groups shall strive to ensure that the information they disseminate about other groups is fair and accurate and they shall distinguish clearly between established fact and editorial comment.
5. Care shall be taken, in the giving and taking of criticism between groups, to engage in constructive argument and to avoid invective.

6. If any group promulgates a harmful misrepresentation concerning other groups, the offending group shall take all necessary steps to rectify the error fully and effectively.

7. Those groups that are relatively large and wealthy shall review their annual budgets with a view to allocating funds to assist groups within the movement that are smaller and less well-off and to providing such other forms of assistance as might be deemed appropriate.

8. In matters of governance, fundraising, use of funds and public accountability, all groups shall conduct their business properly and in accordance with the highest ethical standards.

9. If groups find themselves involved in a dispute, or if one group feels that another group has failed to respect any of these norms, every effort shall be made to resolve the question amicably and in the spirit of goodwill which this manifesto embodies.

For a copy of the manifesto in its entirety, write to Brian Klug, 5849 S. Blackstone, Apt. 312, Chicago, IL 60637.

Two other proposals were also presented at the Summit. Henry Spira spoke in favor of exploring movement-supported vegetarian fast-food outlets, giving the public an option in terms of diet and price. Patrice Greanville, head of the newly-formed Voice of Nature Network (VNN), outlined the reasons why the animal liberation movement needs to develop television capabilities.

National organizations in attendance at the Summit were: Ahimsa Foundation, American Humane Association, Animals' Agenda, Animal Legal Defense Fund, Animal Protection Institute, Animal Rights International, Animal Political Action Committee, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Culture and Animals Foundation, Food Animals Concerns Trust, Farm Animal Reform Movement, Friends of Animals, Fund for Animals, Helen Brach Foundation, Humane Farming Association, In Defense of Animals, International Primate Protection League, National Alliance for Animal Legislation, New England Anti-Vivisection Society, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Physicians' Committee for Responsible Medicine, Progressive Animal Welfare Society, Trans-Species Unlimited, and Voice of Nature Network.

*There are a thousand hacking at the branches of evil to one who is striking at the root.*

—Henry David Thoreau, 1858

## Do Plants Have Rights?

*Drawing lines of sentience may help define moral priorities.*

In the midst of presenting the case for animal rights, the animal advocate is often assaulted with facetious questions such as: "Plants are alive, too, and have feelings—why aren't you campaigning for plant rights?" "Plants suffer . . . when are you going to stop eating them?" "Why just animal rights? . . . plants are alive, too." "If we stop eating animals, we'll just consume more plants . . . why is it better to kill plants than animals?" "You're saying that we should have 'reverence for life' and not kill animals, but what about plant life?"

The object of such questions is to trivialize the arguments on behalf of animals. But however ridiculous and transparent the attempts to confound the animal activist, it behooves him or her to be prepared to answer in a rational way—persuading the audience of the legitimacy of the pro-animal point of view without any appearance of hypocrisy.

It is important to acknowledge the difficulty of drawing moral distinctions between different forms of life, given our imperfect knowledge. Unfortunately, the demands of survival require us to draw some lines, even though they may seem arbitrary. We offer the following collection of opinions on plant consciousness to help readers clarify their thoughts and formulate their conclusions.

*I gave three distinct grounds for believing that nonhuman animals can feel pain: behavior, the nature of their nervous system, and the evolutionary usefulness of pain. None of these gives us any reason to believe that plants feel pain. In the absence of scientifically credible experimental findings, there is no observable behavior that suggests pain; nothing resembling*

*a central nervous system has been found in plants; and it is difficult to imagine why species that are incapable of moving away from a source of pain or using the perception of pain to avoid death in any other way should have evolved the capacity to feel pain. Therefore the belief that plants feel pain appears to be quite unjustified.*

—Peter Singer  
Animal Liberation

*What the movement against speciesism asks, in the light of the theory of Evolution, is that the present high barrier between the human and the other animal species should be displaced and re-erected between the animal kingdom and the vegetable kingdom (though evolutionists will expect there to be a no-man's land at the border). A millenium from now, there may well be a symposium on the rights of plants. . . . Plants are individuals, they are sensitive, and they certainly demonstrate an instinctual will to live. But their sensibility and individuality are not carried out by means of a central nervous system, and at the moment that is a place where our knowledge stops and it seems to be an intellectually respectable place for our imaginations, at least in practice, to stop.*

—Brigid Brophy  
Animal Rights, A Symposium

*All forms of life are not the same; there is no reason to believe that wheat and the other plants we grow are sentient—can see, hear and feel. The fact that there is no dividing line between animal and plant life is irrelevant since a continuum between two points does not make them equal. We may not know whether some simple organism should be described as a plant or an animal, but this does not mean that we do not know the difference between goats and grass.*

—John Harris  
Animals, Men and Morals

*Functions and subjective experiences analogous to those of the human psyche are attributable to other complex animals as well. In very simple animals and in plants, on the other hand, a society of cells seems to exist without any centralized organ of perception and control analogous to the psyche. . . . however, since consciousness does not exhaust experience, intrinsic value cannot be entirely denied to the unconscious experience of simpler animals, plant cells or even electrons and protons.*

—John Cobb  
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## ANIMAL NEWSLINE

### An International Proposal to Protect Animals

JERUSALEM—With the drafting of a "Convention for the Protection of Animals," the first step has been taken towards the creation of a multilateral international treaty to protect all animals from specific abuses and cruelties. Analogous to the Geneva and The Hague Conventions on the conduct of human warfare, it seeks to prohibit the use of certain weapons and practices accepted as being unnecessarily cruel and to establish minimum standards of care for captives.

Whereas The Hague Convention prohibits the use of weapons such as glass shrapnel, poison gas and dum-dum bullets because they are unnecessarily cruel, a Convention for the Protection of Animals could outlaw the use of steel-jaw traps, rodeo bucking straps, and shackle-and-hoist slaughtering on the same grounds. And whereas the Geneva Conventions prohibit torture and establish minimum standards of care for prisoners of war, so a Convention for the Protection of Animals could prohibit torture and establish minimum standards of care for animals held captive in zoos, laboratories, circuses and farms.

To date, about 40 countries are interested in participating in this effort. The government of Israel has agreed to serve as the formal diplomatic channel and host for the negotiations, and the government of Switzerland has agreed to serve as a neutral repository government for any agreement signed in those negotiations. We currently have a rather good draft—indeed, the best draft to come out of the project's five-year existence. But there is still much work to do before formal diplomatic negotiations can be called.

The summer of 1986 witnessed some very good progress. In particular, we conducted informal discussions on the Convention in Geneva. Professor David Favre of the Detroit College of Law led participants through a section-by-section, and at times a line-by-line, and even word-by-word discussion of the draft. Those days in Geneva tightened many loopholes. The scope of the Convention was also expanded—where before it was conceived as essentially a wildlife treaty, today it acknowledges an interest in addressing every form of human-animal interaction.

Parties to the Convention will agree to prohibit trade in cruelty. For example, if the European Community becomes a

party to the Convention, and the Convention outlaws the use of steel-jaw traps, the European Community is then bound to prohibit the import of furs from countries which are still using steel-jaw traps.

The same ban could apply to international trade in meats (including those billions of fast-food hamburgers) from animals slaughtered in shackle-and-hoist slaughterhouses, or pharmaceuticals produced by firms which do not comply with the minimum standards of care the Convention establishes for laboratory animals. Progress, however, is bound to be slow. The Convention for the Protection of Animals seeks to impose the broadest possible reforms which the sovereign governments of the world are willing to consider. As such, the changes are not likely to stamp out overnight the worst abuses caused by furriers, the meat industry, and animal experimenters.

The Geneva discussions drew the participation of government officials from Eastern and Western Europe, Africa, and Latin America, as well as officials from major international agencies, such as the United Nations Environment Program. In general, Convention supporters were pleased with developments. There was only one conspicuous problem—the United States. The U.S. government would not send an official to attend the Geneva discussions because, in the words of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, there is "inadequate" interest to justify the expense. How did the Service assess the nation's interest in the project? Simple: letters of inquiry were sent to zookeepers, hunters, trappers, and various other exploitation-oriented groups—who, with one voice, advised against U.S. participation.

While there has been little effort on behalf of the proposed Convention for the Protection of Animals from within the United States, there have been substantial efforts to torpedo it. The most serious efforts to undermine the proposed Convention have originated in the U.S. and Canada. There is some evidence to suggest that the U.S. government didn't want to participate in the Convention from the start—and then merely solicited the opinions of animal exploiters to make it appear as though the bureaucracy had sampled public opinion.

Some months ago, I received a telephone call from a woman named Rebecca Noack—who, claiming to be a reporter from *The Washington Post*, proceeded to ask me questions about the Convention and its plans. I wrote down the questions and said I'd mail her my responses. But something—I don't know

## ANIMAL NEWSLINE

what—made me suspicious. I checked out her address, and it seems that Suite 1101, 1612 K St. NW, Washington, DC is occupied by The Wildlife Conservation Fund of America and the Wildlife Legislative Fund of America—pro-hunting/trapping organizations.

Canada's Department of External Affairs—their counterpart to the U.S. State Department—authored an internal "discussion paper" entitled "Defense of the Fur Trade" in which the proposed Convention is identified as a serious threat to Canada's international trade in fur. I feel rather flattered by their assessment, but am also apprehensive of what counterplans are being hatched beneath the maple leaf. Not long ago, I received a telephone call from a man in Jerusalem asking about the Convention. He identified himself as being affiliated with Keren Hayasod, a highly-respected Jewish charity. I asked him why he was interested, and he responded that he really wasn't, that he was calling on behalf of a colleague in Ashdod. So I called the fellow in Ashdod, and learned that he made his inquiry on behalf of a friend in Toronto. Tracing back further, the man from Toronto was asking questions on behalf

of a man who belonged to the same social club, and that man was making inquiries on behalf of a colleague occupying a government office in Ottawa.

At the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) meeting in Botswana four years ago, the Secretariat generously provided us with a meeting room to discuss the Convention with interested delegates during the evening. The same provisions applied to the CITES meeting in Buenos Aires two years ago. Recently, I contacted the CITES Secretariat to ask if a meeting room might be available for discussion of the Convention during the evening hours of the upcoming meeting in Ottawa. This time, the Secretariat rejected the request, saying that "some parties might have very strong objections."

There are other pressures being applied against the proposed Convention for the Protection of Animals. These pressures must be met and resisted. I seek the help of American animal rights activists in doing this. For starters, I urge Americans to start campaigning hard for the U.S. government to begin sending well-motivated officials to participate in the development of this convention. The U.S. government has a history of not participating in international agreements that go against the interests of business, or when that participation does not begin during the developmental stages of a given convention or treaty. U.S. reluctance to participate in the Law of the Sea and the Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species are good examples.

Groups and individuals are urged to write letters in support of U.S. participation in the convention, and to publicize this information so that others may do likewise. Letters should be sent to Lawrence Mason, Office of International Affairs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240. Copies of the Convention draft may be obtained from Prof. David S. Favre, Detroit College of Law, 130 E. Elizabeth St., Detroit, MI 48201; (313) 294-0465.

—Bill Clark



—Michael Fox/HSUS

**Shackle-and-hoist slaughtering causes pain and terror to animals raised for their flesh. Such extreme cruelties could be addressed by an international convention to protect animals.**

In the story in our May issue entitled "Animal Airlifts" by Merritt Clifton, we mistakenly included some outdated information which should have been omitted. In column two, paragraph three, nine caribou deaths are reported. The correct number of caribou deaths was given in the preceding two paragraphs, and was based on more current information.

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## NEWS SHORTS

■ **The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** may be forced to disclose key health and environmental information about Bovine Growth Hormone (BGH) if a lawsuit filed in Federal District Court by the Foundation on Economic Trends is successful. The Foundation is suing the FDA for release of the health and safety data (contained in environmental assessments prepared by BGH's manufacturers) under the Freedom of Information Act. BGH is a controversial new genetically-engineered product used to increase milk production in dairy cows. Its use has been tied to increases in disease and bodily deterioration in host animals. The Foundation's lawsuit is part of a nationwide campaign mounted by a coalition of anti-BGH groups seeking to prevent the introduction of the product into the marketplace. The fight against BGH may prove to be the test case for future political battles on biotechnology issues. For more information about BGH, write to: The Foundation on Economic Trends, 1130 17th St. NW, Suite 630, Washington, DC 20036.

■ **The University of California at Berkeley** is seeking \$752,000 from the state's legislature for architectural drawings and plans for its proposed \$14 million Northwest Animal Facility. The planned facility is to be built entirely underground, and about a third of it will be used for psychological research. U.C. Berkeley's facilities have been cited numerous times over a period of years for abuse of animals, overcrowding, and lack of proper sanitation. The labs were accredited at one time, but accreditation was withdrawn after repeated instances of abuse went uncorrected. Now the university is arguing that the new lab is necessary in order to win back accreditation. At press time, the issue of the \$752,000 in funds for planning was to be decided in a joint conference committee of the legislature in early June. The battle over the proposed facility has caused many legislators to question the value of animal research, particularly psychological research. The "burden of proof" has shifted from the humane community to the experimenters. A great deal of material has been generated which may be useful to activists in other areas seeking to combat psychological research. For more information, write to: In Defense of Animals, 21 Tamal Vista Blvd., Corte Madera, CA 94925, or call (415) 924-4454.

EDITED BY LESLIE PARDUE

■ **A three-alarm fire** believed to have been set by the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) caused approximately \$3.5 million in damage to a building under construction at the University of California at Davis. The building, owned by the California Department of Food and Agriculture, was to be used to study diseases of farm animals. Many such diseases are brought on by the stress and confinement inherent in factory farming systems. The April 16 fire occurred at about 3:00 a.m.; also during the night,

tires were slashed and animal rights slogans were painted on several university vehicles. Notes signed "ALF" delivered to the Sacramento offices of the Associated Press and United Press International claimed responsibility for the auto vandalism; later, a caller to a local news agency claimed responsibility for the fire on behalf of the ALF. News of the fire is causing controversy within the ranks of West Coast animal advocates. Some view the action as damaging to the movement's image, while others applaud it as a major setback to farm animal research projects. Fires and other forms of property destruction caused by animal activists are commonplace in Britain, where the ALF originated.



*Confinement in crate denies calf freedom of movement.*

■ **A bill to outlaw** the veal crate has been introduced in the California State Legislature. Assemblymember Tom Bates (D-Oakland) introduced A.B. 2653; this historic bill is the first legislation ever to address factory farming in California, and has the support of a growing coalition of animal rights and public health organizations. The legislation specifically addresses the veal crate, a 22-inch-wide wooden box which confines the veal calf for his entire 16 weeks of life. The bill mandates that calves be allowed to lie down naturally, turn around, stretch their legs, and make normal postural adjustments needed to ensure health and well-being—freedoms denied by the crates. Despite the strength of agribusiness in California, many observers believe that A.B. 2653 is winnable because it makes sense to a broad cross section of the community—animal rights groups, traditional humane societies, consumers, a growing number of restaurants, and small-scale farmers who object to factory farming practices. Vealers are faced with two choices on how to react to the bill: they may go along with it and eliminate the crates—or, says Bradley Miller of the Humane Farming Association (HFA), they can try to "defend the undefendable, by asking the legislature to believe the unbelievable. No one outside their industry believes that calves must be chained in boxes their entire lives." For more information, contact the Humane Farming Association, 1550 California St. #6, San Francisco, CA 94109.

—Thanks to Bonnie Del Raye (HFA)

## NEWS SHORTS

■ **The New England Anti-Vivisection Society (NEAVS)** held its long-awaited annual election on April 29. In our March and April issues, we reported on the controversy surrounding the 91-year-old organization and the battle for control of its board of directors. On April 10, an article appeared in *The Boston Globe* reporting that the Washington, DC-based People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) had purchased (through associates) large blocks of NEAVS memberships, and had set up a special fund to pay air fares for supporters of its slate of candidates to travel from other parts of the country to attend the April 29 election. Following the appearance of the article, PETA withdrew the offer of air fares (except to activists in the Washington area), though bus fares were paid for some of the approximately 400 PETA supporters from around the U.S. who attended the election. A legal challenge was mounted against the PETA-backed slate which had been nominated through a petition process—the judge ruled that the petitions were invalid because no lengths of terms had been specified for the candidates and the petitions arrived after the date specified in NEAVS bylaws. A second judge allowed all candidates to participate in the election, but granted a preliminary injunction barring Ingrid Newkirk, Neal Barnard and Annette Pickett from occupying board seats (the remainder of the slate had been nominated by the NEAVS nominating committee). The ruling also placed candidates Gul Agha and Lawrence Keddy on the board. As is stands at press time, PETA-backed candidates were unable to obtain a majority on the new board. A trial to be held in June is expected to decide the board's composition once and for all.

■ **A plan to kill** 825 minke and 50 sperm whales annually for at least the next eight years for "research purposes" was recently announced by Japan. The nation refused to abide by a worldwide commercial whaling moratorium imposed last year by the International Whaling Commission, but agreed then to stop whaling in the Antarctic in April 1987 and to accept a moratorium on coastal whaling in early 1988 in exchange for a U.S. pledge not to impose sanctions against the Japanese fishing industry. Now Japan is going back on these agreements; their proposed "research" kill is nearly half the size of last year's commercial kill. Whaling industry representatives use the twisted logic that the deaths are necessary

in order to determine whether whale stocks have increased sufficiently to justify a resumption of commercial operations. Iceland, Norway and South Korea are also taking advantage of the research loophole in order to continue killing whales. After the labs are done with them, the whales are processed and their meat and oil are sold, just as before. Readers are urged to call on Congress and the President to press for U.S. sanctions against countries violating the moratorium under the guise of research, and to support the boycott of fish products of whaling nations.

■ **An attempt by activists** to win control of the board of directors of the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) has been halted, at least temporarily, by the granting of a preliminary injunction against three lawyers representing the activists. The 120-year-old Pennsylvania SPCA, with a \$16 million endowment, has come under fire from animal advocates who charge that the organization has lobbied against several state bills which would improve conditions for animals; invested in pharmaceutical companies that carry out animal research; sent carcasses of euthanized dogs and cats to a rendering plant to be turned into animal feed; and donated dogs slated for euthanasia to first be drained of two-thirds of their blood at the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School. The SPCA quietly ended the controversial blood-letting practice in late April, following a fiery annual meeting at which activists elected their own alternate board of directors. The alternate board was denied control of the organization by the preliminary injunction. The activist board plans to appeal the injunction in Superior Court—until then, the old board remains in power.

■ **A 1987 trophy hunting season** on mountain lions will be allowed in California as a result of a recent decision by the state's Fish and Game Commission to end California's 16-year-long moratorium on mountain lion hunting. Despite 22 newspaper editorials, 68,000 signatures on petitions, and 20,000 letters which expressed opposition to the hunt, the Commission voted three to two to issue 190 mountain lion hunting permits good for 79 days starting on October 10. The method of hunting used is to pursue the lions to the point of exhaustion using packs of hounds. After the frightened lions retreat

*Continued on next page*

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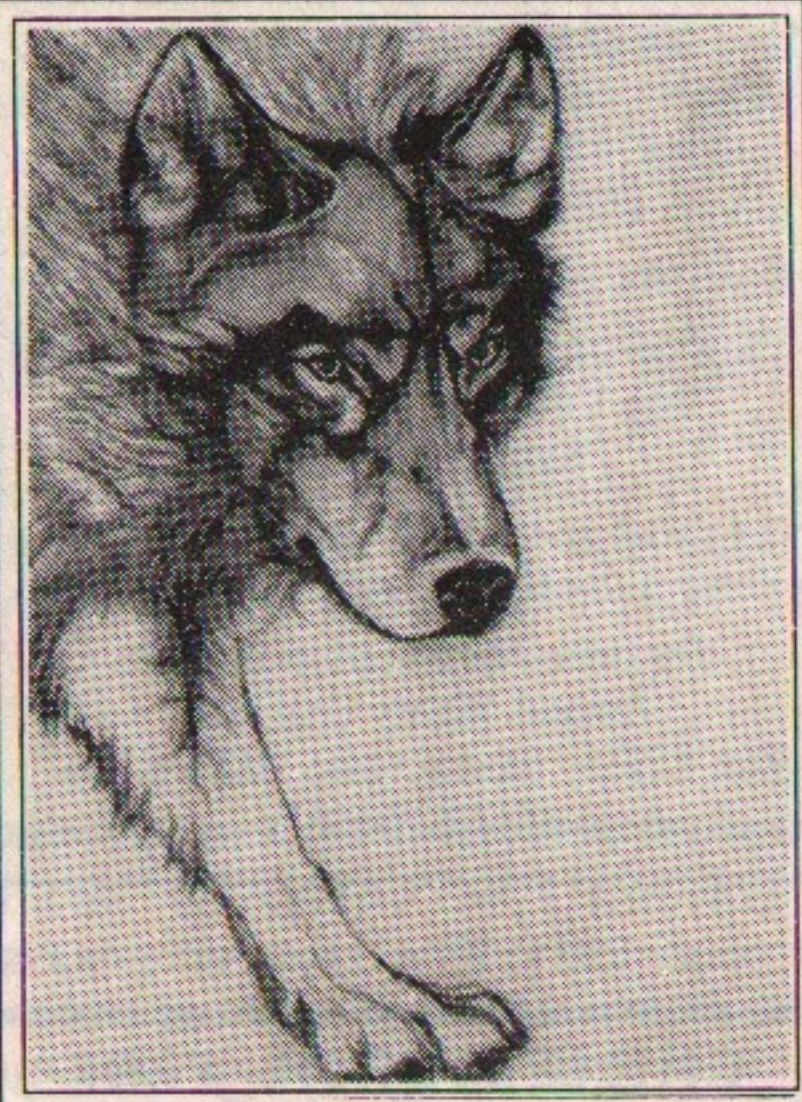
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## NEWS SHORTS

Continued from previous page

into trees, they are shot at point-blank range by "sportsmen". Several avenues are still being pursued by animal protection groups in an effort to prevent the slaughter: the Mountain Lion Coalition plans to file a lawsuit challenging the Commission's decision; two bills have been introduced in the state legislature on the issue; and some animal advocates are investigating the possibility of participating in the lottery for the hunting permits. For current information on these efforts, contact the Mountain Lion Coalition, P.O. Box 1896, Sacramento, CA 95809; (916) 448-8805.

■ **This year, the Easter holiday** was a time of activism on behalf of animals. The liberation group Farm Freedom Fighters released 40 laying hens from their confinement in a Pennsylvania battery egg operation. A videotape showing a bunny-costumed activist and several other individuals liberating the hens and spray



Rabbits and their rescuers

painting animal rights messages was delivered anonymously to Farm Sanctuary, the spokesgroup for the liberators. Another rescue occurred in Bloomington, California, where members of the Animal Liberation Front released 115 rabbits from a breeding facility. The rabbits were to have been used in product tests; instead, activists placed them in safe homes via the underground railroad. Members of the Kansas-based organization People for Animal Rights promoted a cruelty-free lifestyle at the annual Easter Parade in Kansas City, passing out literature and balloons. The group also produced store shelf markers to help retailers highlight products free of animal ingredients and testing. The group Humans Against Rabbit Exploitation (HARE) staged a protest

at a major New York meat market which features rabbit meat. About 35 activists, including several in rabbit costumes, picketed and leafleted in front of the market.

■ **Here's a brief update** on the Federal budget. In his proposed budget for 1988, President Reagan has called for a \$1 million reduction in the budget for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) which is responsible for inspecting thousands of labs, zoos, circuses, and puppy mills nationwide. He has also recommended a \$12.1 million allocation for the USDA's division of Animal Damage Control (ADC). ADC carries out a wide range of predator control programs used to kill coyotes and other alleged enemies of ranching interests. ADC's methods include trapping, poisoning, and "denning" (killing coyote pups in their dens through fire or other means). Money for APHIS and ADC is appropriated by the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittees in the Senate and the House—animal advocates may write to Jamie L. Whitten and Quentin N. Burdick, chairs of the House and Senate subcommittees, respectively. A further blow to animals has come in the form of a request by the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for an additional \$16.5 million to round up 8,500 more wild horses. BLM wants to remove the mustangs from the range in order to (once again) accommodate Western ranching interests. Some 12,000 wild horses are already languishing in BLM holding pens. The President reportedly backed down on an order to retroactively cut \$334 million from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) budget this year. NIH had been issuing reduced grants to researchers in anticipation of the withdrawal of funds; now the agency has approval to spend the full \$6.2 billion appropriated by Congress for this year, so researchers whose grants were cut can now expect increases. Environmental and animal groups are seeking long-term spending authorization for the Federal endangered species program, which each year is fought by several Senators from Western states who oppose protection for threatened grizzlies and wolves. The groups are pushing for a five-year reauthorization bill to break the Senate logjam. An endangered species "report card" on actions by President Reagan and Congress is available from Defenders of Wildlife, 1244 19th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036.

## NEWS SHORTS



—John Sotomayor/New York Times

AIDS victims protest lack of availability of experimental treatments:

■ **While some AIDS** (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) researchers continue to seek a vaccine by infecting chimps and other animals with AIDS and similar viruses, others are questioning the validity of such research on purely scientific grounds. At least three other human vaccines (against whooping cough, Hemophilus influenza and meningococcus) were developed in tests using humans without extensive prior testing on animals, since animals were not susceptible to those infections. In the case of AIDS, chimps can carry the disease but do not suffer its symptoms. A vaccine that fails in chimpanzees might still work in humans. Many in the medical community are starting to favor use of human volunteers in the quest to discover a vaccine and effective treatments for AIDS. A French researcher, Daniel Zagury of the Pierre and Marie Curie University in Paris, has injected himself and several volunteers with a potential AIDS vaccine—the first time such a test has been carried out on humans. AIDS victims have repeatedly protested governmental foot-dragging in granting approval of experimental drugs for treatment of the disease in humans. Shortages of research chimps combined with rejection of their use on moral and scientific grounds (plus an ever-increasing number of willing human experimental volunteers) may mean that research will gradually shift towards greater use of humans to study this uniquely human disease.

■ **Pandas may soon become extinct** in the wild if steps are not taken to preserve their habitat, says the World Wildlife Fund. The organization is calling for approval by the Chinese government of a management plan designed to help pro-

tect the approximately 700 remaining wild pandas, most of whom live within 12 reserves in the province of Sichuan on the eastern edge of China's Tibetan plateau. Human encroachment into the reserves has driven the animals into isolated pockets, and scientists are concerned that some populations are so small that genetic diversity may be lost over the course of a few generations—leading to increased vulnerability to disease, natural disasters and reproductive difficulties. In conjunction with the Chinese Ministry of Forestry, the World Wildlife Fund is calling for the establishment of connecting corridors of bamboo and sheltering trees between remaining areas of panda habitat; greater enforcement of regulations on the reserves; and the creation of a new class of forests where no hunting, grazing, human settlement, agriculture, or burning would be allowed. The government is expected to grant formal approval of the plan soon.

■ **Reagan's Interior Secretary Donald Hodel** and the oil industry are collaborating in an effort to have a 1.5 million acre area in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge opened up to oil exploration. Known as the "1002 area", the narrow coastal plain between the Beaufort Sea and the Brooks Range was excluded from the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act granting wilderness status to nearly half of the 18 million acre refuge. The area is the calving grounds for the 180,000-member Porcupine caribou herd, and is home to numerous other animal species. The Arctic refuge is the last remaining area of undisturbed Arctic wilderness on the North American continent—every other portion of America's Arctic coastline has been made available for energy exploration. The Interior Department has acknowledged that, at best, there is only a 19 percent chance of finding recoverable oil in the area, yet is still pushing Congress to allow exploration. Full oil development would mean serious disruption of the ecosystem by pipeline construction, the presence of hundreds of vehicles, and the influx of some 6,000 people to the area. A bill (H.R. 39) has been introduced in the House by Morris Udall (D-AZ) which would grant wilderness status to the entire coastal plain area. The bill needs more sponsors in the House and a companion bill in the Senate. Animal advocates are strongly urged to write their Senators and Representatives in support of wilderness status for the 1002 area. Also write to Secretary Donald Hodel, Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.

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**Legal Representation.** Intelligent primates and other animals are subjected to years of physical and psychological abuse. We support litigation against those responsible for this needless torture.

**Public Education.** Animal experimentation contributes little to gains in public health. With viable alternatives available, an informed public can help end this cruel and wasteful practice.

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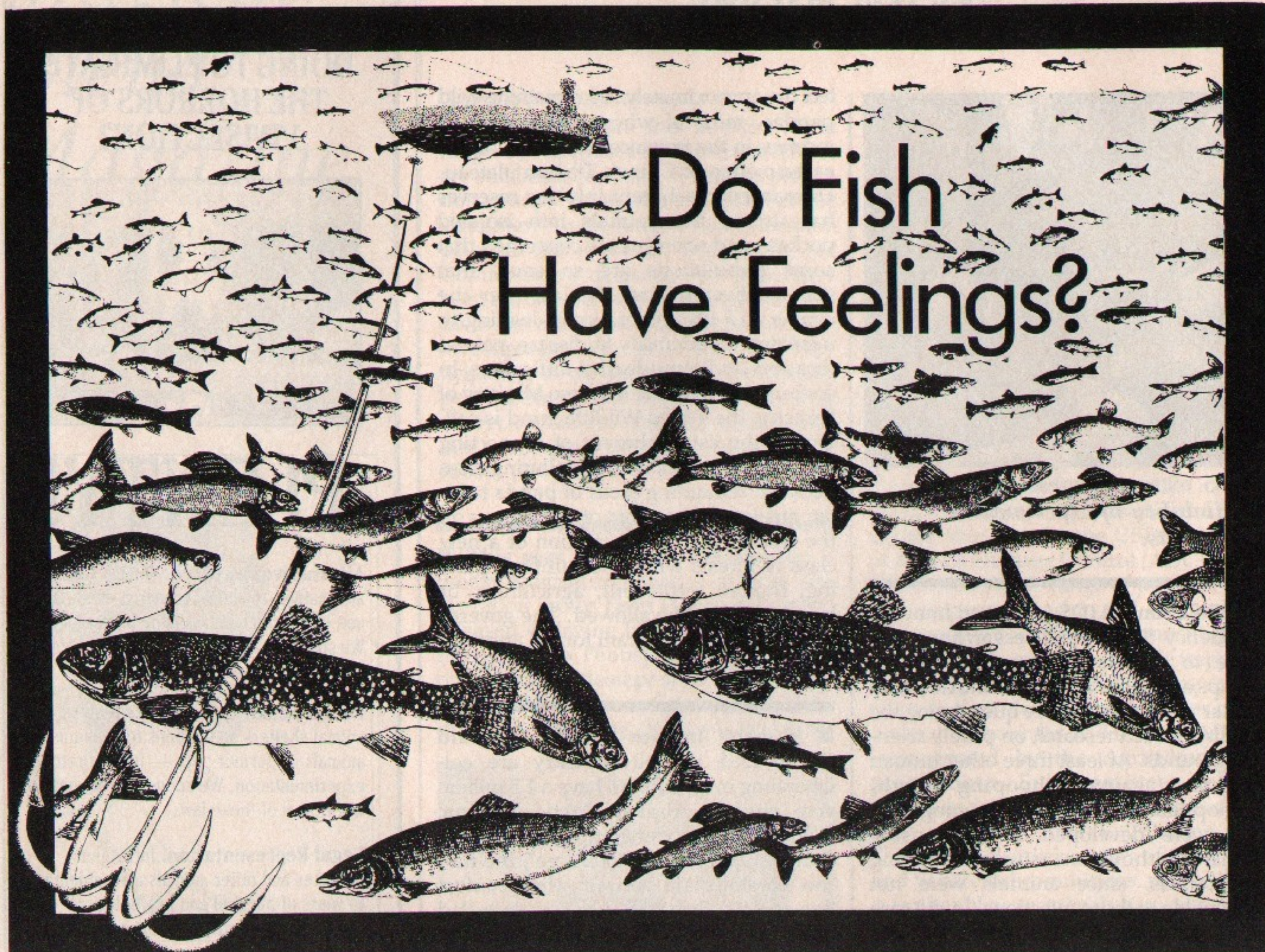
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# Do Fish Have Feelings?

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

**D**o fish experience physical pain and emotional anguish? Whether they do or not should in no way influence how we treat such wondrous expressions of creation. But unfortunately, many people believe that cold-blooded fish have no feeling and in treating them accordingly, unwittingly demean their own humanity. And to some people, fish (like amphibians, reptiles, and insects) aren't even regarded as "animals" per se, but as something more akin to insensitive motile vegetables.

These attitudes or states of mind cut people off empathetically from a vast realm of sensate creation. They feel nothing in the struggling of fish caught on hooks and in nets, or in their thrashing and gasping when taken out of the water as they "drown" in the air. And the cruel practice of putting live fish on a "stringer" tied to the boat so they stay alive and fresh, is a reflection of the fisherman's insensitivity toward, and

ignorance of, fish.

Japanese gourmets say they can taste the difference between a fish netted and killed swiftly and those who have struggled on a hook and stringer or fought to escape from a gill-net. Probably the lactic acid content in the muscles of the exhausted fish accounts for this difference.

But it is more than a matter of taste, or lack thereof, that makes people treat fish with indifference. I was shocked one time during a television debate on animal welfare and rights with a professor of animal science. He argued vehemently (from a perspective of having years of experience as a fisherman) that fish cannot feel pain, because a human caught on a hook wouldn't pull on the line because it would increase the pain. But fish do. Once hooked, they swim away, increasing the tension on the line. He dismissed my argument that fish, when alarmed, swim away into deeper water, and that acting on their instinctive escape response didn't mean that they felt nothing. If they felt nothing,

then they wouldn't behave as they do once they are hooked. But he refused to concede that he might be wrong.

Buddhist wisdom teaches that without right feeling, there can be neither right thinking nor right action. Perhaps if fish could scream, the professor's feeling might have been different. In Henry Salt's book *Animals' Rights*, there is the story of a philosopher who approaches a fisherman and asks if he has caught "a Screamer". The fisherman had never heard of such a fish, and told the philosopher that he would never think of catching a fish who screamed when hooked. Then the philosopher made his point that it was surely just as wrong to catch fish who could not scream.

Even though fish don't scream when they are in pain and anguish, their behavior should be evidence enough of their suffering when they are hooked or netted. They struggle, endeavoring to escape and, by so doing, demonstrate they have a will to survive. This survival instinct Albert

Schweitzer called the will-to-be. He advised that if we would know the soul of an animal, we should attune our will-to-be with his or her will-to-be.

Perhaps it is too much of an emotional burden for people to empathize with the will-to-be of fish caught on hooks and in fishing nets, because their helplessness and will-to-be are so apparent and intense. But with right feeling, no one—in good conscience—could eat fish after such cruel treatment unless it was a matter of survival necessity.

It is recorded that St. Francis of Assisi would set fish free when they were given to him alive by local fishermen. Such demonstrations of compassion were living examples of the boundless ethic of reverence for all creation, the wisdom and significance of which has yet to be realized by Christians and non-Christians alike.

If fish could scream, or at least had some facial expressions of distress with which people might identify, then might they be treated differently than they are today? Possibly not. Vocal and facial expressions of pain and terror would most likely be dismissed as being "instinctual", implying that the fish were not actually

consciously aware of being in pain or in danger.

However, thanks to advances in neurochemistry, it has been shown that fish (like other vertebrate animals, including humans) have a highly developed system that may help protect them from severe pain—pain which could endanger their lives if they were seriously handicapped by it

*If they felt nothing, then they wouldn't behave as they do once they are hooked.*

following some injury to their bodies, such as might be inflicted by a large predator. This system releases natural opiate-like substances (enkephalins and endorphins) once an animal is injured. These substances have even been found in the tissues of earthworms following injury, so fishermen

should also think twice before impaling worms on their hooks. The presence of this pain-dampening opiate system implies that there must be some capacity to experience pain, otherwise there would be little point in animals having evolved such a system in the first place.

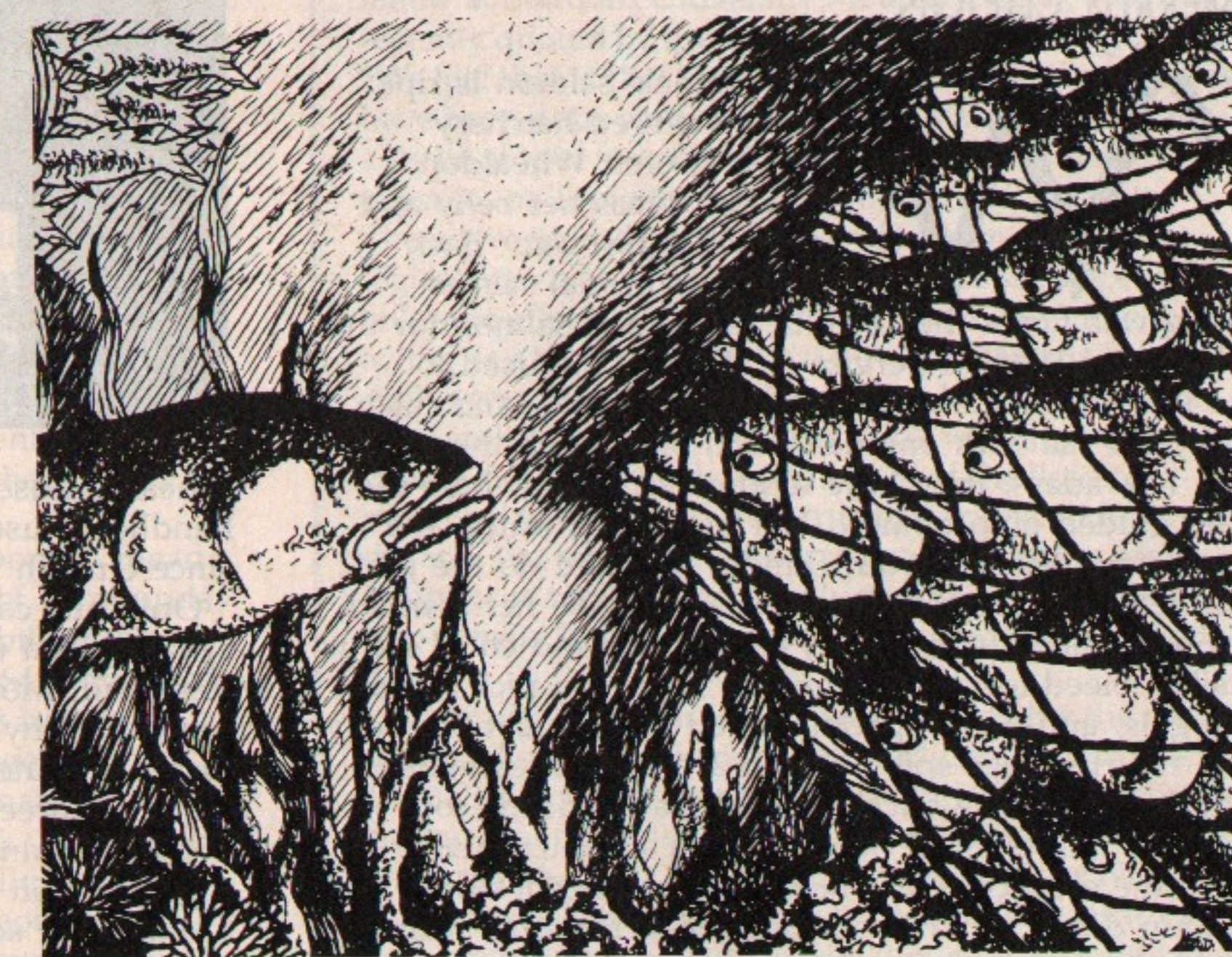
This finding surely confirms what we know intuitively when we allow ourselves to empathize with (not to be confused with anthropomorphize) the desperate struggles of a fish caught on a hook. But is the fish simply in pain? Perhaps it could also be in a state of fear. Indeed, the mental anguish could be far more intense than the pain of a small sharp hook through a bony lip. According to Dutch researcher John Verheijen and his co-workers, the pain resulting from injury by the hook contributes less to the fish's suffering than fear. This conclusion was reached following comparisons of the behavior of carp after being caught on a hook. Some of the hooked fish were held with a slack line, while others were held with the line pulled taut. In the experiments described in *New Scientist*, April 2, 1987, it was observed that those not held on a taut line ate again soon after release, but those subjected

*Continued on page 28*

## If Fish Could Scream

I had a dream  
That fish could scream.  
So there were no fishermen  
For none could bear to hear  
The screams of netted fish  
Or tolerate the painful cries  
Of those impaled on fishing lines.  
Did God give silence to the fish  
That we might never hear nor feel  
Their fear and pain,  
Just so we can eat them  
With no twinge of shame  
Or fellow-feeling?  
We might ask what kind  
of God would do this  
To make all fish mute  
And in their silence,  
Suffer suffocation in our trawler nets,  
Pain and terror on our hooks?  
Perhaps that we might learn  
To feel through silence  
For the mute, the weak, the dumb,  
Of our kind and fish kind  
And all kind great and small.

—Michael W. Fox



—Tom Perry





—Gale R. Ammerman/Mississippi State University

## Factory Farming Goes Fishy

BY MERRITT CLIFTON

**W**hen a female salmon is ripe," explains retired hatchery worker Everett Whealdon, "you can press her belly and eggs will squirt out." Back when commercial salmon ranching was just a theory, Whealdon bred salmon for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). "We used to crowd the fish into a small pen, wade around, and catch them by the tail with one hand and press with the other to test. Nowadays, they have modern facilities where the fish are guided onto a raised belt in flowing water, and you can stand there in your Sunday suit and do the job."

"So then you take the ripe female and give her a smart blow on the head with a club, lay her out and cut a slit in her tail to bleed for a few minutes. Then you pick her up by the gills, and use a special curved knife to slit her belly so that the ripe eggs spill out into a bucket. Meanwhile you have several ripe bucks [males] ready—dead. You squirt their milt [sperm] over the eggs and mix them."

That's the essence of the business, whether it's done as Whealdon did it, to stock streams for recreational fishing, or as it's done today by major meat packers. The salmon rancher releases "smolt" (hatchlings), waits from two to six years, and collects the survivors when they swim back upstream to spawn. The best salmon are "bred", and the rest are killed conventionally through asphyxiation in nets. James E. Lannan recommends the same technique



—Gale R. Ammerman/Mississippi State University

Whealdon used in his *Netarts Bay Chum Salmon Hatchery* handbook, used by most West Coast salmon hatcheries since Oregon State University published it in 1975.

Only one commercially ranched salmon species isn't always killed upon returning to the hatchery: the steelhead. Most kinds of salmon die of exhaustion after spawning anyhow, with the smolt feeding upon their carcasses enroute to the ocean. But steelhead can spawn as many as three times apiece, so the best of those—the ones not killed immediately for eating—are anesthetized before eggs and milt are squeezed out, and are not knifed open to make the squeezing easier.

Similar methods are used in trout and bass production, though ranched trout and bass usually grow to maturity not in lakes or oceans, but in human-made inland ponds. The best are "bred", with the rest netted after a lifespan of three to six years. Catfish, however, can survive a considerable length of time out of water, and can't be slaugh-



—Tom Gentile/Oregon State University

Fish are moved down an assembly line at a catfish processing plant (top left); the fish are emptied from live-haul trucks into holding tanks at the plant (bottom left); rearing tanks for young salmon (above).

tered efficiently through netting. Instead, explained a recent article in the U.S. government publication *Science of Food & Agriculture*, catfish are generally "stunned using alternating current electricity, which makes it easier to handle the fish during the deheading operation. The average deheader processes 45 fish per minute." The catfish are alive, if unconscious, until beheading.

### The industry worldwide

The adoption of stockyard methods by the seafood industry reflects a North American demand for fish now worth \$16 billion per year, compared to \$12 billion per year spent on chicken and \$44 billion on beef. While demand for beef has been declining, the amount of fish North Americans eat is climbing toward the worldwide average of 24 pounds per person per year. Twenty years ago, North Americans ate only 10.9 pounds each; ten years ago, 12.9 pounds; 14.5 pounds by 1985; and consumption climbed another 24 percent in 1986, to about 18 pounds. Each pound of increase in the average represents about 700 million pounds of fish either caught, ranched, or imported.

The U.S. is now the world's largest fish importer, ahead of even Japan, whose citizens eat an average of 79 pounds of fish per year. Overall, the U.S. imports \$4 billion worth per year, mostly from Canada, amounting to 64 percent of domestic consumption. The strong U.S. dollar has encouraged imports, but even with that advantage, fish ranching is grabbing a growing share of the market.

Partly, this is because world ocean fish stocks seem to be declining. Overfishing is one major cause. Pollution is another. Although Canadian fishermen erroneously blame seals for recent light catches, acid rain had destroyed most Atlantic salmon spawning grounds by 1979. There's practically no such thing as a naturally spawned trout in the acid rain belt anymore. Soil erosion from logging and road building has, meanwhile, wiped out trout and salmon spawning across broad sections of the Pacific Northwest.

Chemical contamination of the Great Lakes has made much of the catch from North America's "third coast" inedible. Even fish who can be eaten safely pick up an unpleasant flavor from pollution-fed algae.

Experts estimated over 20 years ago that land-based aquaculture had ten times as much food-producing potential as ocean fishing. The idea was nothing new. Expanding from beginnings 5,000 years old, the People's Republic of China now produces nine billion pounds of fish, mollusks, and edible seaweed per year from ponds that harbor as many as seven different species in ecological harmony. Indonesia has long been the world leader in production of ranched crustaceans, Thailand has cultivated tidal shrimp for centuries, the Philippines are known for ranched mussels, and 150 million pounds of milkfish are ranches annually throughout Southeast Asia. Poor nations with lots of cheap labor have always been attracted to fish ranching, simply because fish are the animals most efficient at converting food to edible protein—eight times more efficient than beef cattle.

Continued on next page

## Facts About Fish Oil

**C**apitalizing on the alarming rate of heart disease among American meat-eaters, purveyors of fish oil are promoting it as a mighty weapon in the battle against atherosclerosis. Television commercials and magazine ads displaying healthy Eskimos claim that fish oil capsules can actually prevent heart disease. One company declares boldly that the potential benefits of its fish oil product "may rank it in importance to human health with the discovery of vitamins." While fish oil appears to reduce triglycerides in the blood, no definitive clinical studies have been completed, and no one knows the effects of longterm consumption.

Dr. Peter Cahill, a cardiovascular surgery research fellow at Stanford University Medical Center, was recently quoted by the *Washington Post* as having stated: "We feel that at this time, since very few clinical studies have been done showing efficacy in patients, it is probably improper for physicians to recommend fish oil capsules or liquid forms of fish oil to most patients." The active ingredients have a wide range of physiological activities in the body and may cause unpredictable side effects. It mildly prolongs bleeding time, acting as a blood thinner that inhibits platelets from sticking together and forming clots. And fish oil is fat. Dr. Cahill continues: "I do not think we know quite clearly enough what happens to all of the lipid components in your blood. It is true that triglyceride levels decline, but we do not know to our satisfaction what happens to total cholesterol, high-density lipoprotein, low-density lipoprotein, and very-low-density lipoprotein."

Typically, scientists are trying to determine the effects of fish oil in the human diet by studying nonhuman animals. Dr. Cahill's research group has already concluded that fish oils can slow atherosclerosis in dogs, and has received a \$1.1 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for further studies. Clinical studies on humans have already established that adoption of a vegetarian diet greatly reduces one's chances of developing heart disease. In the quest for medical cures, knowledge of preventive measures is generally ignored.



Continued from previous page

## The North American boom

Until recently, North America hasn't had either the taste for fish or the cheap labor surplus to create a comparable industry. Food columnists ascribe sudden interest in fish to diversifying tastes and low fat content. But the interest may also have been generated by advertising, beginning with corporate recognition that salmon, for instance, produce a pound of edible flesh for every 1.1 pounds they're fed—compared to a two-to-one feed/meat ratio for chickens and a five-to-one ratio for pigs.

In the late 1960s, alternative technologist Karl Hess (a former speechwriter for Barry Goldwater) attracted widespread attention by working with the Black Panthers on an urban food self-sufficiency project that focused on raising trout in plastic swimming pools, in tenement basements. His project failed to revolutionize slum eating habits, yet the bottom-line statistics Hess cited did get business interested. Up to that time, trout farming had been limited to rural "you catch 'ems", serving tourists too hurried or lazy to hike into the hills. Abruptly, the number of trout farms began a 50-fold increase. One ten-acre farm in Idaho reached production of over a million pounds of trout per year—12 percent of U.S. production—before rivals began catching up.

The trout entrepreneurs were soon joined by corporate heavyweights, producing bigger and more prestigious fish as a sideline to more conventional industry. Abalone are now raised in drums suspended beneath oil-drilling rigs in the Santa Barbara Channel, a method that minimizes losses to the abalone-loving sea otter. Lobsters, catfish,

and some forms of landlocked salmon are grown in ponds warmed by the waste heat from industrial processes. Ranches fish accounted for only three percent of U.S. consumption in 1975, only four percent as recently as 1980, but by 1985 the figure was up to 12 percent. Virtually all commercially sold trout and catfish come from fish ranches now, along with some bass and mollusks. Ranches catfish production is up from 1,599 tons in 1969 to 77,129 tons in 1986.

The most significant growth, however, is in the ranches seagoing salmon sector—the sector having attracted the heaviest corporate investment. Between 1971 and 1985, British Petroleum, Union Carbide, and Weyerhaeuser Inc. each reportedly lost up to \$20 million in Oregon and Washington salmon ranching experiments. As recently as two years ago, Weyerhaeuser was reportedly trying to sell their Oregon Aquafoods subsidiary, discouraged by a return of only half of one percent of the smolt released from their two hatcheries. Last year, though, the return climbed to four percent. Oregon Aquafoods released only 74 million smolt last year, but is licensed to release 180 million. Production is limited only by continuing scarcity of quality salmon eggs.

Captive fish don't reproduce well. Virtually every form of fish ranching depends heavily on influxes of fresh breeding stock from nature. As the ocean fish population diminishes, breeding stock is scarcer as well. The quality of natural breeding stock is also down. Fish cancers caused by pollution are almost epidemic on the West Coast and in the Great Lakes. Genetic engineering experiments so far haven't resulted in developing salmon who "home" well enough and spawn richly enough to

enable the industry to grow as fast as experts believe it could.

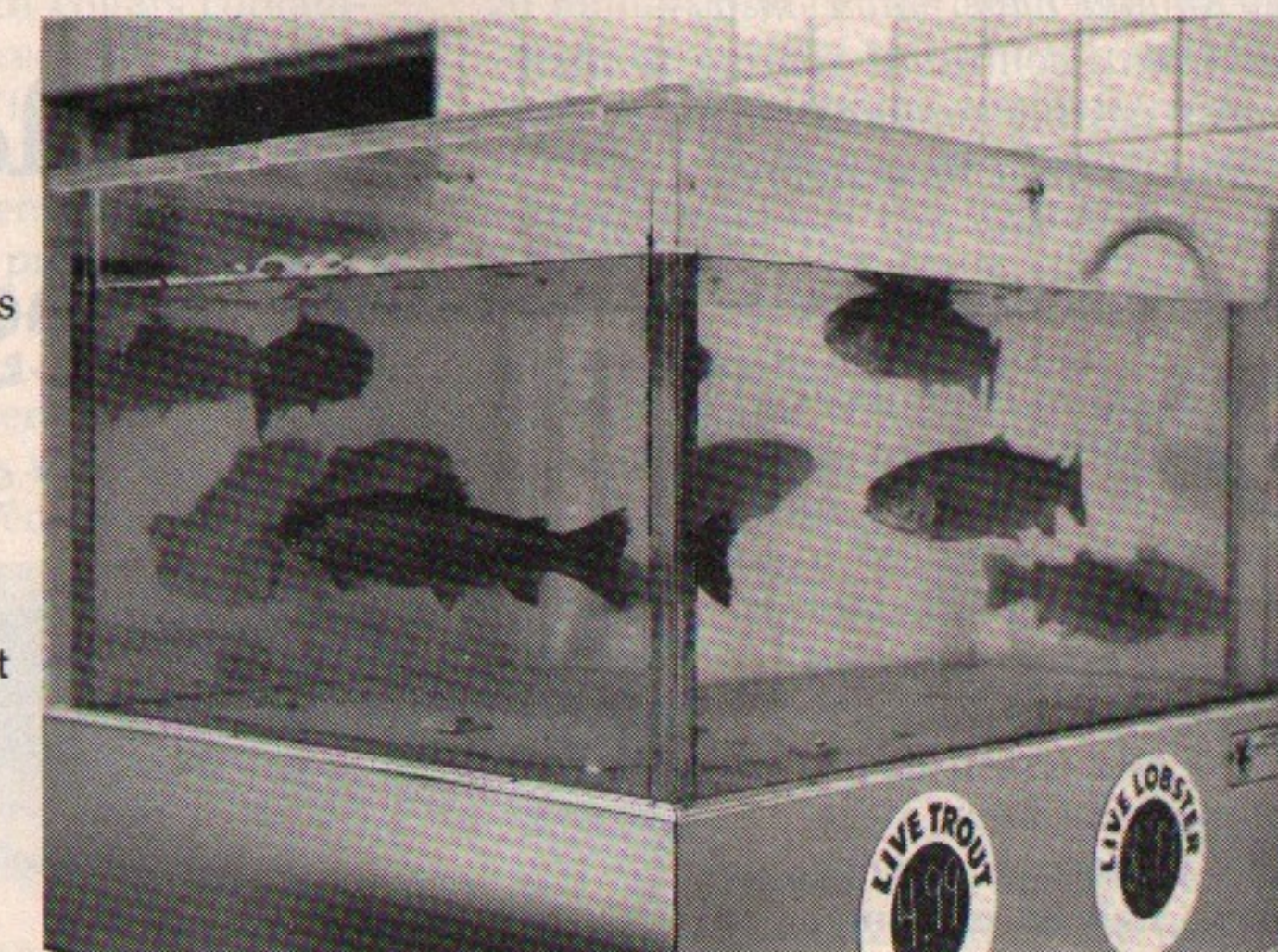
Long resistant, shrimp are now breeding in captivity. The key was discovering that their sex drive increases after amputation of an eyestalk. U.S. entrepreneurs originally ranched shrimp off the coasts of Louisiana, Texas, and Hawaii. In Hawaii, researchers discovered that for some strange reason the yield of tails per acre could be raised

from 2,000 pounds to 65,000 pounds by confining the shrimp within plastic barrels. Combining that technique with eyestalk amputation, several U.S.-based multinational corporations have started shrimp ranches in Spanish-speaking Caribbean nations, where labor costs little and the dollar is high.

Merritt Clifton is an environmental journalist living in Vermont.

## A Living Menu

The growing demand for fresh seafood has led supermarkets and restaurants nationwide to install aquariums from which customers can select their main courses. Members of the Rhode Island Animal Rights Coalition (RIARC) recently discovered that the live fish and lobsters sold in their area *were never fed* in order to keep the tanks clean. When questioned by RIARC, the state consumer affairs division "assured" them that the fish tanks are emptied of dying fish every two or three days, so that no fish is ever actually allowed to starve to death. Employees stun the animals by hitting them against the counter or by pounding them in the head with a mallet before cutting off their heads. Lobsters and other crustaceans are usually boiled alive. Animal advocates are encouraged to look into the conditions and practices at stores and restaurants in their locales. RIARC can be reached by writing P.O. Box 28514, Providence, RI 02908.



—Neil Swanson

## Do Fish Have Feelings?

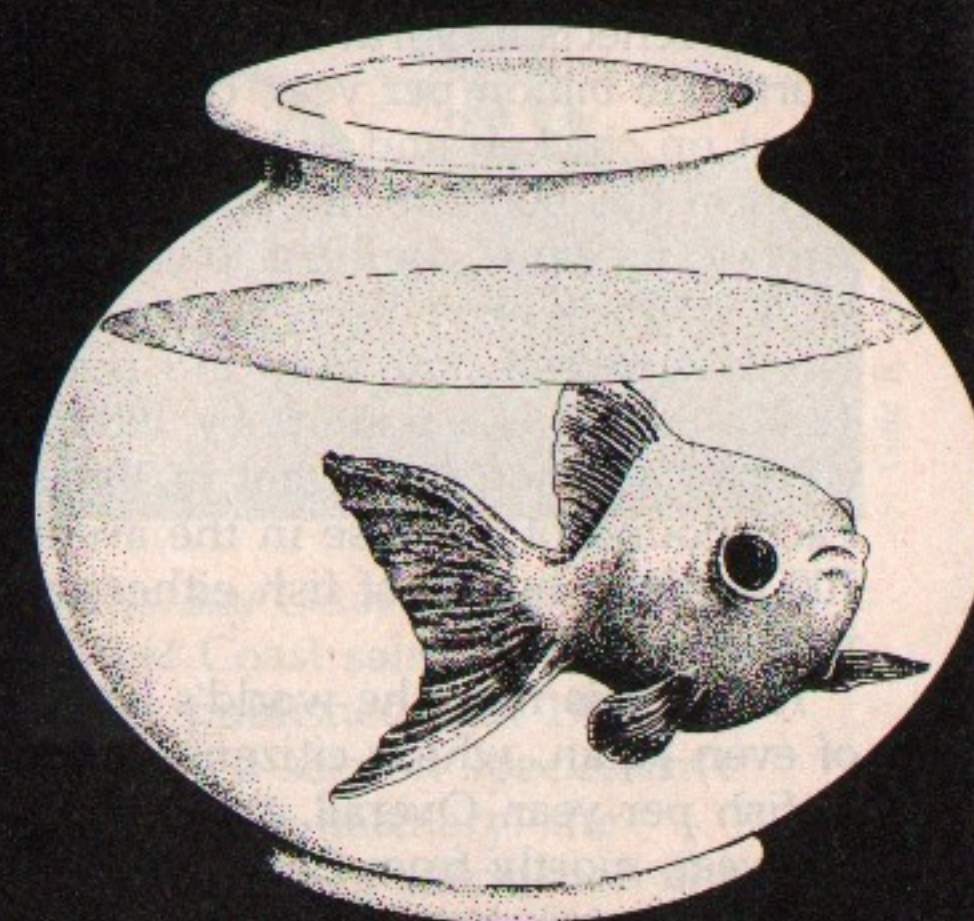
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to line pressure avoided food for a considerable time afterwards. After being hooked, the fish darted, dived, spat and shook their heads as if trying to expel unwanted food. A few minutes after pressure was applied to the line, the carp began to display a type of behavior called "spitgas", prolonged spitting of gas from the swim bladder, which resulted in their sinking when the line was finally slackened. Additional experiments used electrical currents to produce more precise pain stimuli; after several minutes of exposure, the carp began spitting gas and sinking. Stated Verheijen, "The delay between the painful stimulation and the responses of spitgas and sinking indicated a series of ongoing biochemical and physiological processes associated with fear." The results of the project, supported by the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals, the Dutch Angling Society, and a government agency, has prompted the Dutch government to promise to investigate further "the

cruelty of sport fishing".

Some species of fish instantly change color when alarmed, returning to normal when safely out of danger. Such overt alterations in coloration (analogous to a person turning white with fear) are indicative of internal biochemical changes that mediate emotional reactions, such as panic and escape behavior. To presume that there is no subjective experience or feeling of fear associated with these emotional reactions is illogical. Such a mechanistic assumption demands objective proof that a fish or a human being has subjective feelings. But like the soul, these cannot be revealed through dissection, nor can they be weighed and measured.

However, neuroscientists have discovered that all vertebrate animals, including the bony species of fish, have a benzodiazepine receptor system in their brains. This receptor system is blocked by drugs like Valium which are known to reduce fear and anxiety in humans. This means that fish have



**BORED, LONELY  
& A LONG  
WAY FROM HOME**

—Courtesy/Animals Diary

the neurochemical system, and thus the brain capacity, to experience fear and anxiety.

Many fish-keepers have related how some fish seem to act depressed, becoming pale and lethargic, when separated from their mates. And ethologists have recently shown that sociable fish like goldfish do not thrive so well when deprived of contact with their own kind.

We should not be surprised at the above observations and research findings. They affirm the biological continuity of life and the kinship of all sentient beings. The degree to which we are surprised at—and resistant to—the convincing evidence that fish are sentient beings capable of experiencing pain and suffering is surely a measure of how anthropocentric and empathetically detached we have become from the rest of creation.

To begin to entertain the possibility that fish can suffer is a significant step for our culture to take. But no matter how much objective scientific evidence we may have about the biochemical and physiological similarities of fish and people that affirms the bond of sentience, many will refute such evidence. In the final analysis, there

can be no objective proof that fish experience fear and anxiety, even though they may act as though they do and respond to noxious stimuli. Rather, we must allow their subjective realm to permeate our own being so that we may begin to empathize with them. Then we will never again doubt that

fish are sentient beings like us, that they have lives of their own, and can suffer and experience pain and fear in their own way—just as we do in ours.

Dr. Fox is Scientific Director of The Humane Society of the United States.

## COMING SOON

♦ **IT'S BEEN TEN YEARS SINCE PETER SINGER'S BOOK** *Animal Liberation* probed and codified the philosophical basis of the animal defense movement. Now, in a far-ranging interview, Singer talks about the movement's strengths and weaknesses, his evolving ideas about nature, and the perils and possibilities that lie ahead.

♦ **OVER 95 PERCENT OF THE EGGS IN THE U.S.** come from factories which hold captive anywhere from a quarter million to five million hens each. Follow the life of a typical laying hen from the time she hatches until her life of deprivation and suffering ends on a conveyor line at the slaughterhouse.

♦ **A.I.D.S. RESEARCH ON CHIMPANZEES** and other animals has, to date, contributed nothing that could not have been gained in other ways. Why the keys to solving the A.I.D.S. puzzle will continue to be clinical, epidemiologic, and *in vitro* research combined with widescale public education.



Seven hundred Atlantic brant geese fell dead upon a Long Island golf course in May of 1984. They had spotted the moist greens and lush fairways sparkling with water holes. It was too inviting for them to resist. They should have flown on by—should have continued soaring to their summer nesting grounds on the Hudson Bay. Instead they stopped, and news of their fate told the world about a chemical called diazinon.

Diazinon is an insecticide used mostly on corn and alfalfa. Last year, some nine million pounds of it were used in the United States. Diazinon kills worms who eat grass. It has also killed birds in at least 18 states, a fact which has prompted the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to halt its use on golf courses and turf farms—where half a million pounds had been applied annually. The EPA action, proposed in January of 1986, was the first time the agency had moved to protect non-human animals. Unfortunately, it will take much stronger medicine to protect wildlife (and ultimately human life) from the spreading effects of pesticides.

Synthetic poisons intended for insects, weeds, or fungi regularly claim many unintended victims. In farms and forests, wild animals eat plants or insects that have been sprayed, and the toxic effects accumulate up the food chain. There are no accurate figures on the numbers of these accidental casualties—no one bothers to keep count. There's not even a system for reporting suspicious deaths, although Defenders of Wildlife is pressing the EPA to set up a toll-free number for that purpose. But the federal government can't even effectively protect humans from pesticide poisonings, and animals are considerably lower on its agenda.

Birds are the most frequent victims of pesticides. The 700 geese that fell on the Seawanee golf

# Pesticides Kill More Than "Pests"

BY JIM STIAK



Illustrations by Walt Taylor

bald eagles have fallen in Maryland, Idaho, and elsewhere—as have red-tailed hawks, magpies, cowbirds, and starlings.

The smaller birds peck about on the backs of the cattle, ingesting the famphur. Their bodies become food for the eagles and other raptors. Even when consumed four months after application, the chemical can kill. One great horned owl died after eating a red-tailed hawk who ate a magpie contaminated with treated cattle hair. A decline in black-billed magpies throughout the West has coincided with a rise in famphur use. The chemical is also used on cattle east of Santa Barbara, where the California

condor fought its battle against extinction.

Carbofuran is another synthetic threat to eagles. Sold primarily under the brand name Furadan, it is widely used on alfalfa, tobacco, rice, and sugarcane. When a Virginia farmer drove his tractor over a bald eagle and a raccoon in his cornfield in April of 1985, carbofuran was named the killer—as it had been in at least 13 other bald eagle deaths. Songbirds, hawks, owls, waterfowl, doves, and pheasants also fall victim to this chemical, one gram of which can kill a sparrow. The use of carbofuran in granular form is now being reviewed by the EPA.

Parathion and methylparathion are, like diazinon and famphur, organophosphate

pesticides that attack the nervous and muscular systems. Popular for use on cotton fields because it breaks down relatively quickly, methylparathion is, as a result, often applied three to ten times per season. In one reported case in Texas, 1,600 waterfowl (mostly Canadian geese) died from a methylparathion contaminated food supply. In another case, a colony of laughing gulls was almost wiped out when it keyed in on parathion-spraying airplanes as a ready source of dead and dying insects. Parathion's concentration increases dramatically through

the food chain. One part per million of parathion in water has been shown to accumulate in tadpoles to a level 64 times greater.

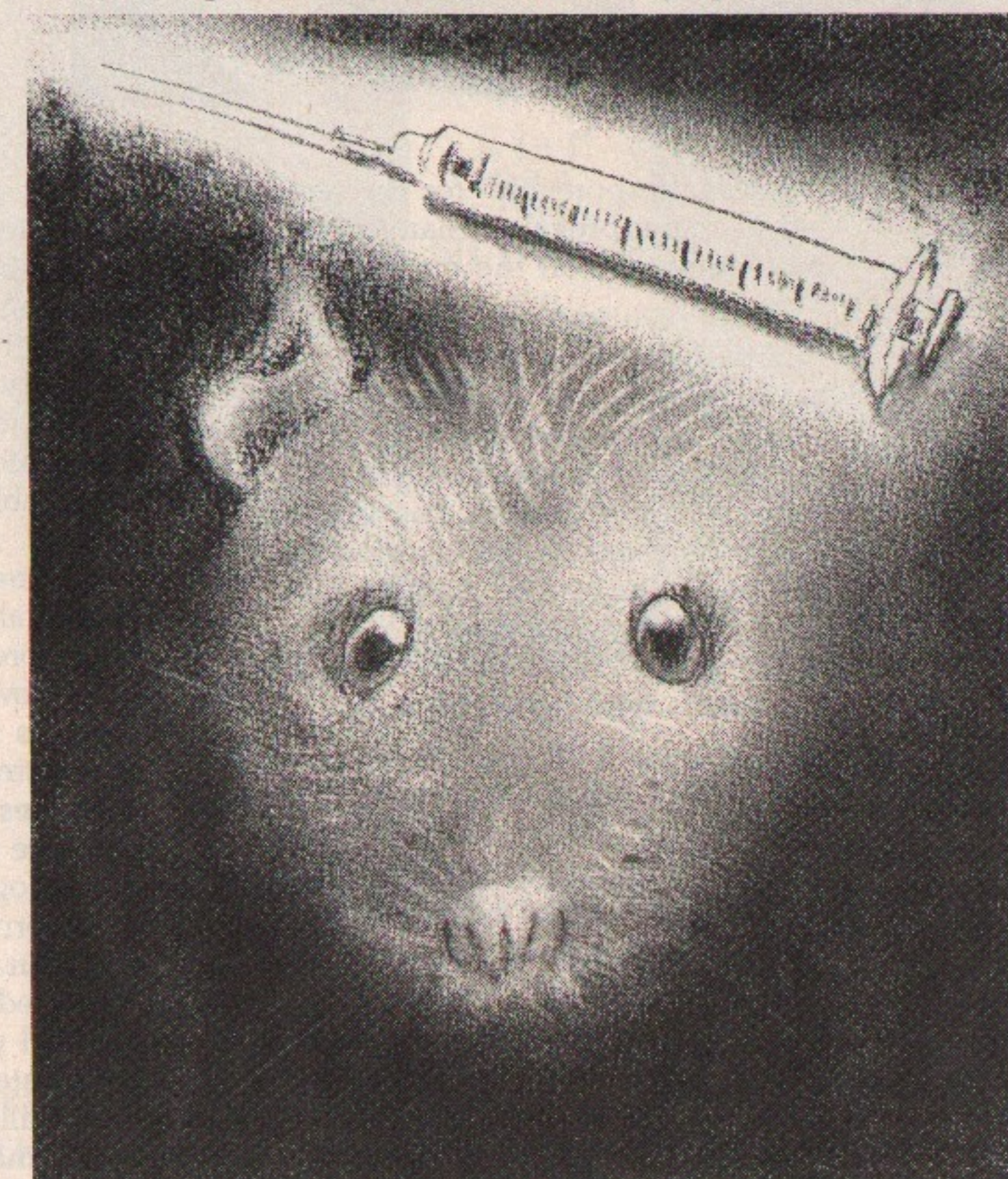
The effects of pesticides are not always obvious. Bobwhite quail exposed to methylparathion exhibited little change except decreased activity levels, but even that could threaten their ability to find food or migrate successfully. Parathion exposure causes survival rates of young laughing gulls to be much lower than normal. Mallard eggs sprayed with the mosquito larvicide FLIT-MLO produce birds much less quick to run from fear. Even extremely low levels of organophosphate pesticides can affect a bird's ability to recognize a predator.

Pesticides can also create thinner eggshells. DDT is one poison recognized to have caused this in pelicans, falcons, sparrows, hawks, and eagles. Populations of some of these birds have made dramatic increases since DDT was banned in 1972. But many birds migrate annually to Latin America where DDT, usually manufactured by U.S. companies, is still used by the ton. And recently DDT has staged a comeback in the American Southwest, apparently as a breakdown product of the pesticide dicofol used on citrus crops. Once again, the peregrine falcon faces the threat of "better living through chemicals".

Often, pesticides accumulate in the places most frequented by wild animals. Wildlife refuges, commonly located in low-lying areas receiving water from large drainage areas, become large poisonous pools. Kesterson Wildlife Refuge in California's San Joaquin Valley was shut down after suffering the most severe outbreak of bird deformities ever recorded in the wild.

Birds may be the most frequent victims of pesticides, but they're far from being the only ones. Fish are regularly exterminated by pesticides in rivers and lakes. Bears, raccoons, dogs,

coyotes, and foxes have all perished from the accidental—and sometimes intentional—ingestion of one substance: sodium monofluoroacetate, more commonly known as Compound 1080. Sheep ranchers throughout the West fit their animals with collars containing pouches of concentrated solutions of Compound 1080 to poison coyotes who allegedly attack sheep. Deaths of livestock on the open range are frequently blamed on predators when, in many instances, the coyotes are simply scavenging carcasses of sheep and cattle whose deaths were due to other causes. In the 1950s and '60s, Compound 1080 baits were widely spread



by government workers, and livestock carcasses were routinely injected with the toxin—and then left on the range to kill all who might feed on them.

In 1972, in a cloud of publicity surrounding the deaths of eagles in Wyoming, President Nixon halted the use of 1080 by executive order. Despite pressure from the livestock industry, the ban remained in place until 1982, when Ronald Reagan formally rescinded Nixon's order. Toxic 1080 collars are once again permitted, despite questionable economic value and the fact that sheep themselves sometimes die from eating grass contaminated by

collars punctured by thorns and barbed wire.

Endrin is a long-lasting chemical hundreds of times more toxic than DDT and banned in the eastern U.S. Widely used on wheat, it killed some 20 million fish in the late 1970s. Heavy sprayings in 1981 to combat a cutworm epidemic in Montana contaminated wildlife in 17 states, and hunters were warned to be wary of their take.

British otters are being killed by dieldrin, a close chemical cousin of endrin, despite a 15-year ban on its use in England. Chlordane, another organophosphate, has killed hawks and owls. Monocrotophos,

structurally similar to parathion, has been reported to have killed 400 raptors (birds of prey) in Israel.

These are not the only pesticides harmful to wildlife—they are just some of the ones known to be. There are over 40,000 pesticide formulas manufactured today, using some 600 different active ingredients. And the list is still growing. But suspicious animal deaths are, at best, haphazardly investigated, with few labs equipped to test the carcasses. One bald eagle, found dead in a field in Oregon, was shipped from coast to coast before such a lab was located.

The effects of pesticides on wildlife are still poorly understood. In fact, effects of pesticides on humans are poorly

understood. One thing known, however, is that most of the research is conducted on nonhuman animals. Tumors and mutations are produced on dogs, rats, mice, trout, and other animals at some 400 labs nationwide. And if proposed pesticide law reforms are passed by Congress, the numbers of animals used for testing could increase sharply.

Congressional committees in the 1985-86 session produced a bill that never came to a vote, but will undoubtedly be considered again. It represented the first major reform to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and

Continued on next page



Continued from previous page  
Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) since 1972. One of its provisions would have demanded more stringent testing of many pesticides already on the market. The increase in the numbers of animals who would be subjected to testing would be "massive", claims one observer. Already, says Diane Baxter of the National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides, "there are millions and millions of animals raised every year for pesticide toxicity testing."

The most frequently used toxicity test determines the median lethal dose of a pesticide. Called the LD50 (Lethal Dose 50 Percent) test, it is supposed to determine the amount of a substance that will kill 50 percent of the test animals. A typical experiment involves three groups of 10 to 15 animals each, although some LD50 tests use as many as 200 animals. Each group is given a different dosage, and the number of fatalities is plotted on a graph to derive the LD50. The drugs can be given intravenously, subcutaneously, or applied to the shaved skin of the hapless animal.

The goal of such acute testing is to measure the immediate toxicity of a substance, and the experiments may last a week or two. Subacute toxicity tests expose animals at a regular frequency to a substance for about 90 days. Chronic testing experiments (for studying long-term effects such as cancer) may run two to three years. Testing for birth defects and other adverse reproductive effects may involve three generations of animals. Rodents are the animals most commonly used because of their relatively short lifespans, susceptibility to tumors, availability of inbred strains, and low maintenance costs. However, dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs, and fish are also used.

Conditions in testing laboratories are sometimes less than exemplary. One of the largest labs, IBT in Illinois, was shut down after federal officials learned that test results had been falsified, live animals had been substituted for ones who had died, and some experiments had never even been conducted—not to mention the sickening conditions to which the animal victims had been subjected.



IBT was "responsible" for the tests that led to the approval of many of the pesticides now on the market.

Under scrutiny, other labs fare only slightly better. An audit conducted by the EPA from 1977 to 1980 revealed serious deficiencies in the work of 25 of the 82 labs checked. Harris Laboratories of Omaha, for example, listed some rats as having died twice and others as having mated while dead. Howard University of Washington, D.C. reported autopsies of animals who were still alive.


"I suppose it all sounds grisly," says Baxter, "but what's really grisly to me is when data is not used. There's not enough cooperation between different labs. People on the third floor may be doing tests on livers and not use the rest of the animals. People on the fourth floor may be doing tests on the kidneys." Although Baxter, like many other people involved with the issue, reluctantly sees pesticide toxicity testing as a necessary evil, some observers believe that the tests—as currently conducted—are basically meaningless.

"People cannot talk about the health or environmental effects of a pesticide," says Mary O'Brien of the Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides in Eugene, Oregon, "unless they are basing their conclusions on testing of the full formulation: active ingredients, intentionally added inert ingredients, and contaminants." Current testing addresses only the active ingredients of a formula, while so-called "inert" ingredients are often equally toxic.

Though there are alternatives to tests on animals, such as the Ames test which uses bacteria to determine carcinogenicity, the government does not acknowledge that there are reliable substitutes for animal experiments. The only thing that will save animals from the effects of pesticides—both in the field and in the lab—is a dramatic decrease in the use of pesticides. Farmers, landscapers, and public works departments must stop swallowing the petro-agricultural corporate line that claims ever increasing amounts of toxins are needed to protect crops and profits. Despite an increase in U.S. production of

pesticides—from half a million pounds in 1951 to one and a half billion pounds in 1980—the percentage of crops lost to "pests" has apparently not declined. Meanwhile, the number of insects who have become resistant to pesticides doubled during the 1970s.

Sensible, structured approaches to pest problems are showing great promise. A system called Integrated Pest Management, recommended for all federal agencies by President Carter but ignored by the Reagan administration, allowed the National Park Service to cut its use of pesticides in half. New forms of biological control, such as species of predator and parasite insects, are being discovered by entomologists and biologists in the far-flung corners of the globe. Better agricultural practices are being developed. Even manufacturers of chemical pesticides are beginning to investigate and market safer biologically-derived products.

The "magic bullet" approach to solving pest problems will ultimately fall into disfavor, but it may take decades for the residual effects of pesticides to disappear. Cutting back on their use today would be the local first step toward making the earth safe again—for both humans and animals. 

*The author, a freelance writer based in Eugene, Oregon, specializes in environmental issues. He would like to express gratitude to Sarah Vickerman of Defenders of Wildlife and Ward Stone of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for help with this article.*

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## The Hunter's Shadow

BY PATRICE GREENVILLE



Charles about to indulge in one of his favorite diversions

*The attitude of the royal family in regard to hunting stands in stark contrast with the feelings of most Britons . . .*

*As demonstrated by the British royal family's long-standing addiction to blood sports, and the shameful ferocity of the Argentinian elite, the top of the social pyramid is not exactly the place to go for ethical examples.*

### *The plebeians will have it*

Although it was only carried by scandal sheets—the "serious" press being much too busy to heed such trivial matters—the item was both accurate and newsworthy. During their annual vacation at Sandringham (a 20,000 acre estate maintained for hunting), the British royals and a coterie of fellow aristocrats, hangers-on, and the inevitable professional snobs who fester in such circles, had made it their business to blast away more than 17,000 wild and purposely-bred animals. According to eyewitness reports, the carnage went on uninterruptedly for six weeks, with almost every member of the royal family eagerly participating. The only notable exception was Princess Diana, who, hating blood sports, has tried hard to persuade Prince Charles to give them up. Prince Philip, who happens to be a high official of the World Wildlife Fund and who is otherwise quite convincing in his concern for animals, reflected accurately the spirit of the gathering. "Our 'bag' is tremendous," exulted the Prince. "We totaled 7,000 pheasants, 10,000 pigeons, 300 partridges, hundreds of hares and rabbits and scores of wild duck and assorted birds . . . I can't remember when I enjoyed myself so much." Richard Course, the director of the British League Against Cruel Sports (LACS) had a different opinion. "The British royal family has a mania for killing—a blood lust that goes back ages," said Course with uncharacteristic passion. "They couldn't stop themselves."

The morally inconsistent attitude of the royal family toward animals, especially in regard to hunting, stands in stark contrast with the feelings of most Britons, who vehemently oppose such displays of callous speciesism. But more significantly, hunting in Britain, as well as in much of the "Old World", is a class issue with deep historical roots. For one thing, in a small, heavily populated nation such as Britain, the royal family and fellow aristocrats control land to a degree that might be regarded as obscene even by American property standards. If Sandringham, just one of the royal retreats, were in the U.S., it would be larger than Rhode Island. And it is well known that some prominent dukes still retain estates as large as Belgium. In this context of acute wealth maldistribution, and with little or no free land, hunting has always been an elitistic activity steeped in ritual and social significance. In the United Kingdom, unlike the U.S., where the democratic instinct requires at least a nod, it has always been regarded as dis-

ingenuous to justify "riding to the hounds" or participating in an organized hunt as a search for food. Indeed, the very idea of "hunting for food" is repulsive to the British tradition, which, designating such endeavor as "poaching", consigns it to the landless lower orders. (Poaching so defined was until recently severely punished by the landowning establishment. The Black Act of 1722, passed by Walpole and his government, created 50 new capital offenses, most of which dealt with trespasses against property: destroying trees, hunting deer, wounding cattle, and burning haystacks—not to mention the unauthorized carrying of arms—all merited execution.) In sum, hunting in the aristocratic sense is done to hone one's martial skills (especially horsemanship) and for the fun of it. The nutritional value of any dispatched animals is always inconsequential.

### *When you can't fight 'em, let 'em join!*

Still, not even the most entrenched system of privilege can survive without some adaptation. Buffeted by social changes precipitated by two world wars, and by growing challenges from an increasingly vocal urban-based constituency, the British hunting fraternity has attempted to deflect some of the heat by adopting a less exclusive and cliquish posture. This maneuver has fed nicely on one of hunting's oldest functions. For no less than a thousand years, hunting has been used as a vehicle for social climbing. Newcomers to the privileged fold could make their social "debut" by demonstrating their mastery of the accepted rules of etiquette. Today, although parsons and bishops, for example, who at one time constituted a significant share of the hunting community, no longer hunt (the Church is now on record as disowning the "sport"), a considerable number of new recruits comes from the upwardly mobile urban professional and merchant classes, including executives and housewives, and from the ranks of rich farmers.

The genius of the British upper crust has always been its capacity to co-opt potentially troublesome malcontents through assimilation, and in this regard hunting as an institution has proved useful. It will be necessary for the authentically democratic sectors—and organizations such as LACS and the Hunt Saboteurs Association—to push and agitate for a total ban on hunting as the arrogant and snobbish anachronism it is. For success to occur, however, the public mobilization will have to be far broader than what has been accomplished so far. At that point there could be surprises. The British nation is profoundly conservative and patient, but its enraged middle classes once managed to behead a king a full one hundred years before the French, a sup-

posedly far more volatile race. Who knows . . . that royal throne of kings, that sceptered isle, that seat of Mars . . . (how does it go?) might still become the first nation on earth to forbid "sport" hunting as a result of heightened moral sensibilities and imprudently re-awakened republican angers.

### *Should we cry for Argentina?*

A report by the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) in its Spring 1987 issue suggests that the Argentinian elite has now compounded its considerable bad karma by engaging in a World Pigeon Shooting Tournament during which more than 30,000 pigeons were senselessly slaughtered. The event, held in October of 1986 and headed by an "Honor Commission" which awarded the tournament's \$50,000 in prize money, boasted the participation of Argentina's President, Vice-President and several other officials of ministerial rank. Animal protection organizations tried to stop the tournament through the judicial system, but the judge handling the case declared that the contest did

not violate existing animal protection laws.

The outcome of the judicial challenge was probably sealed all along. Feeling unappreciated and largely powerless on the world stage, constantly looking toward Europe and the U.S. for signs of recognition and approval, Latin American elites covet international events such as this to prove—chiefly to themselves—their nations' civilized status and their own individual worth. From that ludicrously chauvinist perspective, "with the nation's honor at stake," how could a few thousand hapless pigeons stand in the way? (Similar world-class "shoots" take place in a different country each year and are organized by a Paris-based international society.)

Argentina's military, as readers will recall, engaged in the 1970s in a "dirty war" during which more than 10,000 citizens—many of them women—were kidnapped, tortured and murdered, while the international community cynically looked the other way. They were then (as today) doing the bidding for an entrenched oligarchy whose corrupt pastimes include the above pigeon shoot.

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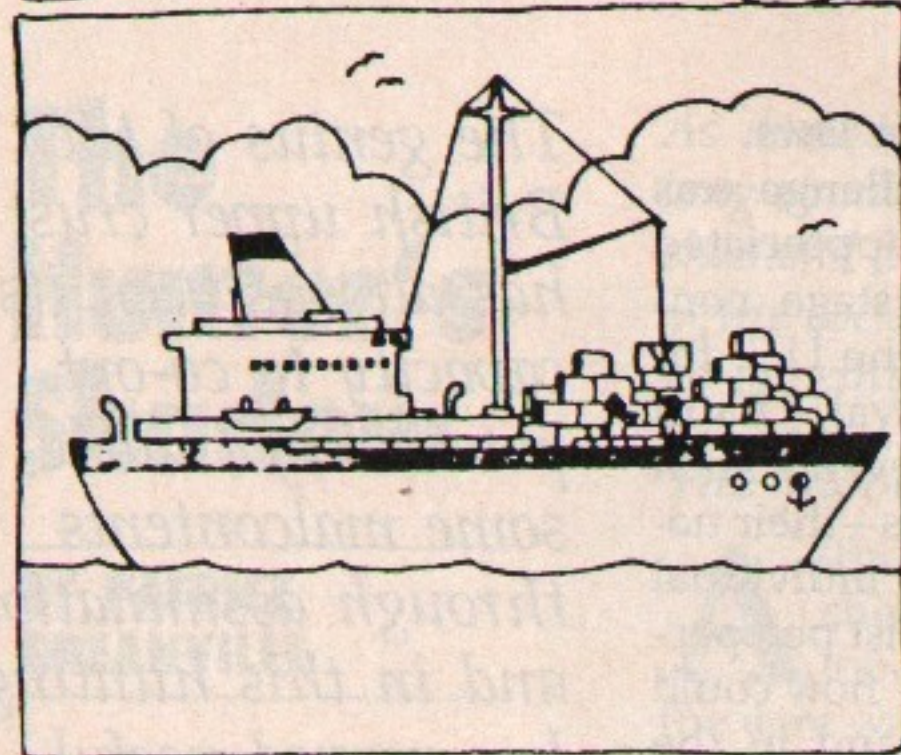
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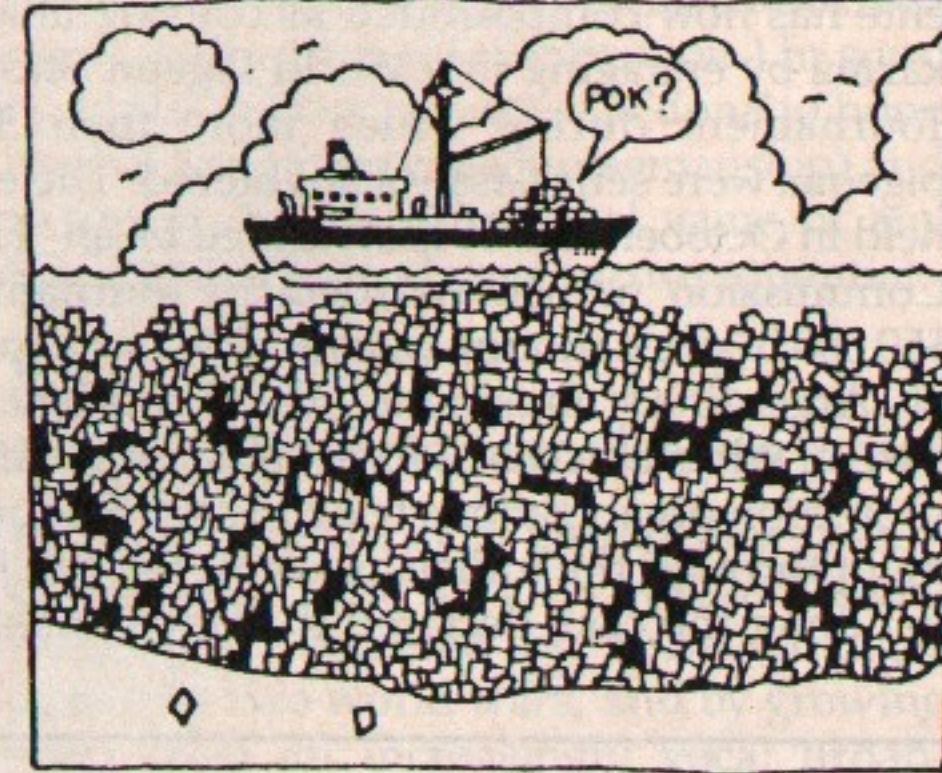
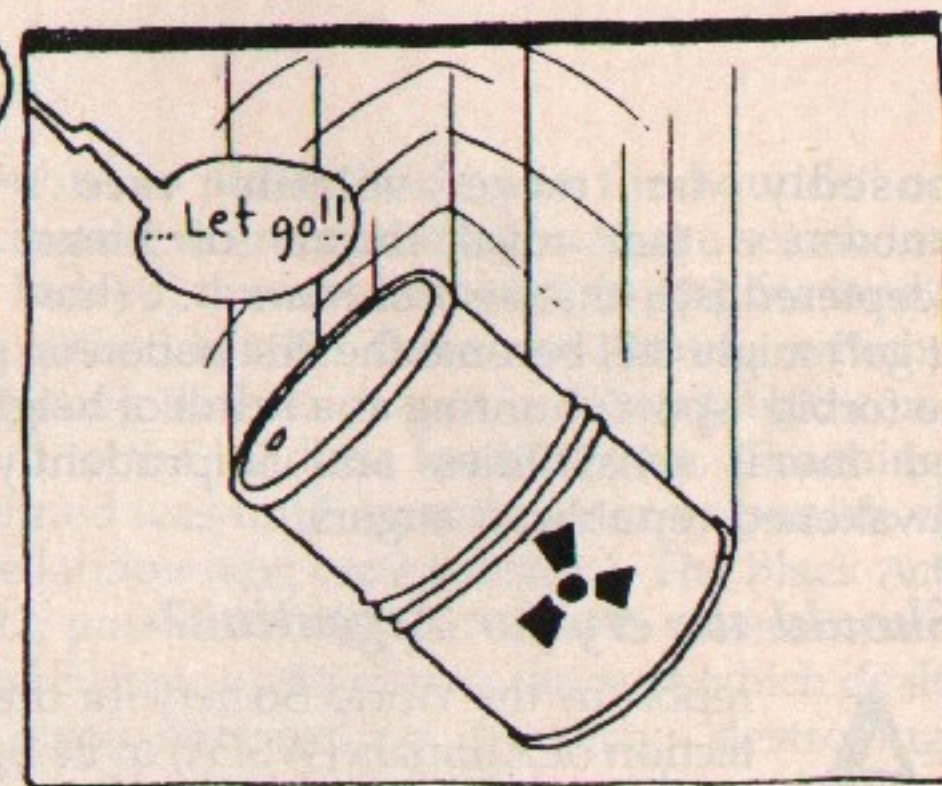




## DUMPING



## MIKE



Courtesy/Greenpeace

## A Deadly Connection: Pollution and Product Testing

BY BETSY SWART

Lately, I have begun to see the connection between environmental campaigns against toxic waste and animal rights campaigns against chemical testing on animals. Cosmetic and household product manufacturers—and their chemical affiliates and subsidiaries—poison animals, poison the environment, and sometimes poison the human users of the products. There is no difference between most chemical/pharmaceutical corporations and the cosmetics industry. In a very real sense, cosmetics and household products are the by-products of the chemical industry, and differ from industrial chemicals, pesticides, and herbicides only in the degree of hazard they pose.

Furthermore, cosmetics corporations and chemical/pharmaceutical corporations invest in each other's activities. For example, in 1983, the Mallinckrodt Corporation (at that time one of the largest and most productive subsidiaries of Avon) was the subject of an environmental suit over the radioactive emissions from its radiopharmaceutical facility in Missouri. Eight individual residents of the plant area, as well as a neighboring property owner, sought over \$500 million in compensation for damage to their health. Similarly, in 1985, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) began an investigation of Revlon's "indirect" subsidiary Technicon Electronics, alleging that Technicon was in violation of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act for "the release of hazardous substances" at its Frontera Creek (Puerto Rico) plant. At issue was whether metal and toxic wastes there were above the Federal-permissible amounts. In addition, this same Revlon subsidiary was

a defendant in a civil suit filed by ten residents of the Frontera Creek area who claimed they had suffered physical injury from the waste discharge.

The products manufactured by chemical and cosmetic companies poison animals during testing, poison the environment during production and waste discharge, and sometimes poison the people who buy them. And, in the final irony, the toxic wastes produced are themselves tested on animals in a perverted attempt to see just how much poison the Federal agencies will permit us and the environment to ingest.

We must use our power as consumers to boycott animal-tested chemical, pharmaceutical, cosmetic, and household products. But we must go even further and educate others about the deadly connection between companies that pollute the earth and companies that test cosmetics/household products on animals. At no time, however, should we lose sight of the fact that although chemical and cosmetics companies are among the major offenders, it is actually the entire industrial system that needs to be examined more closely and overhauled. The quest for financial gains has to be moderated by a clear understanding that industries were created by society for the benefit of its members, and that they are not isolated, independent units free to do as they please in pursuit of their narrow objectives. The social accountability of industry is one of the larger questions facing the world as we enter the 21st Century. Industrial pollution reminds us every day how seriously we have failed in creating a system of production truly responsible to consumers, the environment, and the animals.

## It's time to get your mailing list in shape

BY DOUG MOSS

Smaller animal protection organizations, whether local or national in scope, single or multiple-issue in focus, need to get their acts together with their mailing lists. It should be rule number one, really, to have one's list up-to-date and easily accessible, for use in general outreach programs and specific campaigns, and, I believe, for reasons having to do with the "bigger picture" of movement cooperation and the growth of the grassroots movement.

First of all, as a grassroots organization, your mailing list is one of your most important assets. A meticulous<sup>1</sup> upkept list provides fingertip access to names of supporters and activists when you need to get out a communication or publication, and it's also most often your best source of income for ongoing fund-raising purposes and for specific campaign needs. To be a good activist you need to be organized, and this is one of the crucial areas to be organized in.

Some small groups have made the smart step up to a small in-house computer. With a personal computer (or with an agreement with a local data processing service), you can have the beginnings of a rudimentary database. Start by inputting your existing mail file and then make additions and changes as they arise (addresses are always changing). Whether you choose to use your own PC or an outside data service, you can maintain, in addition to just names and addresses, basic information and comments about their particular skills (writer, artist, etc.), and their level of financial contribution. Unfortunately, most small groups' lists are in horrendous condition; are kept on crude label sheets in no particular order (zip code, alphabetically or otherwise), and are often out-of-date, consequently presenting a problem when needed in updated shape for an important campaign or project.

We at The ANIMALS' AGENDA have learned, because of our need for mailing lists for conducting our direct-mail campaigns to reach new readers, that smaller organizations (those that have taken the step to automate at a basic level) actually have the *best* mailing lists! This is undoubtedly because these smaller groups tend to have more activist members and because they communicate with their supporters on a more personal level than do the larger organizations. Small groups communicate with "come to a meeting" or "attend a rally." Big groups communicate with standard direct-mail packages geared primarily to fundraising around issues easy to generate sympathy for. The lists of large organizations are available for grassroots work on a rental or exchange basis. In fact, list exchange is done on a very large scale routinely by the many national animal and environmental organizations who, collectively, have millions of members' names. But there are problems, and there is limited value to the grassroots movement of these huge reservoirs of names because of these problems.

First off, there are a finite number of large-group lists available, and the *best* names (those who donate more generously) are often not made available to other groups without special efforts in lobbying the higher-ups in these organizations for favors. Often, without any special cajoling, the names you'll get on a rental or exchange are people whose memberships actually lapsed some time ago and/or those who contribute little and have only marginal interest in animal welfare



Jean Griffin

(that's why their memberships lapsed). Secondly, these lists are mailed to death by the list owners themselves and by those they rent names to or swap names with. In fact, we receive quite a bit of mail nowadays from animal welfare supporters who are annoyed at being inundated with direct mail from animal groups. Many complain of receiving numerous appeals in one day, or numerous appeals from the same organization in one week.

Big-group lists are also overtaxed by rentals to companies promoting merchandise sometimes only remotely connected with animals, if at all. List rentals make money—it's become a business, which is why there are also other kinds of politics with mailing lists. Professional fundraisers are picky about who gets to use their clients' lists, since they are at all times maximizing its use in fundraising for the animal group they work for. And, of course, the groups themselves can be very particular about who gets to mail to their list and when. There is also the problem with many organizations who will not make their list available to anyone at all. This comes mainly from a desire to guard the donors for their exclusive use, but sometimes it comes from operating under the myth that it is wrong to give out members' names, believing that the members don't want them to.

All this, I believe, points to a crying need, for the benefit of smaller organizations and the growth of the grassroots movement as a whole, for smaller groups to get their lists in order and to then formalize a network for the exchange of lists to aid one another in our efforts. While localized groups probably need only their own regional names for ongoing "maintenance" fundraising, many circumstances may call for seeking funding and other kinds of support from elsewhere when involved in an important campaign. Some basic automation is the first step, coupled with a renewed attitude favoring this kind of useful intra-movement cooperation.

One final point—in the eight years since we began compiling The ANIMALS' AGENDA database, I can remember only three or four instances when someone specifically stated that they did not want their name rented or traded. A special code on your PC or on your file at a data service can easily take care of accommodating those few requests. Accordingly, boards of directors of organizations enforcing a closed list policy should loosen up on these restrictions for the long-term benefit of the animals movement as a whole.



# Farm Inspection Guidelines

How soon after birth are the calves taken away from their mothers?

This checklist can be used for inspecting farms or agricultural research facilities. Most universities and agricultural centers are organized by animal species, and then by types of housing or buildings. For example, a "beef cattle center" may have a feedlot, holding pens, pastures, and intensive research facilities which may include a metabolism research barn or building. In the research barn or building, animals may be kept in small crates or restraint devices for periods exceeding several weeks for metabolism studies. Or, they may have tubes surgically inserted into their stomachs or intestines so that experimenters can observe food digestion or take fluid samples or specimens. In discussing such research, it is important to keep in mind that immobilized animals generally experience severe stress—especially grazing animals like cows and horses—which can affect the animals' metabolism to the extent of rendering the research data invalid. Stress also suppresses the immune system.

A great deal of agricultural animal research is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) through its Agricultural Research Service (ARS). Most ARS work is done at universities, but the agency maintains its own employees and facilities at ten centers around the country. To get a list of the centers and their addresses, write to USDA/ARS, BARC, Beltsville, MD 20705. Then write to the centers for copies of their most recent reports. At the state level, contact the animal science departments of any agricultural colleges and universities for copies of summaries and reports on current research projects.

To arrange a visit or tour to an agricultural facility, it will probably be necessary to call ahead for an appointment, explaining your interest in farm animal welfare. On the inspection tour, ask questions and make constructive suggestions. Follow up with a written report.

## Beef Cattle

### A. Housing, ask to see:

- holding pens
- working facilities (this includes the squeeze chute where cattle are branded and castrated)
- pastures
- feedlot
- research barn or building

1. How confined are the animals? If relatively confined, how clean is the area kept?
2. If housed outdoors, is shelter from wind, rain, and sun provided? Is such shelter large enough and accessible to all the animals?
3. Do all animals have access to feed and clean water? Can smaller, younger, or weaker animals reach troughs, water, mangers, etc.?
4. Do animals have sufficient space so that younger, smaller, or weaker animals are not subject to inescapable aggression from larger animals?
5. Do confined animals have bedding? Is it clean?
6. Are enclosures free of dangerous or injurious protrusions, etc., such as wires, nails, or broken rails?

7. Are animals branded? Are they freeze-branded (which causes relatively little distress), or are they branded with a hot iron (a method which is clearly painful)?

8. Is anesthesia or analgesia used when animals are castrated?

### B. Management

1. Do animals appear frightened of people—do they withdraw from touch or approach?
2. How are animals moved from place to place—electric prods, whips, etc.?
3. Do the people taking care of the animals appear to pay attention to them—do they look them over during feeding, for example, to see if they are ill or injured in any way?

### C. Animals

1. Behavior: Are animals free of abnormal behaviors, such as chewing or licking on walls, tongue-rolling, etc.?
2. Physical appearance: Are animals in good weight? Do hipbones and ribs protrude? Is coat shiny? Do feet and legs move freely? Are hooves a normal length?

## Dairy Cattle

### A. Housing, ask to see:

- where they keep the adult cows (usually called a "free stall barn")
- pastures
- sick cow barn or hospital area
- where they keep the "dry" cows (those not being milked)
- calf barn, or wherever they raise the calves
- research barns or buildings
- Use the same housing checklist as for "beef cattle".

### B. Management

1. Does the dairy keep the bull (male) calves? Are they sold to veal farms?
2. Does the dairy keep the heifer (female) calves?
3. What are the calves fed? Do they have access to hay? How are they fed—bucket with nipple, bucket without nipple, bottle, etc.?
4. Are calves housed individually or in groups? Are they kept in crates or small enclosures, or do they have freedom of movement?
5. How soon after birth are the calves taken away from their mothers?
6. Where are the cows held just prior to milking? Is the area reasonably clean? Does it provide good footing?

### C. Animals

1. Behavior: Are animals free of abnormal behaviors, such as chewing or licking on walls, tongue-rolling, etc.?
2. Physical appearance: Are animals in good weight? Do hipbones and ribs protrude? Is coat shiny? Do feet and legs move freely? Are hooves a normal length? Older cows forced to live on concrete may have very sore feet.

## Horses

### A. Housing, ask to see:

- pastures
- stalls or horse barn
- research barn or building (Note: Horses will usually die if kept in crates or restraining devices for more than a short time, so very few research facilities have a horse metabolism facility where horses are subject to chronic extreme restraint.)

1. Do they have windbreaks and shades?
2. Do they have access to clean water?
3. How much mud is there during wet weather?
4. Do stalls show signs of damage (signs of horses having chewed on wood or fences, or holes in the ground from continuous pacing) from boarded horses?

### B. Management

1. How often are confined horses turned out for exercise? How are they exercised—automatic walker, turned out in paddock, etc.?
2. Are they offered good quality hay? Good quality hay is green, leafy, and free of dust and mold.

### C. Animals

1. Behavior: Are animals free of abnormal behaviors such as chewing or licking on walls, tongue-rolling, etc.? Specific behavioral vices or abnormalities often seen in chronically stalled horses include: a) stall weaving (swaying on feet) or pacing; b) cribbing (chewing on wood) or wind sucking (similar to cribbing, but the horse arches his neck and sucks in air); c) habitual pawing of the ground or wall kicking. Is overall appearance healthy—head held up, animal seeming to have ample energy and not depressed?
2. Physical Appearance: Are horses free of injuries? Common sites of injuries resulting from inadequate care are at the withers, belly (behind the front legs), and feet and legs. Is the coat shiny? Are eyes bright? Is the body in "good flesh"—ribs, vertebrae, and hipbones not protruding? Are hooves overgrown?

## Sheep and Goats (raised for meat, mohair/angora, wool, or research)

Sheep and goats are often used as subjects for all types of invasive research since they are relatively small and inexpensive. They are often kept in metabolism crates for weeks at a time. Check this out.

### A. Housing 1. How and to what extent are animals confined? Are any animals kept in isolation?

2. Do animals have protection from sun, wind, and rain?
3. Do animals have bedding? Is it clean and dry?
4. Are facilities free of protruding broken wires, etc.?

### B. Management

1. Do confined animals have access to roughage?

2. Are tails routinely docked? How? Are anesthetics or analgesics used?

3. How are males castrated? Are they given anesthesia or analgesics?

### C. Animals

1. Behavior: Is there evidence of wool-chewing in closely confined animals? Do any animals exhibit abnormal oral behaviors such as chewing or licking on walls, tongue-rolling, etc.?
2. Physical Appearance: Are hooves overgrown and misshapen? Do shorn animals exhibit many cuts or abrasions on their skin from careless shearing?

## Swine

Like sheep and goats, pigs are often used for invasive research. They are becoming increasingly popular as animals for the laboratory, and are being used in place of dogs in many biomedical studies.

### A. Housing, ask to see:

- farrowing house (where the sows have their piglets)
- nursery (where the piglets are moved after they're taken from their mothers, usually at 3-6 weeks of age)
- breeding house or barn (where the boars and sows are kept)
- gestation house (where the sows are kept while pregnant, usually for almost 4 months)
- feeding floor (where the pigs are fed until they reach "market" size, about 220 pounds)
- pasture or other outside lots
- research barn or building (where invasive experiments or metabolism studies are often conducted)
- ask specifically if there are any "double deck" housing units (where the feces and urine from the pen above falls directly onto the individuals below) and, if so, object strongly to this system as unsanitary and conceptually repugnant

1. How confined are the animals? If relatively confined, how clean is the area kept?
2. If housed outdoors, is shelter from wind, rain, and sun provided? Is such shelter sufficient for all the animals to have access to it?
3. Do all animals have access to feed and clean water? Can smaller, younger, or weaker animals reach troughs, water, mangers, etc.?
4. Do animals have sufficient space so that smaller, younger, or weaker animals are not subject to inescapable aggression from larger animals?
5. Do confined animals have bedding? Is it clean?
6. Are enclosures free of dangerous or injurious protrusions such as wires, nails, broken rails, etc.?
7. Swine cannot sweat, so they must have access to a wallow or other water source to cool themselves during hot weather. If a wallow is not available, pigs and hogs (who are normally clean

Continued on next page



Swine cannot sweat, so they must have access to a wallow or other water source to cool themselves during hot weather.



Debeaking is very painful, and isn't necessary if birds are given adequate space.



— Jean Griffin

Continued from previous page

animals) will be forced to lay in their urine and feces in order to survive.

8. If pigs are kept confined indoors, are floors abrasive? Do they seem to provide adequate footing? Do the pigs have trouble standing on the floors when the floors are wet?

## B. Management

1. How are the boars maintained? On some farms they may be kept in crates almost all their lives.  
2. How do the handlers move the animals? Do they ever scratch the animals or show interest in them while talking to you? How do the animals react to them? If they are scratching or petting them just to impress you, the animals may withdraw from them in fear.

## C. Animals

1. Behavior: Are animals free of abnormal behaviors such as chewing, licking on walls or cage bars, tongue-rolling, etc.?  
2. Physical Appearance: Look for skin ulcers (bed sores) on shoulders and legs (especially lower legs) caused by long-term confinement on abrasive surfaces without bedding. Walk behind the confined sows to see if their vulvas have been bitten by other sows (this happens when animals not acquainted with each other are crowded together so that less dominant individuals cannot escape from larger or older animals). Is there any evidence of "tail biting"? Tails of pigs are usually cut to a third of their natural length within a few days of birth. Look at feet and ankles. Check for swelling, signs or arthritis, or lameness.

## Poultry—Broiler Chickens

### A. Housing, ask to see:

- main broiler houses
- broiler breeders (these are the hens and roosters kept to lay fertile eggs to replace the broilers who go to "market")

1. How much space per bird is provided? How many birds are in a group? Do birds have any access to perches?  
2. How are buildings heated and cooled? Are there any provisions made for the birds in the event of a power failure?

### B. Management

1. How long do they keep the birds?  
2. How do they catch them and ship them to the slaughterhouse?

### C. Animals

1. Behavior: Are birds free of behavioral stereotypes (performing the same behavior over and over)? Does there appear to be much aggression? For example, do dominant birds peck the birds lower in rank? Is there any way for the pecked-at birds to escape? Is there anywhere for them to hide?  
2. Physical Appearance: Do birds have much damaged plumage? Have birds been debeaked?

By what process? Debeaking is very painful, and isn't necessary if birds are given adequate space. Is there any evidence of mutilation or open wounds on skin caused by aggressive behavior? Have patches of feathers been pecked away?

## Poultry—Laying Hens

### A. Housing, ask to see:

- laying houses
- any breeding flocks they may have (layers are more aggressive than broilers, and if flocks have too many males or if they are crowded, cannibalism often occurs)
- research barn or building

1. How large are cages? The standard size is 12 by 18 inches.  
2. How many birds are housed per cage?  
3. Do cages have openings that allow birds to extend their necks out? Do birds have adequate room to stand? Can they stretch their wings? Can all birds stand, or are some forced to stand on walls or on other birds?

### B. Management

1. How long are birds kept before finally being shipped to the slaughterhouse?  
2. Are birds put through a forced molt? How many times? How is it done?  
3. How are buildings heated and cooled? Are there provisions made for a possible power failure?  
4. Are the birds routinely debeaked? Again, this painful procedure wouldn't be necessary if birds were given adequate space.

### C. Animals

1. Behavior: Do birds display stereotypical behaviors? Do birds stand normally? How much aggression is there between birds? Do they peck at each other's feathers, head, or perianal region?  
2. Physical Appearance: Do birds have much damaged or missing plumage? Closely examine the birds' feet. Sometimes the feet will actually begin growing into the cage wire. Are the feet deformed? Are claws abnormally long or misshapen? Is there physical evidence of self-mutilation or aggression between birds? Some birds near the end of the first laying cycle (6-10 months of age) will start to molt or lose their feathers naturally, and that is hard to distinguish from damage caused from cage conditions. But if the birds have been in the cages for only a few months, they should look good.

## Miscellaneous Poultry—"Game" Birds, Turkeys, Etc.

Most of the same criteria for broiler chickens will apply. If the birds are caged, use the laying hen checklist. Many universities have some turkeys or "game" birds (quail, pheasants, wild turkeys, etc.). "Game" or wild birds are especially hard to manage. When forced into small areas, they often kill each other. Sometimes they panic and fly into walls when frightened.

# Exotics for Slaughter

BY MERRITT CLIFTON

A tiger languishes in a tiny cage at "Les Sangliers du Brigham" game farm in Quebec.

Slaughterhouse ramps are starting to look like the gangplank to Noah's Ark. Just in North America, 9,000 bison walked to slaughter last year, along with 5,000 caribou who were chased there by helicopter, countless thousands of deer, a few thousand alligators, several thousand wild boar, and miscellaneous llamas, elk, and even water buffalo.

Worldwide, the trend is similar. Jaded palates are turning animals once reserved for hunting into domesticated dinner fare, while hunters pursue semi-tame exotics. Often the same ranchers supply both tastes, and raise exotic "pets" as well. They typically begin by serving hunters and collectors of status symbols—the prestige market. The animal no one wants to pet or shoot for a trophy goes to the butcher.

A decade ago, big game butchers mainly served people who were allergic to conventional meats (or more precisely, to the chemicals and antibiotics found in them). Today, big game butchers mostly serve restaurants. With the trendy restaurant clientele growing all the time, the big game meat demand is growing as well. Bison sales jumped 60 percent in

1986; New York City's consumption of venison shot up from 1,000 pounds a week in 1985 to 4,000 pounds a week in 1986.

Such growth in what used to be the waste end of the business has turned many exotic game ranches into stockyards. Newcomers have gotten into game ranching, often with limited land and little knowledge of the animals they're handling. Three thousand deer farms have started up—worldwide—in the past 15 years, including 2,000 in New Zealand alone, boasting a herd of 180,000. Another 350 deer farmers are active in Australia. Noting their success, former dairy farmers are switching to deer in upstate New York, all parts of Canada, and Great Britain. Laws designed to stop poaching prohibit the sale of venison in many states and provinces, but the lawmakers are under increasing pressure to exempt ranched venison (as if anyone can tell what is and isn't ranched meat).

The deer trade has grown alongside bison ranching. Some 500 bison ranchers belong to the South Dakota-based National Buffalo Association, with members in almost every state and province. Their herds number from 60,000 to 70,000, compared to the

15,000 bison living on government land. Thirty-seven thousand alligators are now ranches in Florida; the Gatorworld amusement park does a roaring side-business by slaughtering 1,000 of their stock per year to make \$1,800 shoes, \$4,000 attache cases, and \$12 alligator steaks. Eight to twelve thousand llamas are raised in the western U.S. and Canada, for both meat and wool.

Experts say only the virtual impossibility of importing more breeding stock holds back the trade in water buffalo. About 300 water buffalo are presently ranches in Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, and Missouri—primarily under the patronage of Anthony P. Leonards. The Kroger supermarket chain began test-marketing water buffalo steaks and frankfurters in early 1986. Elk ranching began in Alberta, Canada in 1959, but has been slower to catch on—probably because elk are difficult to keep healthy in an artificial environment. Alberta still has about 1,000 of an estimated 1,300 domesticated elk in North America.

## Projecting the macho image

As in any trendy business, image is important. Novelist James Michener

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amplified the image desired by exotic animal ranchers in his 1985 epic novel *Texas*: wealthy macho-men protecting expansive semi-wilderness, filled with free-ranging beasts otherwise seen only in zoos. Rich hunters are allowed to cull surplus trophy-size males of the most common species, but peacocks, giraffes, and sable antelope roam the grounds just for show. No animal is chased mercilessly by helicopter; no animal is poked and electrically prodded toward a blood-bath. Models posing with tame lions and tigers complete the Eden-like picture.

It may be half real at half a dozen of North America's estimated 1,000 game ranches, among about 4,500 world-wide. Otherwise, reality is Robert Naud's "Les Sangliers du Brigham" game farm about an hour's drive east of Montreal. Like many and perhaps most other newcomers to game ranching, Naud got into exotics in an effort to save the family farm after losing his shirt at conventional agriculture. Typically, Naud was both badly under-capitalized and inexperienced when he acquired his first exotic animals. He rapidly diversified—needing quick cash returns—and became involved with animal dealers and agents of somewhat doubtful reputation.

Nine years later, Naud is still struggling. Lions, tigers, cougars, jaguars, and ocelots shiver against winter winds in exposed cages stacked two deep along the side of a tractor shed. The cages are barely big enough for an adult Bengal tiger to turn around in. A nearby barn houses Naud's father's dairy herd, with a family of six peccaries (a pig-like tropical mammal) crowded into a stall designed for two Holstein milkers.

Half a mile up the road, a concrete-walled compound holds a variety of imported deer, goats, llamas, exotic sheep, bison, and dogs. An adjacent barn shelters several hundred pigs of indeterminate ancestry. Naud advertises them as wild boars, and they look like boars, but they haven't been pure-bred for many generations. Naud imported his original boar stock from Hungary back in 1978. It wasn't enough to build a herd without extensive inbreeding, so he cross-bred the boars with ordinary domestic pigs until now, he estimates, his "boars" are 75 percent domestic swine.

In summer, Naud's hoofed stock roams 125 acres of woods and field, enjoying an existence undoubtedly

healthier than that of their factory-farmed cousins a few miles away in any direction. They may die from musket balls, crossbow bolts, or ordinary rifle bullets fired by paying hunters in a 50-acre hunting ground, or may be conventionally slaughtered in fall to serve the Thanksgiving and Christmas trade.

The big cats are less fortunate. Separated from their mothers, de-fanged and declawed when only four weeks old, they fetch prices ranging between \$500 for a cougar to \$3,500 for a jaguar. Few of the purchasers look after them properly. Eleven times in 1986, the Montreal chapter of the Society for Protection of Animals was asked to rescue big cats whose owners had abandoned them or simply couldn't handle them. One cougar was confiscated from a man who had been arrested on drug charges. Both a lion and a cougar were involved in a suspected burglary. All three of these cats—and three others—were traced back to Naud and/or his Montreal sales agent, Gilles Forgeot.

Forgeot represents another reality of the exotic animal business: small-time hustlers juggling bills and promises, trying to get rich quick. Promoting game ranch hunting under the name Multi-Gibiers and exotic meats as Multi-Viandes, Forgeot has a criminal record for assault and fraud. He allegedly threatened journalists and neighbors who investigated his operation two years ago. Multi-Viandes, meanwhile, facing ten lawsuits for nonpayment of debts, changed legal names and ownership in late 1985—becoming "126310 Canada Inc."

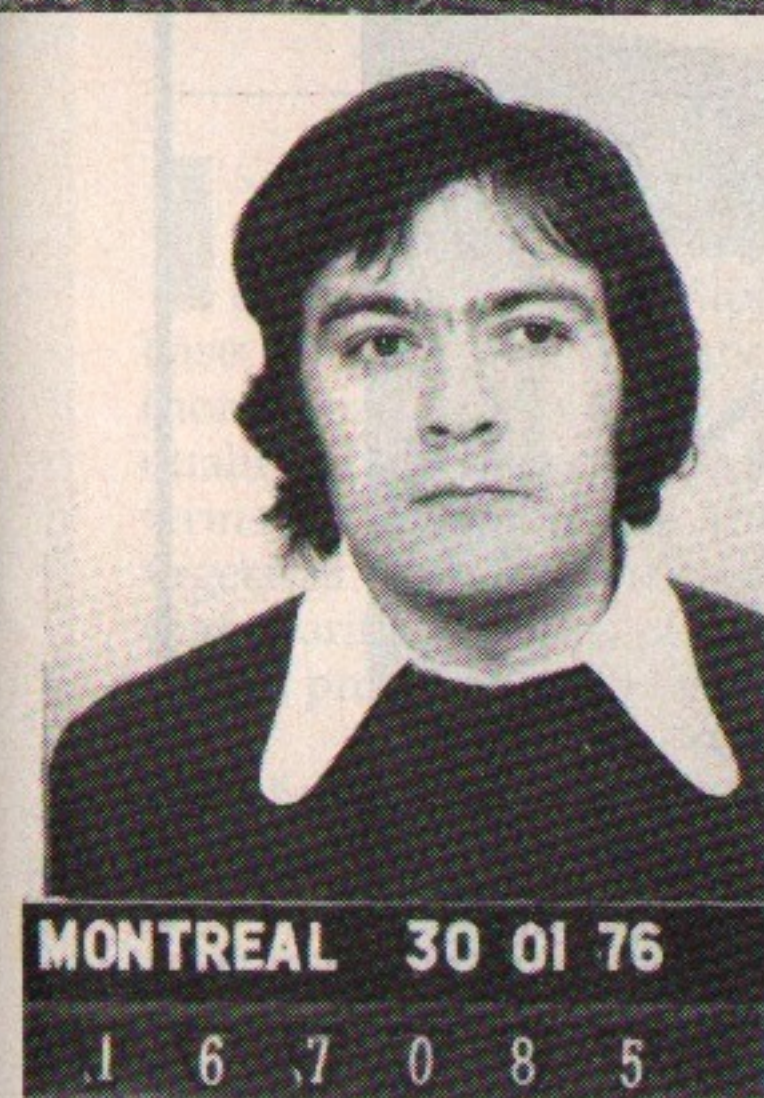
### Government subsidies

Aware of the dismal record of small-time entrepreneurs, the Quebec government is supplying capital and equipment to North America's most ambitious game farming project. The "game farm" is the whole Quebec-Labrador peninsula. The Quebec Department of Recreation, Fish and Game spent \$3 million (U.S.) in 1985 to build a slaughterhouse capable of processing up to 50,000 caribou per year. The object is to thin the caribou herd, estimated at 600,000, while making jobs for Inuit, Cree, and Naskapis Indians. The break-even point is expected to be about 7,000 caribou per year. In 1986, helicopters drove 5,000 to slaughter, herding them over 13 miles in only two and a half hours. The 5,000 were apparently in addition to



—Merritt Clifton/The Record

Three thousand deer farms have started up in the past 15 years worldwide (above); Gilles Forgeot, a Canadian sales agent for exotics, has a criminal record for assault and fraud (right).



## The Price of a Life

Prices are taken from various 1985 advertisements.

Animal (trophy-size adult)	Texas (10,000 acres)	Quebec (125 acres)
Axis deer	\$ 1,800	\$ —
Barbary ram	1,500	75
Bison	---	2,160
Blackbuck	1,100	---
Boar	---	325
Corsican ram	250	---
Eland	3,000	---
Elk	7,000	1,500
Fallow deer	1,000	575
Gemsbok	3,750	---
Grant's zebra	4,000	---
Horned oryx	4,000	---
Ibex	4,500	500
Mouflon ram	1,000	560
Peccary	---	360
Pheasant	---	7
Pigeon	---	2
Quail	---	1
Red stag	6,650	---
Whitetail deer	2,500	2,150
Wild turkey	250	60

the approximately 4,500 caribou per year that the native North Americans kill for their own use. The meat is sold mainly to the North American and European restaurant trade, while the antlers go to Asia for use in aphrodisiac powders.

The U.S. government isn't presently sponsoring big-time game ranching, although both bison and wild horses are legally slaughtered from time to time on federal land. But game ranching is also being promoted by the Canadian province of Alberta, where the Kikino Metis were recently allowed to establish their own 7,500-acre game farm, an hour's drive northeast of Edmonton. Land-rich and cash-poor, U.S. tribes can be expected to copy any success achieved by their Canadian counterparts.

### On the African scene

Numerous African nations, including Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia, the Central African Republic, and South Africa, have hailed game ranching as possibly the only way to protect species such as

the elephant and rhinoceros from poachers. The African argument is that only game ranching can provide the income from wildlife that usually impoverished governments need to hire and equip conservation agents. Otherwise, protecting wildlife is a luxury that most African governments don't feel they can afford. Meanwhile, with the price of powdered rhino horn having climbed from \$17 per pound 15 years ago to \$300 per pound today, poachers have considerable incentive to wipe out the rhino as fast as possible.

African game farming also gets a boost from progressive land economists, who have begun to recognize that such native animals as antelope and kudu make much more efficient use of the savannah than the conventional dairy cattle who have turned grasslands into dustbowls across much of the continent. If African herdsmen can be encouraged to domesticate antelope and kudu, the thinking goes, the savannah can be restored—with net benefit to all species.

The U.S. situation differs partly because Americans have the money to protect wildlife, and partly because no North American endangered species are commercially ranched on a significant scale. According to former game ranching advocate Valerius Geist, a professor of environmental science at the University of Calgary, North American game ranching actually threatens endangered species. The reason is that intensive ranching of any kind is accompanied by predator control. Game ranchers can't afford to have imported exotics menaced by wolves, grizzly bears, black bears, cougars, coyotes, and lynx, Geist explains. Nor do game ranchers want to see the predator population increase in response to increasing herds of native animals like the deer, elk, caribou, and buffalo. Like conventional cattle and sheep ranchers, game ranchers tend to believe that the only good predator is a dead predator—even if it is endangered.

Poaching is no less a problem in North America than in Africa, though for different reasons. In Africa, poaching provides ready cash amid a weak economy. In North America, it persists as a vestige of frontier culture, practiced by men who would rather cruise backroads after dark with jacklights and rifles than take conventional jobs. As many as half of all deer killed in North America are believed

killed by poachers. Traditionally, poachers sell their take to unscrupulous butchers who mix the venison into hamburger. But now that venison is legally sold in New York, hamburger joints get less and less, while more and more is smuggled to big-city restaurants as alleged ranch produce. Restaurant demand for game meat has been so strong recently that even New England's traditional pre-Christmas wild game charity banquets are jeopardized. The banquets thrived for over a century on venison and bear meat donated by legal hunters who had bagged a surplus. Apparently the surplus is being sold these days, and game banquet organizers went on radio and television before Christmas of 1986 to beg for contributions of "even a rabbit or woodchuck."

### The future looks bright for wildlife entrepreneurs

Game ranching in North America is not yet firmly established, but since game meat tends to be leaner than beef, and since game animals don't need the rich grains cattle require, it could remain a growth industry even after the fad appeal of ordering a "buffalo burger" or "elk steak" wears off. Certainly, if game ranching is even marginally profitable, it will continue to attract desperate farmers, who recently have been going bankrupt at the fastest rate since the Great Depression.

The exotic hunting preserves run by people like John Mecom, Jr. of Houston, Thomas Mantzell of Fort Worth, and the Waters family of Utopia, Texas, may be morally despicable to animal rights activists, but overall may make a positive contribution to the preservation of certain rare African species. Their animals are certainly better off than they would be in concrete and steel zoos. But again, these few spacious preserves bear no resemblance to the cramped combination preserve/kennel/stockyard operations of most game ranchers, whose stock is extensively inbred and rarely enjoys even semi-natural conditions. The aesthetically pleasing vision of elk and bison once again roaming woodland meadows is contradicted by the reality of a corraled, tamed existence not much different from the life of a beef cow.

Merritt Clifton is an environmental journalist living in Vermont.



# EATING FOR LIFE

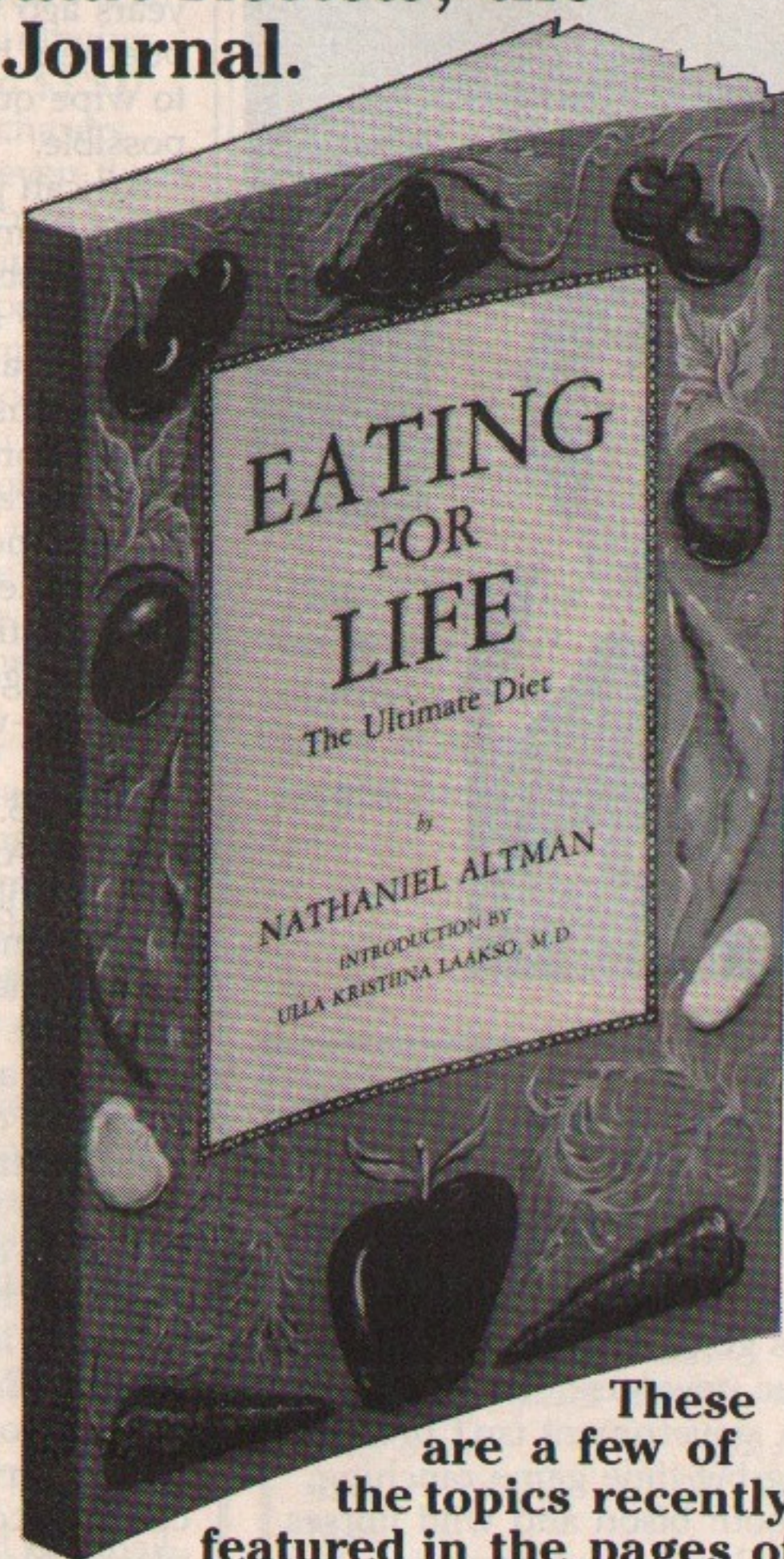
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# Food for Life—Everybody's Life

BY VICTORIA MORAN

I've long entertained the theory that if something is right, it's right on every level. For example, if I don't base my life on exploitation of others (nonhuman others included), my own quality of life is bound to be higher. In terms of a vegetarian diet—a totally vegetarian diet—the evidence is mounting that sparing the lives of "food animals" means prolonging the lives of people as well.

Nathan Pritikin drew enormous public attention in the 1970s with his program of exercise and a low-fat, virtually vegetarian diet for heart disease sufferers. In the early 1980s, John McDougall, a physician practicing internal medicine in Hawaii, published *The McDougall Plan*, a book that recommends a vegan (no meat, eggs, or dairy products) eating plan for general health and weight management. His subsequent book, *McDougall's Medicine*, draws from extensive research and his own clinical experience the conclusion that the vegan diet should be a part of the treatment for a number of pathological conditions: hypertension, kidney disease, arthritis, diabetes, certain cancers, atherosclerosis and coronary heart disease.

It is interesting that in recommending vegetarianism—a term scrupulously avoided by these and other proponents of an animal-free diet for health—people such as Pritikin and McDougall make no mention of ethical issues regarding animals. They are stating simple, disinterested fact: a low-fat diet, particularly one containing no saturated (animal) fat or cholesterol, is best diet for human health. And this is nothing new. As early as 1960, the very conservative *Journal of the American Medical Association* reported that a vegan diet would eliminate 90 percent of this country's heart disease and 97 percent of coronary occlusions (heart attacks). It seems that it takes well over 20 years for lifestyle information from the scholarly journals to filter down to the family doctor's office or

the hospital cafeteria.

Working to speed that process is a pioneering internist in the San Francisco area, Dr. Dean Ornish. He is involved in a research project to determine not if heart disease can be prevented by a Pritikin/McDougall dietary pattern (that evidence is already conclusive), but whether such disease, once established, can be reversed. Instead of seeking to extrapolate findings from work with non-human animals in a laboratory, Dr. Ornish is working with human



volunteers whose heart conditions range, as an article in the March issue of *Discover* magazine put it, "from bad to terrible". Some have such extensive coronary blockage that even bypass surgery would not help. What are they doing instead?—eating properly, and learning to relax with a variety of yoga-inspired stress control techniques.

Mealtime for Ornish's patients involves choosing foods from five groups. The first category is the most beneficial, and includes whole grains, fresh vegetables, fruits, legumes, and—in a dispensation not made by McDougall and others—one tablespoon daily of vegetable oil and an optional serving of plain, nonfat yogurt. Vegetable foods high in fat (avocados, olives, nuts and seeds, and soft corn oil

margarine) and skim milk comprise the second category—a little less desirable than the first. The third—less desirable still—consists of stick margarine, low-fat dairy products, and baked lean fish. Moving into the danger zone, shellfish and sugar make up the fourth category; and the fifth—the worst of all—is composed of red meat, whole milk products, fried foods, eggs, and salt.

Keeping as close as possible to group one means meals such as vegetable curry over brown rice with steamed artichokes; a meatless/cheeseless/eggless chef's salad; blackbean chili with baked tortilla chips and green salad; pizza with tofu instead of cheese, topped with vegetables; or a pineapple-tempeh kabob and millet with tofu cream gravy. That beats a bottle of glucose after surgery, doesn't it?

Ornish's hypothesis is that even a 20 to 30 percent level of dietary fat (Americans on average consume 35 to 40 percent of their calories as fat) is too high to achieve a real reversal in atherosclerosis, a disease in which deposits of fat or cholesterol block one or more of the coronary arteries (vessels that supply blood to the heart). Ornish's patients receive just ten percent of their calories from fat—mostly fat found naturally in beans, grains, and vegetables. Fifteen percent of their calories come from protein, and a whopping 75 percent from carbohydrates (30 percent more than the average American).

The experiment has already shown, to Dr. Ornish's satisfaction, that most patients do stay on the diet. It remains to be seen whether or not adherence to the diet can actually reverse existing coronary pathology. A lot of people—and animals—could benefit when the results are in.

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



The physiology and behavior of nonhuman primates are finely adapted to particular physical and social environments normally present throughout natural development. Maintenance of individual wild-caught and laboratory-born primates in small isolate cages precludes that type of experience, including normative social interaction, for these animals. Just as inbreeding can destroy much genetically-controlled developmental homeostasis, so can maintenance of gregarious animals like primates in such caging lead to the development of idiosyncratic and atypical physiological and behavioral responses. This is why the validity of biomedical or behavioral research conducted using such subjects is questionable. Comparisons of individually-caged subjects with animals living in naturalistic social groups and environments might well lead to scientific invalidation of such studies.

### Primate natural history and biomedical research

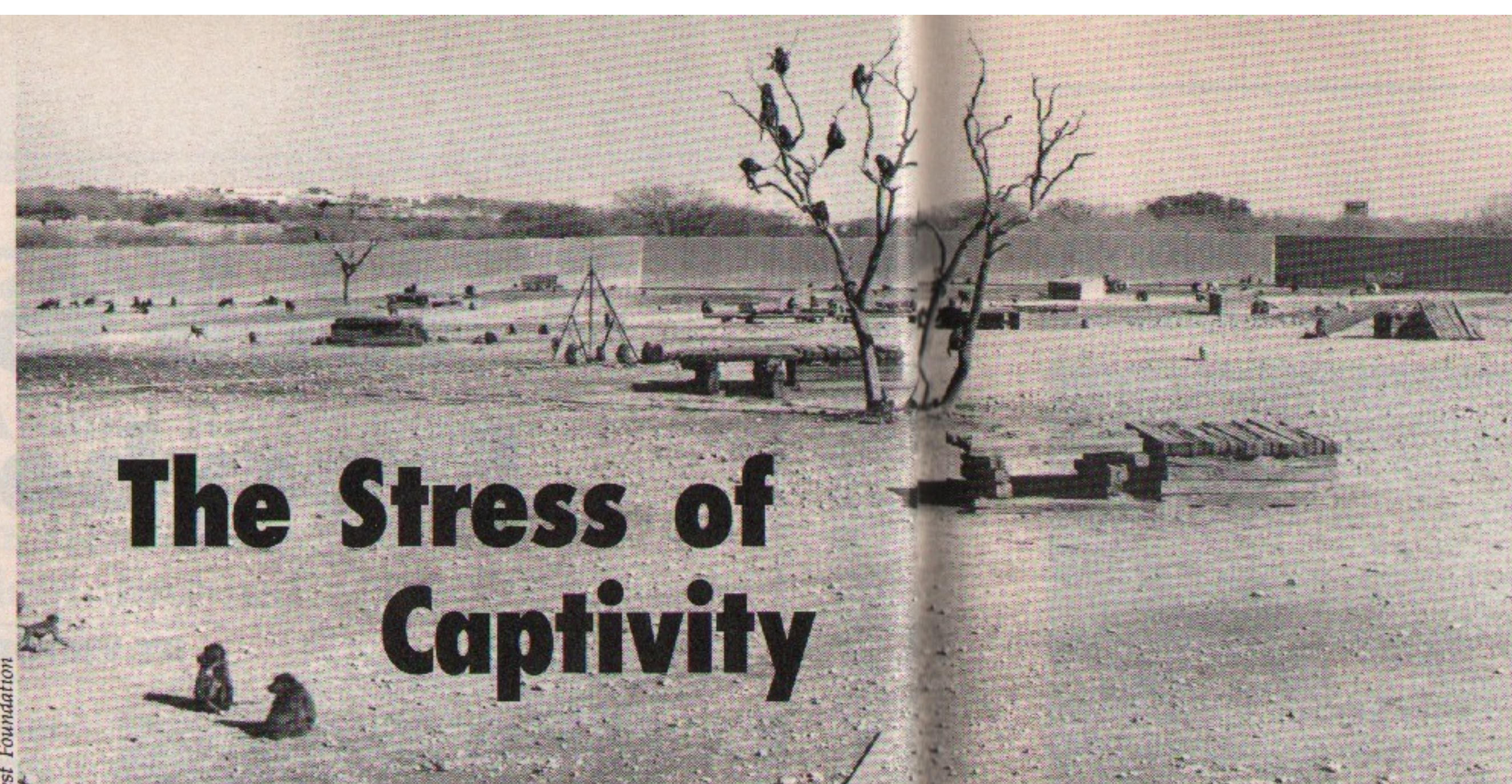
In designing facilities for the maintenance of nonhuman primates in captivity, it is essential to realize that primates are social animals. Many natural social groups of primates number between 50 and 100 members, and some reach well over 100. Seventy percent of all primate genera coalesce into social groups including two or more unrelated adults and their infant and juvenile offspring. Even researchers of those primates formerly considered to lead "solitary" lives (like the orangutan), now stress that these animals are genuinely social, and that much remains to be learned about primate social interaction through study of these species.

The principal adaptations of primates have evolved in environments that include participation in complex social interactions within groups or populations of grossly stable composition. In virtually every species studied to date, maturing individuals develop strong and typically long-term relationships with their mothers, siblings, and other individuals between infancy and adulthood. Affinitive relationships, entailing greetings, grooming, social play, and sleeping partnerships, develop continuously. For primates, normative behavioral development is a lifelong process that depends on continuous input from myriad ecological and social stimuli.

Consider now that the vast majority of biomedical research projects conducted using primates produces data from individuals forced to live in tiny, barren, isolated cages. Subjects are taken from their social groups in the wild as juveniles or adults, while others are born into laboratory cages. Laboratory-born primates usually begin life with their mothers in small isolation cages, and are separated from them before the ages at which they would naturally be weaned. They spend their early juvenile years either alone or with a small group of peers in other barren cages, and then spend the rest of their lives in a cage less than one meter tall that offers about three-quarters of a square meter of floor space. Those are the current space recommendations in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* for proper management of baboons in laboratories.

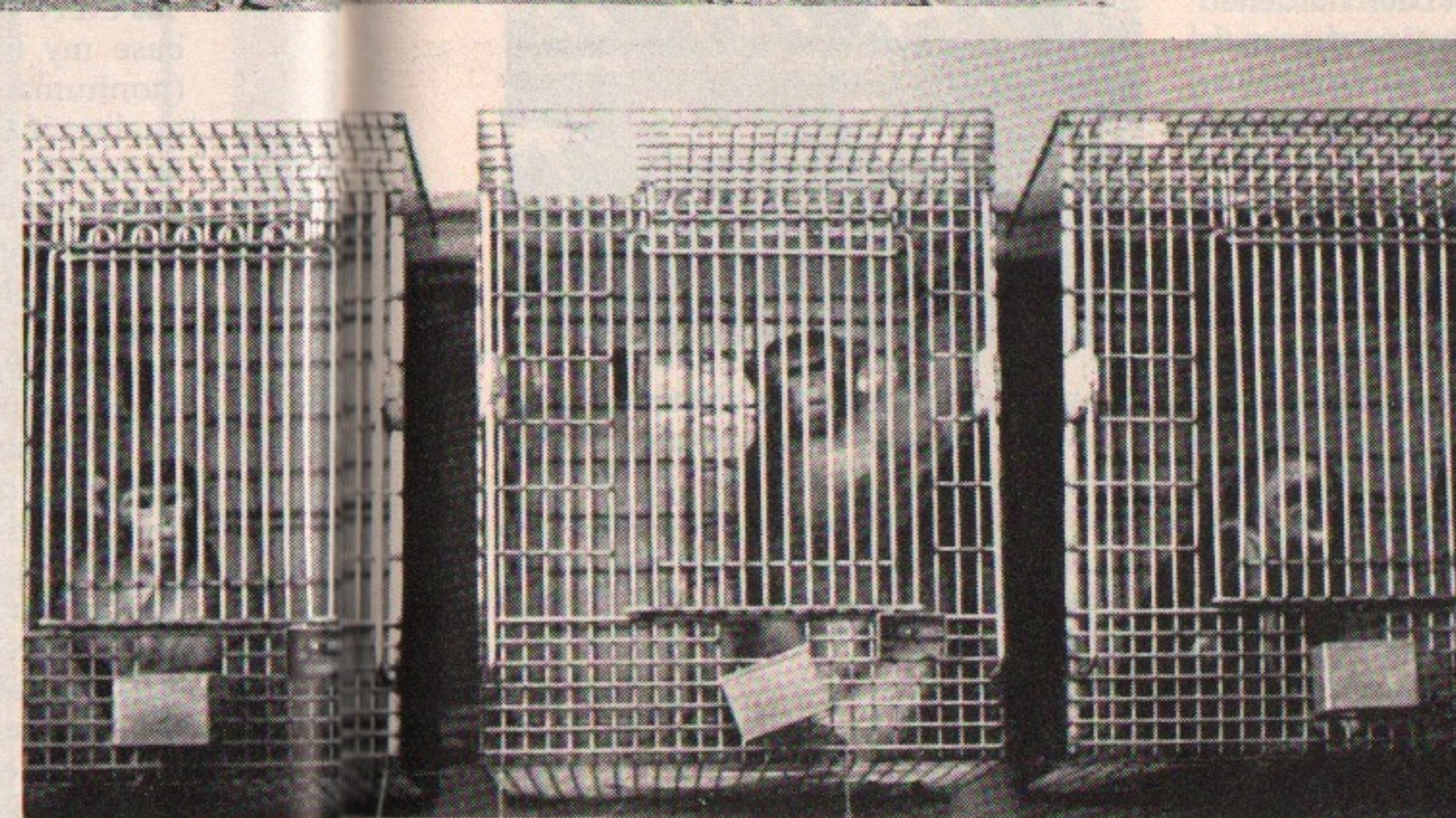
Under such conditions, nonhuman primates cannot express normal patterns of physiology or behavior. Indeed, behavioral biologists would predict that subjecting primates to these conditions produces multifarious aberrations in both physiology and behavior. A critical conclusion emerges from this argument that must be addressed by both the scientific community and society: *valid biomedical research cannot be conducted on primates or other social species in existing laboratory environments.*

The NIH *Guide* states that good biomedical research must



# The Stress of Captivity

BY MICHAEL E. PEREIRA, Ph.D.



A six-acre compound for baboons (top); primates housed in groups engage in natural social behavior (bottom left); Primates caged alone in typical laboratory housing (bottom right).

Caged primates can render unreliable research results.

consider the effects of environmental factors on the well-being and biological responses of the subject animals. The *Guide* also warns, however, that proper management includes genetic and environmental control to minimize variations in the animals' responses to experimental stimuli. Unfortunately, this principle has traditionally been interpreted to mean that extensive inbreeding and minimal, sterile, isolated housing conditions will minimize any variance in physiology and behavior among research subjects. The presumption concerning inbreeding and variability is, in many cases, demonstrably false: phenotypic variance in laboratory rodents, for example, often increases with degree of inbreeding. Variability in the physiology and behavior of social mammals probably also increases as does the artificial nature of their captive environments. Just as inbreeding destroys much genetically-controlled developmental homeostasis, so must maintenance of intrinsically gregarious animals in exceedingly small cages—which precludes essential interactions and experiences—lead to the development of a multitude of idiosyncratic physiological and behavioral response patterns.

A vast literature documents the diverse effects housing style and group composition can have on the physiological functioning of laboratory animals. Over the past 30 to 40 years,

research has related changes or differences in captive social environments to differences in the development of animals' brains, musculoskeletal anatomy, nervous and endocrine systems, immunological systems, general behavior, and reproductive performance. The most astounding feature of the available literature reviews is the revelation that relationships between captive environments and physiological/behavioral functioning have been virtually ignored for primates, despite their status as the biomedical researcher's most valuable animal model.

In response to present concerns, an Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources (ILAR) committee recommended that "when appropriate, group housing should be considered for communal animals" (NIH *Guide*, 1985), but concluded that "there is little objective evidence for defining adequate care in relation to social environment. The data are limited and contradictory and lack sufficient substance to establish absolute recommendations." Other readers of the literature respond very differently to our current state of knowledge (and ignorance). Lack of uniformity in previous results concerning effects of housing on physiology and behavior detracts in no way from the import of that vast body of research. In fact, the biomedical procedures and features of contemporary laboratories that

destroy or thwart intrinsic and extrinsic homeostatic mechanisms in development should be expected to generate variation in research data, within and across species and strains. Additional variability is to be expected in results emerging from different laboratory environments and from species having naturally evolved vastly different types of sociality and ranging. The degenerative responses often produced in less social animals by chronic isolate caging indicate likely effects on species that naturally exhibit pronounced gregariousness and complex forms of social organization.

### Working for improvements doesn't require philosophical compromise

Though the animal rights advocate may argue the immorality or scientific validity of subjecting a primate or any other animal to experimentation as a "model" for the human species, the fact remains that animals are now being used for biomedical and behavioral research and an end to the practice is not presently in sight. Concern for the well-being of animals should be directed toward improving, as much as possible, the conditions under which they are forced to live. Working for improvements in their environment, as well as for improvement in any other area that affects their welfare, needn't be viewed as compromising one's philosophical position against the use of nonhuman beings for human purposes.

The well-being of animals used for research would be greatly improved by insistence on the establishment of housing conditions that resemble somewhat the subjects' natural physical and social environments. Whereas no form of captivity for primates can be said to be ideal or perfect, they are most likely to exhibit representative patterns of physiology and behavior when they are provided adequate amounts of space and appropriate social experience. Housing primate research subjects in social groups is not only necessary to obtain valid data, it is also practical. Outdoor housing for social groups of primates produces demonstrably healthier, less expensive, and much less idiosyncratic animals. Also, there are methods of housing primates economically in modest indoor social groups that would entail feasible transformation of almost any of the laboratory rooms whose walls are currently lined with rows of isolation cages. Many scientists who have worked with socially-housed groups of primates at research and breeding centers across the country have the expertise needed to advise laboratory personnel who wish to provide animals with a more natural environment.

Dr. Pereira is Assistant to the Director of the Duke University Primate Center (DUPC) in Durham, North Carolina. Because the DUPC is dedicated to the breeding and conservation of prosimian primates, all members of the primate colony are housed under naturalistic conditions. Many social groups are placed in large natural habitat enclosures to prepare them for reintroduction to protected natural ranges in Madagascar. With the completion of DUPC's newest forested enclosures, members of seven or more endangered species of lemur will be provided with more than 28 acres of forest in which to acquire skills in climbing and travel in trees, foraging, and predator avoidance. The welfare of individual colony members is given top priority while the most advanced research on the behavior and reproductive biology of endangered primate species is facilitated. It is expected that such research will ultimately promote future reintroduction efforts. Thus, both the husbandry and research done at DUPC is valuable for the primates involved. No research procedures more invasive than withdrawal of blood samples or occasional testicular biopsies have been allowed since the Center's inception in 1966. This article is part of a chapter Dr. Pereira is writing with colleagues for an upcoming book on establishing humane and valid environments for laboratory and zoo primates.



# When a Picture is Truly Worth a Thousand Words

## Animal Films for Humane Education

By Dallas Pratt  
Argus Archives, New York,  
1986 288 pages; \$8.95 paperback  
(Order directly from Argus: 228 E. 49th Street, New York, NY 10017)

We quote from one of the reviews included in this volume:

"This film (The Perils of Priscilla), follows Priscilla, a Siamese cat, through some harrowing experiences . . . The scenes begin in her home with the family preparing to leave. They depart and Priscilla, looking for food, becomes lost in the city where she endures numerous terrors before being captured and placed in an animal shelter . . . The film is open-ended, leaving the conclusion up to the viewer.

"The idea of filming from Priscilla's vantage point is imaginative. However, there is a major conceptual flaw in the film, that of expecting children to learn responsibility through "owning" animals, rather than emphasizing that a child should already have shown a sense of responsibility before being given a pet. The film lends itself admirably to a discussion of human-animal relationships. The open-ended conclusion allows each viewer to finish the film, and a discussion of these various endings can be interesting and profitable . . ."

The new edition of *Animal Films for Humane Education* is a valuable educational guide, containing descriptions and ratings of 136 films and videotapes. Some films, like *The Perils of Priscilla*, described above, are not specifically concerned with animal rights issues. Others, like *Unnecessary Fuss*, are landmark documentations of animal abuse that have provided invaluable testimony to the seriousness and urgency of the movement.

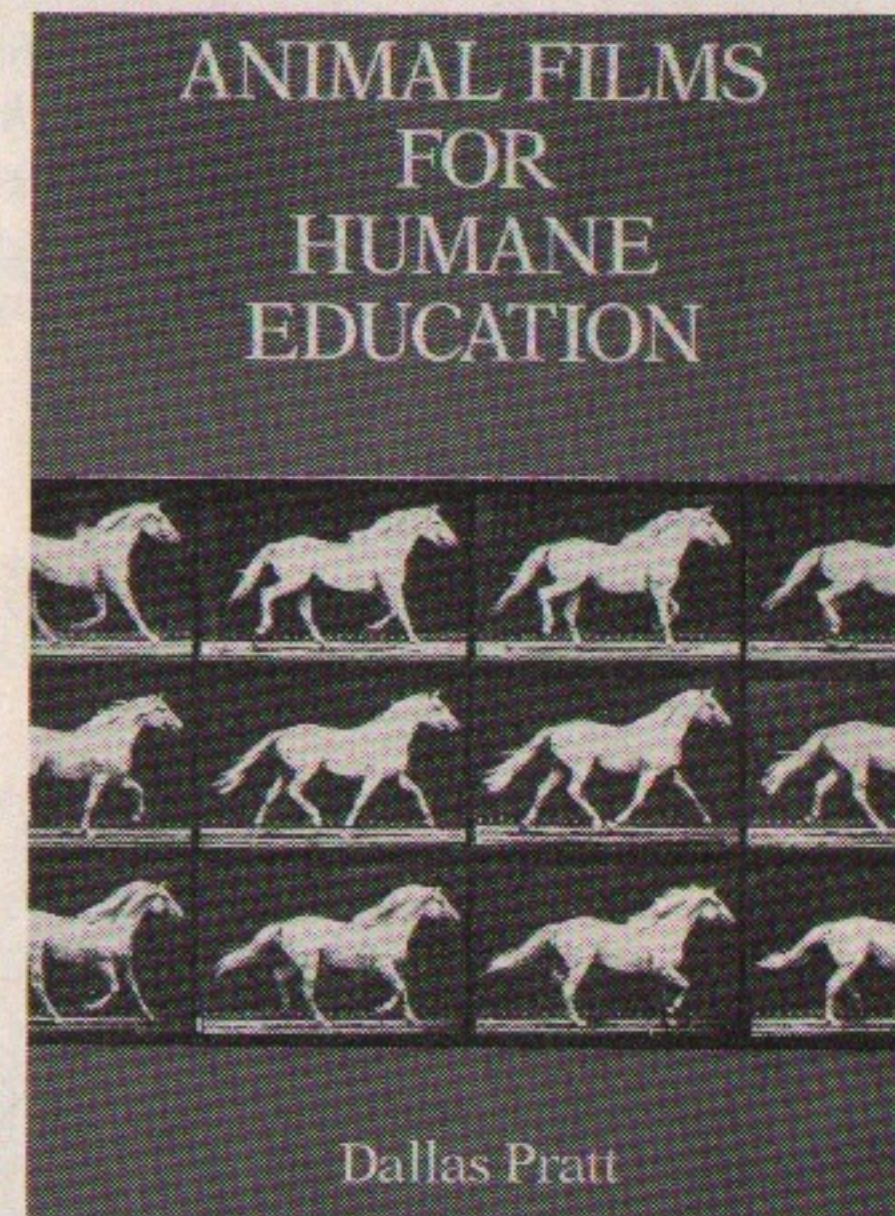
This comprehensive guide covers many facets of the animal rights movement. Its films are divided into 14 headings: attitudes towards animals, fights, food and commercial uses, hunting, performing animals, pets, research and testing, riding, service animals, transportation, trapping, veterinary medicine, wildlife and zoos. For each film, the manual provides a description, an opinion, audience ratings for value in humane education and technical quality, and suggestions for discussion material with which to extend the film's concerns into other areas.

Many of the films are specifically aimed

towards elementary school children. Children, of course, relate strongly to animals, and have not yet been hardened to society's routine exploitation of animals that so many adults have come to view as inevitable. But one should be able to find appropriate films for any audience here.

Films provide an excellent outreach tool for the movement. Many people can be reached with each viewing, and there is potential for any number of creative concepts that convey messages effectively. Graphic visual depictions of animal abuse are hard to ignore or rationalize. Unreceptive viewers have fewer shields at their disposal.

This manual is an invaluable asset for activists who wish to make greater use of



films in their outreach efforts and for anyone interested in humane education films.

—Liza Baron

Ms. Baron is with the Physicians' Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM), based in Washington, D.C.

## Food for the Spirit

### Vegetarianism & the World Religions

By Steven Rosen, with a preface by Isaac Bashevis Singer  
Bala Books, 1987 (268 West 23rd Street, New York, NY 10011)  
\$6.95 paper; \$9.95 cloth; add \$1.50 for postage.

This book is a chorus, a song. Every religion teaches love, kindness, non-violence, mercy, justice, tolerance, compassion. How can we reconcile the problems of meat-eating with our religious teachings? How does your religion, if you profess any, look at the slaughter of live animals for food? And what do other religions say?

This book will answer these questions—and more. It is a concise survey of Christian, Jewish, Islamic, Buddhist and Hindu thought on these topics containing both ancient and modern ideas. The author shows that these teachings have often been misunderstood

and misinterpreted by religious followers.

Schooled in a number of different religions, Mr. Rosen is an experienced writer and vegetarian of 15 years, and this nicely organized, lucid book shows off his skills clearly. Each religion is covered by a chapter of about ten pages, and a few other chapters on specific topics are included, too. One covers the "Golden Rule", as taught by Christianity ("Do unto others as you would have others do unto you"), Judaism ("What is hateful to you, do not to your fellowman"), Buddhism ("Hurt not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful"), the early Vedic scriptures ("Do naught unto others

# A Dog By Any Other Name

## My Dog Tulip

By J.R. Ackerley  
Poseidon Press, New York, 1987;  
160 pages; \$7.95 paper.

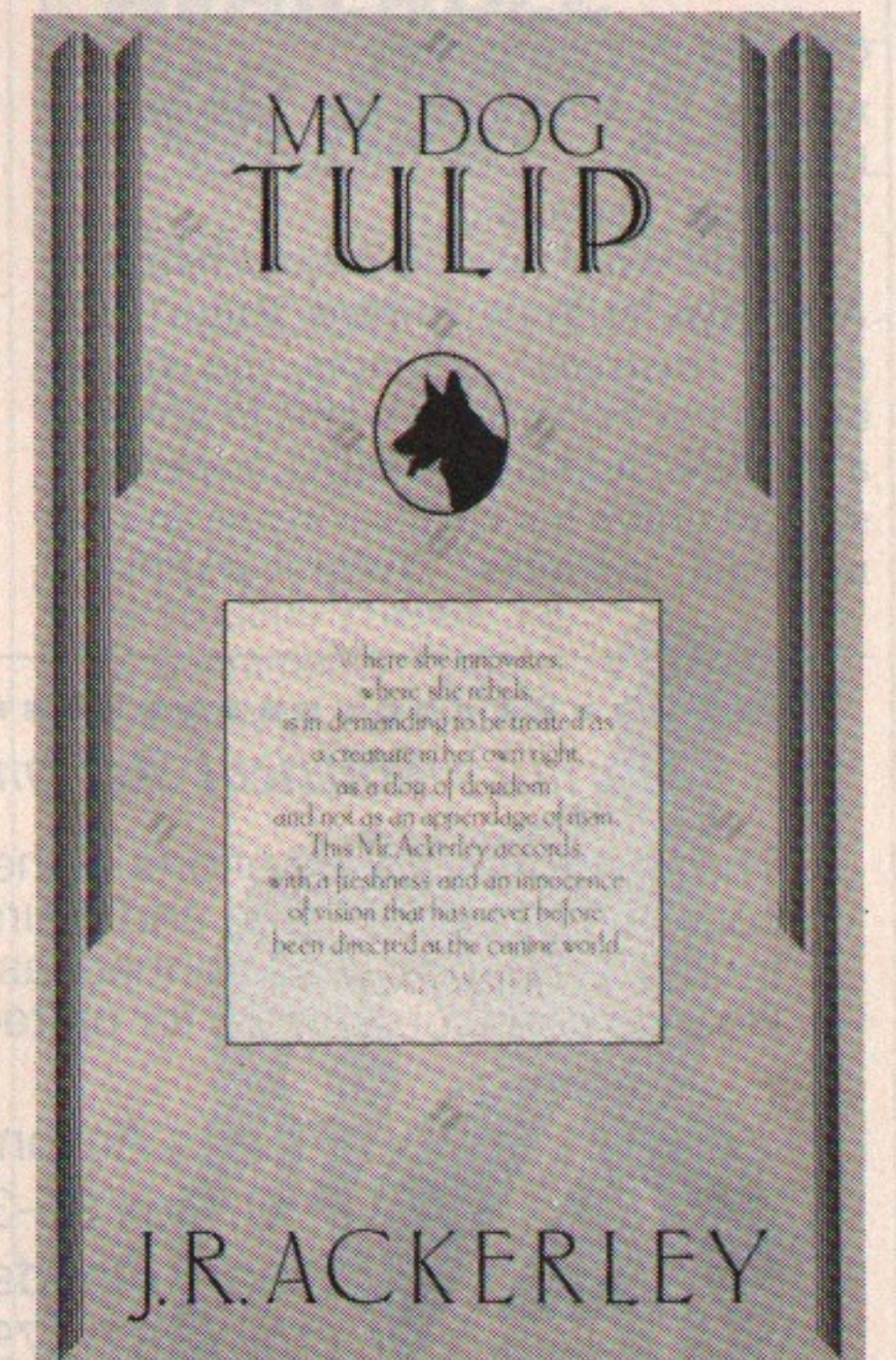
In 1956, E.M. Forster said that J.R. Ackerley's *My Dog Tulip* was an account of a dog "treated as a creature in her own right and not as an appendage of man." Now that the book has been reissued in paperback, a lot more people will be singing its praises. One recent critic has called it a "love story." But I think it is more than that. In his attempt to show us Tulip's point of view—not his own—Ackerley has done what anthropologists would have said was impossible: he has written an ethnography of dog culture. Ackerley describes—as best he can—the sociocultural habits, rituals, language, and opinions of Tulip and her acquaintances.

Tulip is a female German Shepherd with whom Ackerley shares his life and home for 15 years. That he loves her deeply is evidenced by his descriptions of her physical beauty:

She is a gray dog wearing a sable tunic. Her gray is the gray of birch bark; her sable tunic is of the texture of satin and clasps her long body like a saddle-cloth. No tailor could have shaped it more elegantly.

But it is even more deeply illustrated by his constant attempts to look deeper than her surface beauty—to her feelings, her preferences, her inner life. Ackerley accords Tulip's opinions on day-to-day events the same weight as his own. "She too has her feelings," he often says, "and now that I have put the human point of view it is proper to attend to hers . . ." And the fact that he does so with superb wit and grace makes the book all the more delightful and readable.

But *My Dog Tulip* is above all, funny. There is a chapter called "Liquids and Solids", a title which will need no explanation for most people living with companion animals. In this chapter,

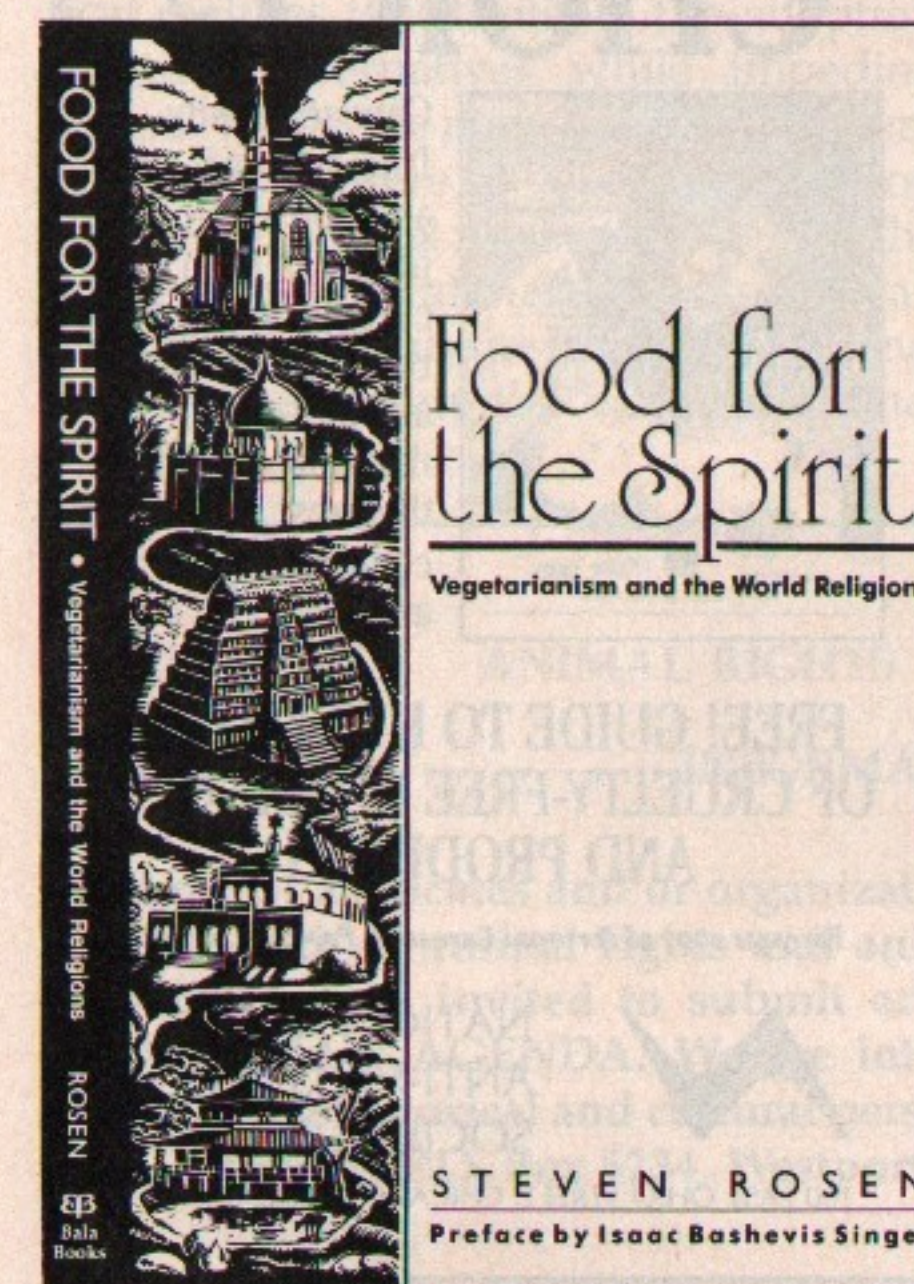


Ackerley begins by discussing Tulip's particular eliminatory habits but soon bounds off into a full-fledged discussion of urination as "dog language":

She has two kinds of urination, Necessity and Social. Different stances are usually, though not invariably, adopted for each . . . For social urination, which is mostly preceded by the act of smelling, she seldom squats, but balances on one hind leg . . . The reason for this seems obvious; she is watering some special thing and wishes to avoid touching it . . . The expression on her face is business-like, as though she were signing a check . . . She attends socially to a wide range of objects (some of which) affect her so deeply that urination appears to be an inadequate expression of her feelings . . . I came to the conclusion that she was endorsing these delectable things with her signature, much as we underline a book we are reading . . . There came a day when we were walking in Wimbledon woods and she suddenly added my urine, which I had been obliged to void, to the other privileged objects of her social attention. How touched I was! How honored I felt! . . . I feel a proper dog.

The book's storyline does not nearly encompass the 15-year relationship of Ackerley and Tulip. Neither does it provide many insights into Ackerley's professional life (he was the literary editor of BBC's *The Listener* for almost 25 years and the friend of such giants of literature as Christopher Isherwood and W.H. Auden.) What the book does discuss vividly and at length is Tulip's life: her

Continued on next page



which would cause you pain if done to you"), and, of all things, even Newton's Third Law of Motion ("For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.") The latter is strongly evocative of the Eastern law of Karma!

The volume also offers short quotes from various religious scriptures and sages, and from great thinkers such as Einstein, Pythagoras, Da Vinci, Shaw, the Dalai Lama, and Erich Fromm. A brief opening chapter gives some background on modern scientific vegetarianism, the protein myth, world hunger, how meat-eating undermines health, and how our body structure differs from that of true meat-eating animals.

This book is a fascinating, easy-to-read, knowledgeable and thoroughly researched study. If you are interested in comparative religion and vegetarianism, I think you will get a lot from it.

—John Grauer



## REVIEWS

Continued from previous page

mating, her children, her games, her travels. The book describes what "dogness" feels like.

I could wish for one major change in Ackerley's attitude toward Tulip. After many frustrated attempts, he finally breeds her because he wants to give her a "full life", and enable her to "experience sex and utilize her creative organs and her maternal instincts." Tulip's puppies—

although he tries to place them in excellent homes—are eventually given to whomever will take them, and they experience a variety of fates (some good, some bad). So, one could wish that Ackerley had placed what he believed was Tulip's best interest within the larger context of animal overpopulation. One could also wish that he had not tried to impose a human idea of "best interest" on her life in the first place.

But, all in all, *My Dog Tulip* is eye-opening as well as amusing. Ackerley's insights, his wit, his delightful diction, all culminate in a work of love, truth, and commitment. Ackerley wonders about Tulip's life in particular and about dogs' lives in general with an almost metaphysical respect and delight. And he comes up with observations of rare sensitivity, such as this one:

... I realized clearly, perhaps for the first time, what strained and anxious lives dogs must lead, so emotionally involved in the world of men, whose affections they strive endlessly to secure, whose authority they are expected unquestionably to obey, and whose mind they never can do more than imperfectly comprehend. Stupidly loved, stupidly hated, acquired without thought, reared and ruled without understanding, passed on or "put to sleep" without care, did they, I wondered, these descendants of the creatures who, thousands of years ago in the primeval forests laid siege to the heart of man, took him under their protection, tried to tame him, and failed—did they suffer from headaches?

—Betsy Stuart

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## REVIEWS

## Weighing the Alternatives

### Alternatives to Animal Use in Research, Testing, and Education

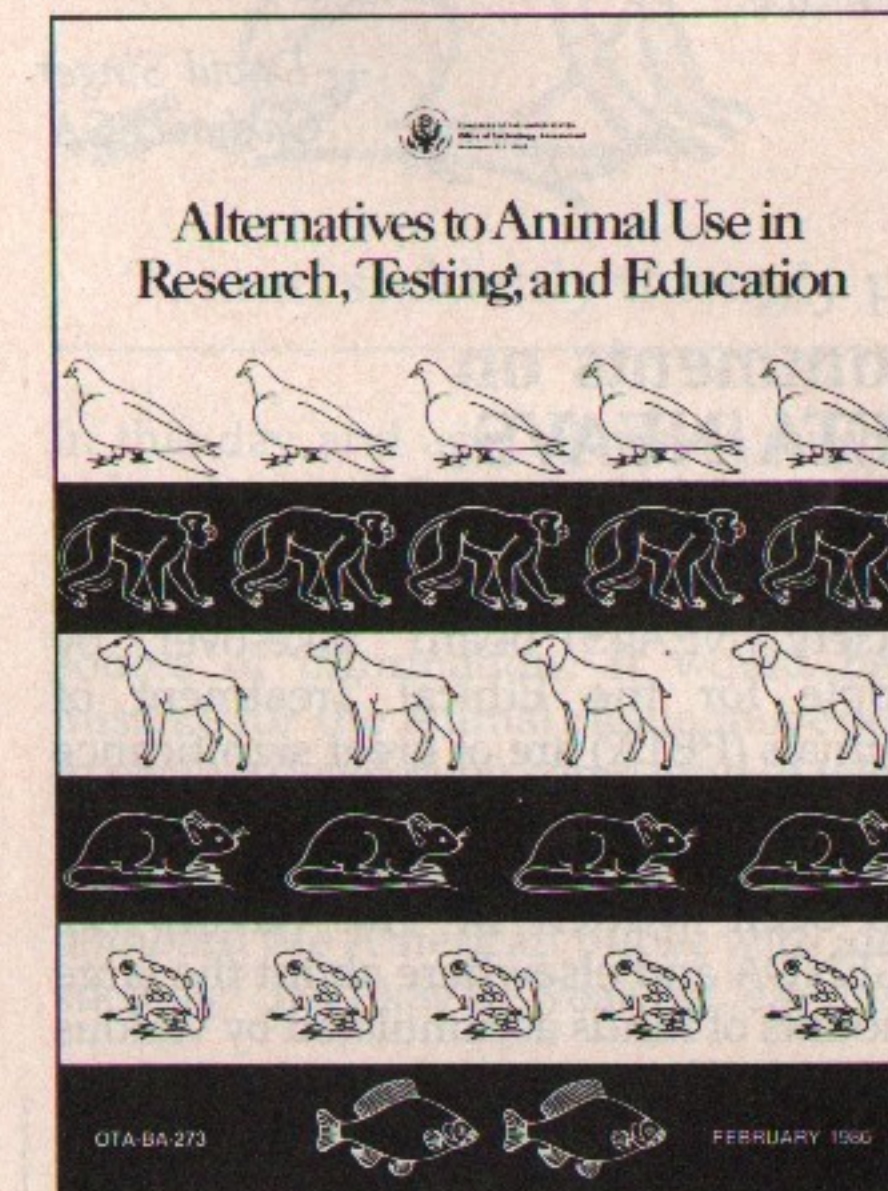
441 pages; Order OTA-BA-273; \$16.00

U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402

The Office of Technology Assessment (an agency of the U.S. Congress), comprehensively reviewed scientific, regulatory, economic, legal, and ethical issues involving alternatives to live animals in biomedical research, toxicity testing, and education. They solicited opinions from more than 600 individuals, who represented all viewpoints. The advisory panel included Connie Kagan, Andrew Rowan, and Henry Spira, who are all animal advocates.

The result of this thorough research is a relatively balanced analysis. This is most useful, because both the animal rights and the pro-vivisection groups tend to oversimplify the issues. Animal rights activists are not simply naive, well-intentioned animal lovers who do not understand the need for animal experimentation. Similarly, the prevalence of animal research does not simply reflect greed, ignorance, or sadism on the part of scientists.

The study evaluates the scientific strengths and weaknesses of alternatives to a wide range of animal use. Furthermore, it discusses the political and practical realities that facilitate the adoption of some alternatives while impeding others. While the main focus is on scientific issues, there is also a very good chapter on animal rights philosophy. The authors, in general, have tried to offer an even-handed analysis. However, I believe that they overstate the value of animal



models for product safety testing and for biomedical progress. The careful research of Brandon Reines and Martin L. Stephens has shown that the importance of animal research for many medical advances has been exaggerated. Still, despite its occasional flaws and inevitable biases, this detailed academic report is a valuable addition to the literature on the subject and should be in the library of every serious animal defender.

—Stephen R. Kaufman, M.D.

### ANIMAL RIGHTS IN THE THIRD WORLD INFORMATION WANTED

Animal advocates and/or organizations with in-depth knowledge of the current state of animal rights and animal treatment in Asia, Africa and Latin America are invited to submit articles, materials or feature ideas to The ANIMALS' AGENDA. We are interested in developing up-to-date reports stressing historical and cultural perspectives about these areas. Contact: Patrice Greanville, P.O. Box 5234, Westport, CT 06881; or call (203) 226-8826 EST.

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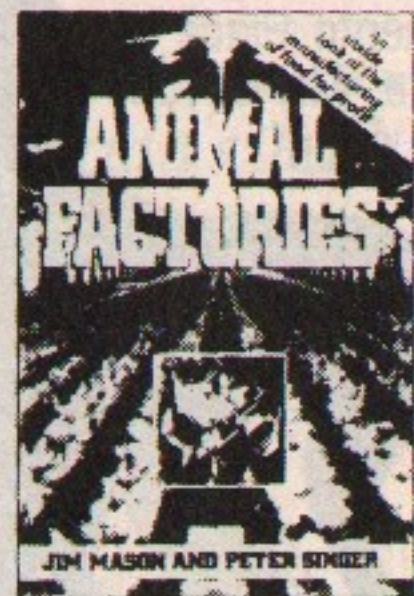


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## LETTERS

Continued from page 3

animal rights movement is when I read or hear of someone being so damned mechanistic about their opinions as to which creatures have more right to live than others.

Respect and reverence for the earth and all its life is a noble goal, and I have contempt for those arrogant humans (whether animal rights activists or not) who sit in their warm homes and make decisions regarding any of the planet's lifeforms.

—David Singer  
Oakland, CA

### Comments on PETA/NEAVS

The events surrounding and leading up to the New England Anti-Vivisection Society (NEAVS) board "take-over" by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) are of great significance to animal welfare and animal rights groups throughout North America. Much has been written in *The ANIMALS' AGENDA* and elsewhere about the large amounts of funds accumulated by various animal welfare groups around the country, and about the need to motivate these groups to use their funds in a more active and aggressive manner. The PETA-backed reshuffling of the NEAVS board of directors is perhaps the first time any organization with the financial resources of NEAVS has been "radicalized" to such an extent, with such a strong likelihood of a sharp change of direction in how those resources are to be used.

Given the justifiable interest (and concern) that these events have raised in many quarters of the animal rights community, it is gratifying that *The ANIMALS' AGENDA* has provided substantial coverage of both the events themselves and of some of the forces behind the events. The reaction of some of the groups involved (such as PETA), who claim that press coverage of disputes within the movement is damaging to the movement as a whole, is perhaps understandable, but cannot be well-defended—except out of self-interest. As animal rights issues move into larger arenas—such as network newscasts, the mainstream press, and legislative halls—the tendency towards centralization of power and establishment of an animal rights "elite" must be vigorously challenged. A free press and aggressive coverage of important issues can keep all

of us better informed, and ultimately strengthen the decentralization and democratization of the animal rights movement.

—John Shaw  
San Francisco, CA

As PETA volunteers and supporters, we are responding to the letter in the April 1987 issue that questions PETA's accountability to its supporters.

We have found PETA to be consistently responsive to its supporters, and creative and innovative in its approaches to bringing public attention to issues. PETA has been a prime mover in gaining public support for the animal rights movement, both in the U.S. and throughout the world.

Ingrid Newkirk is a great strategist. Her approaches often succeed when others fail. Thus, what the writers see as the "closed decision-making process at PETA," we see as strict quality control. When dealing with emotional issues, sloppiness can creep in—in the form of misinformation, exaggeration, hysteria, and rumor. Our experience of PETA's founders is that they have been consistently frugal. They maintain simple lifestyles and work tirelessly for the cause. We trust Ingrid Newkirk and Alex Pacheco. PETA has achieved tremendous gains for the animals without resorting to exploitation or unethical conduct.

The movement is progressing nicely, but the fight is still uphill. The vivisectionists, hunters, trappers, factory farmers, and all other exploiters of animals gain when we, who are supposed to be models of "humaneness," present an image of competitiveness and bickering in a public forum such as *The ANIMALS' AGENDA*. Let's take advantage of the current wave of support for a cause that a few short years ago had only relatively few beleaguered followers.

We salute you, PETA, and will continue supporting you to the best of our abilities.

—Sally Oesterling, Loretta Hirsch, Jean Goldenberg, Karen Davis, Allan Cate, Carol Watson, Frank Branchini, Denny Hartzell, Mike Handley, Olive Nash, Sherry Murphy, Esther Mechler, Francis Shipley, Charlie Stoller, Steve McCormick, Carolyn J. Michael, Jill Church

Along with several other ex-PETA staff members and ex-PETA volunteers, I attended the April 6th monthly meeting at PETA headquarters. We made the effort because the meeting agenda supposedly

included a discussion of the letter published in the April issue of *The ANIMALS' AGENDA* from former PETA staffers and volunteers.

To make a long (and sad) story short, we were booed, hissed, and told that we had no right to discuss this matter openly at such a meeting. A year ago when we were the core of the PETA staff, we could do no wrong in the eyes of these same individuals. Now we were treated as outcasts, with no right to question the actions of Ingrid Newkirk or Alex Pacheco. That night could have been very lucrative for me if I were the business type, for I could have sold many blindfolds.

Beyond the Gillette and NEAVS cases, we had other questions. For example, what is PETA doing sitting on millions of dollars and not having a fur campaign, not promoting the Great American Meat-Out, humane education, or a vegetarian campaign? They seem to have turned into a single-issue fund-raising organization with no action planned or anticipated. We brought up the fact that the circus and a cosmetics convention were coming to the area. Organizing protests for both of those events was laid in our laps, and not one of PETA's staff or any of their "supporters" present at the meeting attended either demonstration. As rich as they now are, PETA asked their volunteers to spend their time collecting aluminum cans to raise money to put a public service announcement on television.

Being involved with PETA has sent my emotions through the gamut over the years—from feelings of privilege, trust, and pride to the present feelings of frustration, skepticism, and embarrassment for being involved with those who argue that the ends justify the means only if those means are sanctioned by PETA.

—Chas Chiodo  
Bethesda, MD

### Pro-Animal Airwaves

I thoroughly concur with the point of view expressed in the April letter captioned "A Pitch for Pro-Animal TV Ads". The animal rights movement has broadened its base of support in recent years, but most states have yet to outlaw the steel-jaw leghold trap, the fur industry continues to profit, and scientists persist in performing cruel and unnecessary experimentation.

These realities are disheartening, but should not be surprising. Major social change is never achieved until large segments of the population are familiar with a cause and sympathetic to its ideas.

## LETTERS



"...and suddenly the ugly prince turned into a beautiful frog."

In this day and age, television must be utilized to raise the consciousness of the American public. For a significant portion of the population, television is the only source of information. It would be a mistake for the animal rights movement to neglect developing some kind of television marketing strategy.

At present, television is being used to bombard the American public with ideas such as: "It's okay to wear fur, eat meat,

and use animal-tested cosmetics." Alternative pro-animal messages must be communicated through the airwaves for enlightenment and education.

—Jacqueline Lefkowitz  
New York, NY

One reason we see few commercials or public service messages in support of animals is that so many of the major

Continued on next page

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## LETTERS

*Continued from previous page*

television advertisers are involved—in one way or another—with practices that exploit animals. Television stations and networks simply do not wish to risk offending their major advertisers who might pull their commercials off the air in retaliation. Those fears, however, may be exaggerated as television is simply too important for advertisers to stay away indefinitely. One solution might be for the various groups supporting animals to pool their resources and buy their own TV and radio stations. If they draw on their many experiences and their wide knowledge, they could have some first-rate programs.

—C.C. Courington, M.D.  
Virginia Beach, VA

**Editor's Note:** A new enterprise, *The Voice of Nature Network, Inc. (VNN)*, was recently begun for the exclusive purpose of getting pro-animal, "deep ecology" messages and programs aired on television. For more information, write to VNN at P.O. Box 68, Westport, CT 06881.

### Spay/Neuter Operations Not Luxury Surgery

Thank you for your timely attention to the need for spaying and neutering dogs and cats. Unfortunately, one item that was not addressed is the exorbitantly high cost of this surgery, and the feeling on the part of many veterinarians that it is "luxury" surgery. That attitude contributes to the misery and suffering of millions of unwanted companion animals born each year, only to die by the needle or something much worse.

Our small, all-volunteer organization provides a low-cost, subsidized spay/neuter program in our area (population one million). While there are over 50 veterinarians, only four clinics have

elected to assist our program. Grassroots organizations can make a difference, but the financial drain and volume of work are staggering.

Your article will help educate the public, but we must educate the veterinary community also. Spay/neuter surgery is a critical necessity, and it must be available at low cost to everyone. Using the excuse "people could afford to pay more if they wanted to" means that the animals will be made to suffer litter after litter because their "owners" either can't or won't pay the cost of the surgery. Only with a low-cost spay/neuter program in every community can the crisis of pet overpopulation be solved.

—Connie C. Wallaert  
Tidewater Humane  
P. O. Box 3584  
Norfolk, VA 23514

### Grassroots Groups Need Expertise More Than Funds

Recently it was noted in your publication that there was a need for funds to help the grassroots organizations around the country, because it is very important to the movement that they flourish.

I do not disagree that they could use more money, but it has been my experience from having been involved in several local groups that they are even more in need of help in organizing and successfully running an organization.

There should be representatives from the large national organizations who could respond to the needs of small groups or individuals who want to start one up in their town. In my state, there are towns that have no animal control or humane societies, even though there are usually several individuals in each place who would like to initiate such programs, but need help.

—Ruth S. Burns  
Great Falls, MT

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

**Editor's Note:** Some help can be obtained by contacting *The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)*, 2100 L Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037, 202/452-1100. HSUS can provide information on starting an animal shelter, and can refer you to its regional director for your area. Most animal rights groups have been started by one or two energetic and motivated people who just start by working locally on some issue. Their activity generates attention which brings others into the fold.

# WHAT'S ENTERTAINMENT?



Each year, countless animals are involved in the business of entertaining people, through television, movies and traveling exhibitions. Many of these animals are well treated, thanks in part to the vigilance of watchdog humane groups such as the American Humane Association.

In some cases, entertainment actually does animals some good. "Project X," a recent movie about animal research, is bringing the plight of animals in laboratories to the attention of millions of people.

Sometimes, though, animals are manipulated, abused, or even killed in order to provide people with ever more believable or dazzling spectacles. And behind the scenes training methods can involve deprivation and physical punishment. Questions have even been raised about what may have taken place out of public view during the filming of "Project X."

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is working on ways to alleviate the animal suffering connected with entertainment. Our expose of the unicorn scandal in 1985 brought into focus the issue of animal manipulation for human pleasure. We have drafted and are now seeking sponsors for legislation to prohibit the injuring or killing of animals used in films. We are also seeking to amend the federal Animal Welfare Act to state more clearly that farm animals used for exhibition purposes are also protected by the Act.

If you'd like to help us stop the abuses of animals in entertainment, please contact:

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## Dr. Grant

*Continued from page 6*

more refined until you soon lose track of the big picture. When fellow psychologists would ask about my research and I would begin to explain, their eyes would soon glaze over. There were very few people who understood what I was doing or who could effectively evaluate the value of my research. I don't believe that I was unique in this. The terminology and the methodology got so complex that it was really a separate language that had been developed. In fact, you could identify across the country the five or six researchers who were doing similar research by their jargon alone. They were the sole judge of the merits of that research, and when you applied for grants you wrote to them and you had to use the appropriate jargon and buzzwords in your writing.

**What do you feel you achieved in your research endeavors?**

As a result of eight to ten years of laboratory research I can honestly say that there was no proof of anything of more than trivial significance. I know that my colleagues will not be very happy to hear that.

In the *New York Times*, May, 1985 an article on torturers stated, "The preconditions that can lead someone to becoming a torturer include a frequently held ideology that defines the believer as a

guardian of social good, an attitude of unquestionable obedience to authority, and the open or tacit support by his peers." Can the word "researcher" be substituted here for the word "torturer" with any validity?

More or less, yes. I can remember people opening letters announcing grant awards very excitedly as if they had won the Academy Award. This was a special mark—it was not just the money, but a special form of recognition. There is that kind of clique feelings among researchers. They're not aware of it but their defense mechanisms would allow them to reject such an analysis. Anyone who tries to make them aware of this would be rejected as a "bleeding heart," "emotional type" or "animal lover."

**Psychologist Robert Lifton has described a process called "doubling" whereby people can go about their business inflicting pain on another entity and then, in other areas of their life, be totally normal by societal standards. Are you aware of this "doubling" mechanism in researchers?**

No doubt about it. As a matter of fact, we had a pet dog in the laboratory who was a stray that we used to care for. At the same time, this laboratory was doing research on dogs. There was a dichotomy between this stray pet and the animals in the laboratory. The animals in the laboratory were "things," objects to us, whereas we thought of the pet as having a personality.

**Do researchers kill the animals themselves at the end of an experiment?**

No, that is something that the re-

searchers wouldn't do or see done, including myself. Normally, we would finish and go home for the night and a lab maintenance person would carry out the "sacrificing" and the carting away of dead animals. When I began to phase out animal research in my laboratory, I dismissed the lab assistants and told my students that they would have to "sacrifice" the animals themselves. That brought it to a more personal level for them and it slowed down the pace of research.

**Who is in charge in the laboratory?**

Well, it's very rare that the principal investigator steps into the laboratory. The objective is to move up to a level where you sit in your office and devise these experiments and then hand them down from on high to your battery of trusted graduate students who actually perform the experiments.

**Dr. Grant, given that both torturers and researchers inflict pain on conscious living entities for what they believe to be the "greater good," do you see researchers as being different from the average person?**

I don't think so. Of course, there are sadistic researchers and sadistic torturers but on the whole I think that they are products of conditioning types of episodes. The average person can, through conditioning, be converted into something resembling a robot as far as making ethical choices is concerned. Stanley Milgram of Yale did research which showed that average people would administer severe electro-shocks to strangers if given permission to do so in

the name of science by a "white-coated" authority figure. This is also what happens in a research laboratory.


**You've seen the film of head injury research that was done on baboons at Genarelli's laboratory at the University of Pennsylvania. What conclusions did you draw from watching the behavior of the researchers such as their making fun of the animals, their joking, and the general party-like atmosphere in the lab?**

This lab was considered one of the best in the country. The clowning around that you see the researchers doing is quite common in laboratories, and is common among torturers. I contend that this is a defense mechanism which protects against awareness of what is actually going on. For instance, there is a comment by one of the researchers that the anti-vivisectionists would love to get the film, indicating that awareness is always lurking just beneath the surface. Humor and hiding behind highly intellectualized jargon are just two of the defense mechanisms that I believe people use to protect themselves from having to confront any real emotions about the situation. There is an awareness that something is morally out of place. This pretty much goes on in all laboratories. If the principal investigator were present, there might be an air of more formality, but again, it's rare for them to be in the lab. In any other circumstance, the people seen in the film would probably be shocked and horrified at such behavior.

**What can be done about this conditioning?**

We have to look at the younger researchers, not as objects of contempt, but with an eye to educating and warning them about the issue of vivisection. I wish now that someone had made me aware that animals suffer in the laboratory and that we should think about this. I daresay that a number of people who became involved in animal research would have drawn the line at that point and backed off.

**To sum up, what motivates the researcher? Is it money, peer acceptability, altruism, career advancement, or a combination of all of these?**

In the academic world your publications constitute the entree to a variety of options ranging from becoming president of a university, location of your office, how much travel money you receive and so on. Basically, this atmosphere fosters grantmanship. There's an aspect of research that revolves around obtaining money. Certain research is fashionable and there is grant-chasing. The attempt to create fashionable, exciting research to attract publicity is all too prevalent. 

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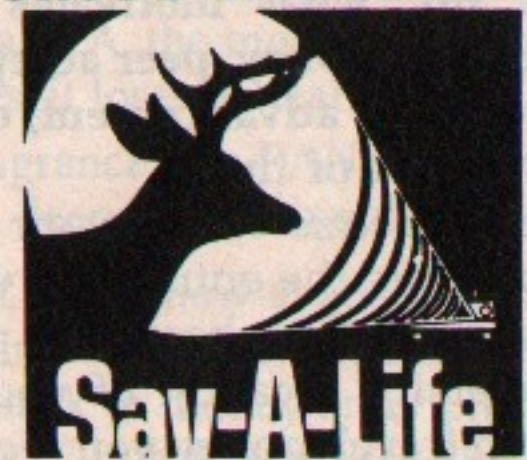
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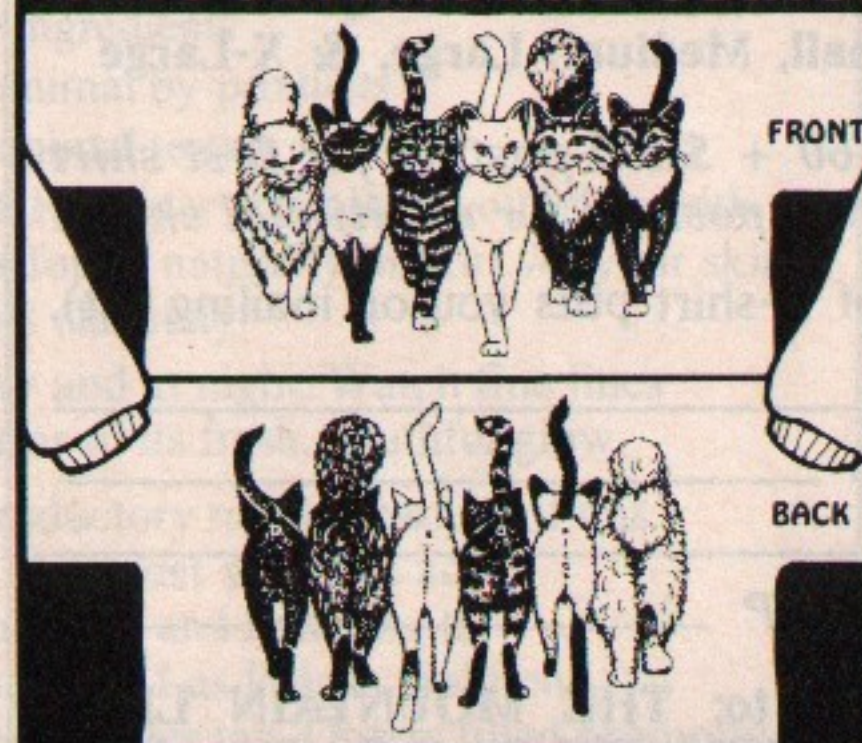
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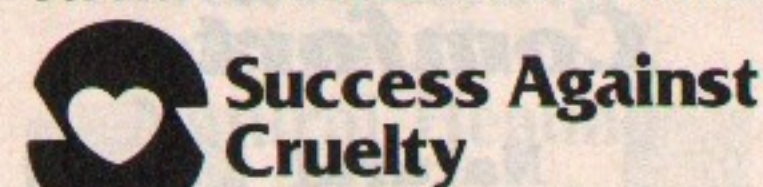
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