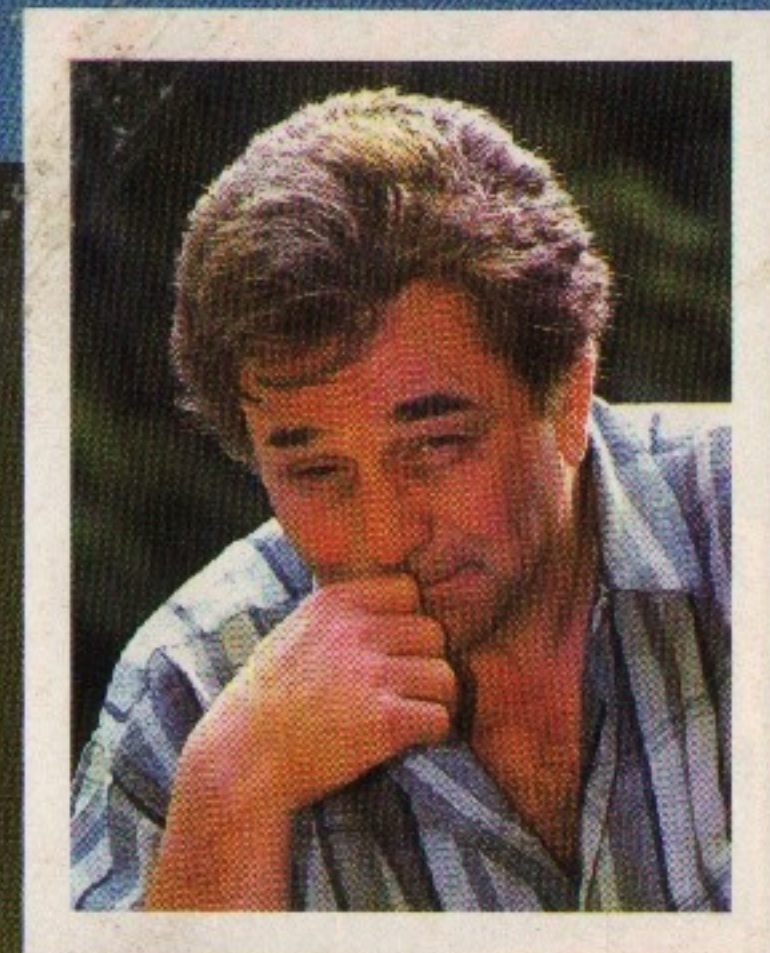


COLUMBO GOES CRUELTY FREE

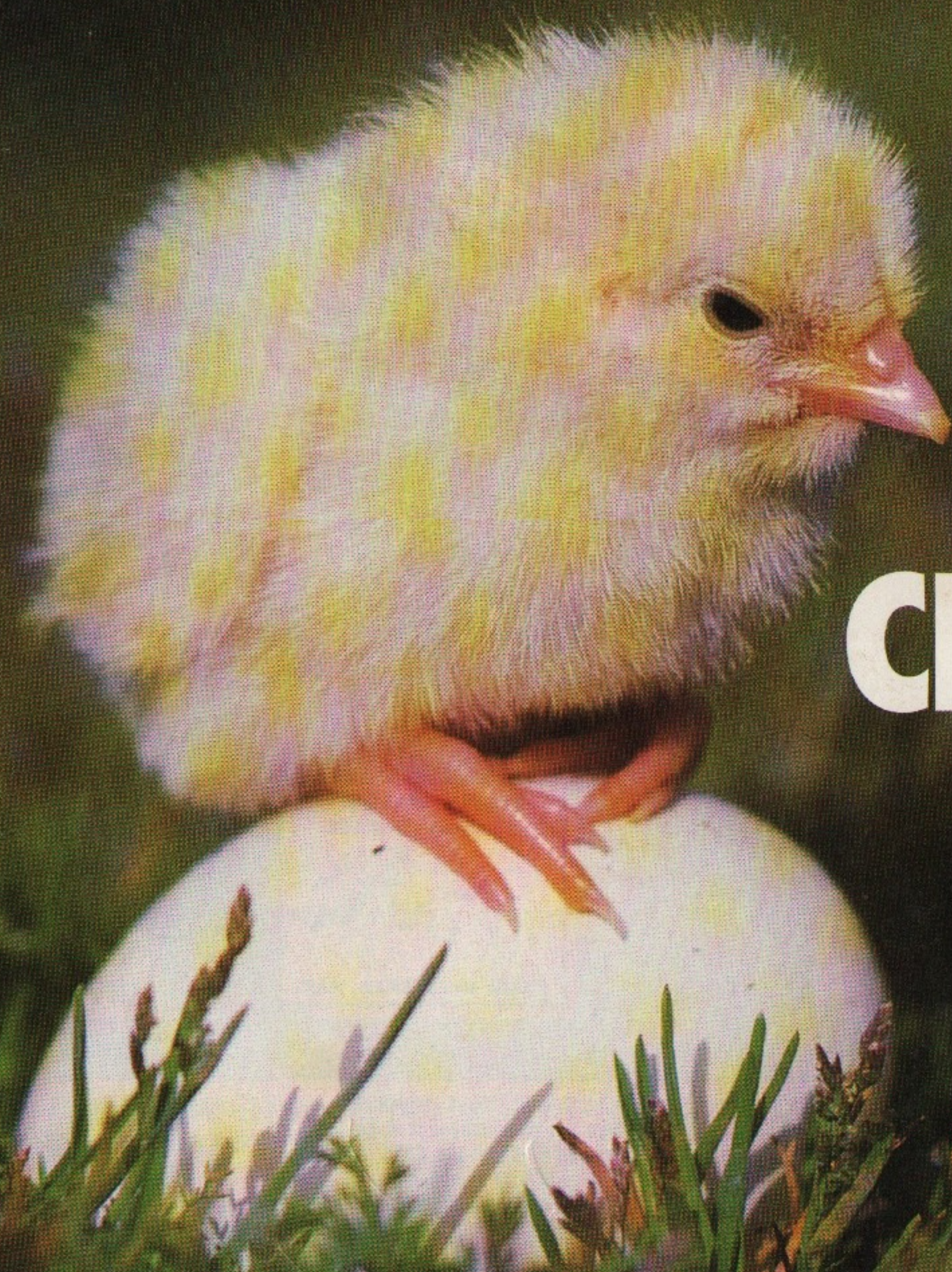
The ANIMALS' AGENDA

THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE OF ANIMAL RIGHTS & ECOLOGY • JUNE 1989



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THE ANIMALS' AGENDA

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of Animal Rights & Ecology

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

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PAGE TWO

Making Interspecies Magic

A chicken is an "ordinary" bird. They're bred by the billions for human consumption. To most people, a chicken is either white meat or dark—or possibly what eggs come from.

Too common a breed to interest ornithologists, the chicken need not look to the Audubon Society for protection, or to so-called bird lovers for sympathy. Countless times I've noticed this sad irony. My own random survey has revealed a 50 percent chance that a grocery shopper buying a ten-pound sack of wild birdseed will also have a package of chicken meat in his or her cart. Why, my own mother once stated that she didn't like cats because they kill birds—this spoken while she was sitting at the dinner table with a plate of roasted chicken before her!

In "Brave New Chicken," John Robbins gives us a peek at what we may be missing when we look at the chicken with prejudiced eyes—eyes that see only stereotypical stupidity and cowardice, and fail to see what remarkable creatures chickens really are.

What makes a chicken a chicken? What makes a human human? It's impossible to sum up the nature of any animal in a word or two, since there's no one characteristic that renders any species unique. Rather, it's a set of qualities that makes one lifeform not quite like any other. Or perhaps it may be simply a refinement of traits shared by many species.

John suggests that an appreciation of other animals will give us a better understanding of ourselves. At the very least, discovering the differences and similarities between the species may help us achieve a more accurate definition of what it really means to be human—a definition that might go beyond verbal language abilities and tool use, into the realm of cosmic mystery.

A sad announcement

The animals' cause has lost some of its most committed supporters lately. In the last few months, a number of activists have been taken from us by death. Here at The ANIMALS' AGENDA we're mourning the loss of a very special person: Ronnie Bamberger. Ronnie was a member of our board of directors, an office volunteer, a financial benefactor, and a loving friend. She died suddenly in March, at the age of 68, when an aneurysm burst in her heart.



Ronnie was a supporter of many other organizations, too. Those groups headquartered in Connecticut—Friends of Animals, Focus on Animals, etc.—were privileged to have known her personally. She was an inspiration to all and a source of enthusiasm, compassion, and good cheer. We will always miss Ronnie. We know that she—like all the other activists who have recently departed this life—can never be replaced. We are left to pay tribute in the only way possible: by memorializing them through our work for the animals.

Help spread the word

Subscription flyers and camera-ready ads are always available to those who'd like to help increase the magazine's circulation. Order them by writing to us at 456 Monroe Turnpike, Monroe, CT 06468. We'll send as many flyers as you can use, but do distribute them discriminately. We ask that they not be placed on car windshields or in public areas where they may be viewed as litter.

A note of appreciation

A thank-you is due the New England Anti-Vivisection Society (NEAVS) for a generous grant in support of our efforts to create awareness about animal experimentation, and to the Elinor Patterson Baker Trust Fund for a grant to be used for general operating purposes.

—The Editor

Remembering Fay Brisk

Fay Brisk, who died on January 13th (see *Network Notes*, "Obituaries," May 1989), made an incalculable difference in the lives of countless animals—past, present, and future.

In the early 1960s in Washington, we worked together, trying to end the frustrating deadlock over laboratory animal protection bills on Capitol Hill. She furnished me—at the time a newspaper correspondent—with horrifying descriptions of conditions within Pennsylvania dog dealer compounds. The legislative deadlock was broken in 1965 when she tracked down a specific stolen dog to a specific laboratory. This led to the first version of the Animal Welfare Act, which has been amended and strengthened several times since then.

Until her unexpected death, she was trying to improve the Act and motivate its enforcers. Fay was not merely seeking "better jail conditions" for animals, but ways to empty those jails forever. She left part of her estate for development of alternatives.

On her own in the early 1970s, she established a volunteer animalport at Washington's National Airport. Her Congressional testimony about the thirsty, sick, dying, and dead animals arriving there from puppy mills helped to strengthen Federal regulations for animal transport.

Fay was committed, brainy, and politically savvy. In the words of Albert Schweitzer, she was a "companion in the struggle."

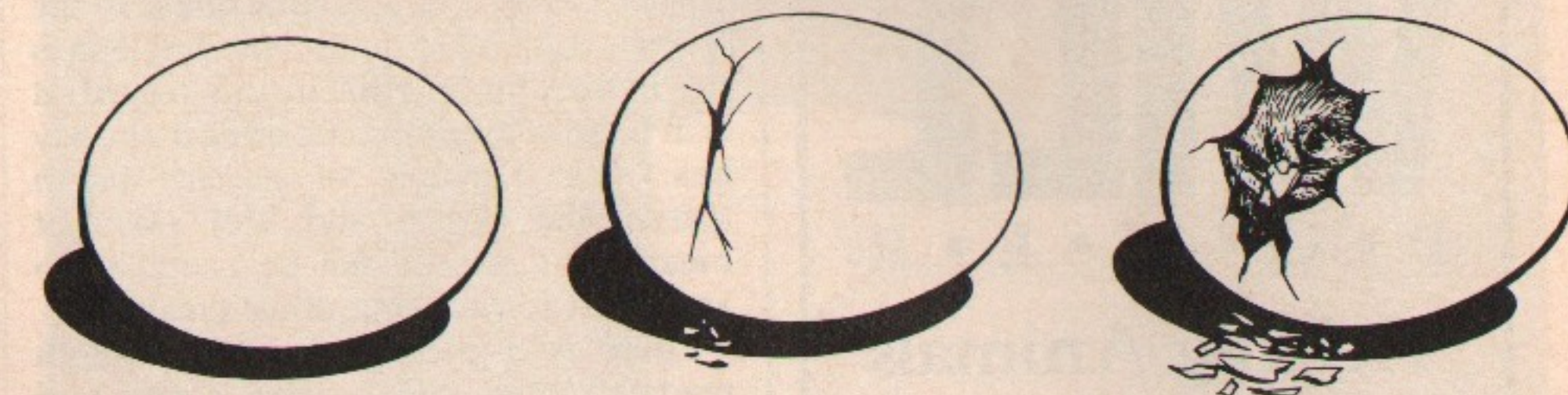
—Ann Cottrell Free
Washington, DC

Editor's Note: Fay Brisk and Ann Free both received the Albert Schweitzer Medal from the Animal Welfare Institute for their work in protecting laboratory animals.

New Zealand Has Opossums

In the April *Dateline: International* report about Canada fighting the European Parliament proposal to label leghold-trapped furs, it was noted that a Montreal furrier held a half-price sale on "New Zealand Opossum," better known as kangaroo. I am sure this was an error, as there are bush-tailed opossums inhabiting the native bush of New Zealand.

My daughters and I recently returned from living in a remote village on the South Island of New Zealand for a year. One night, one of the men in the village



came to our door. He had shot, for sport, a female opossum, and discovered a baby in her pouch. He brought the baby to us, thinking we would be interested in raising him. We did raise the tiny opossum, whom we named Beeblebrox, to a full-grown adult male. We loved him dearly and felt he had a bond with us, coming into our beds at night and curling his beautiful prehensile tail around an arm and licking our faces. We started leaving a window open at night so that he could come and go as he pleased. Eventually, he made his home back in the bush not far from our house. In the evening, we would sometimes walk down to a grove of trees and call him, and he would appear on a limb above our heads and wait for us to leave him his favorite treat: apple slices.

It is very unfortunate that the opossum is viewed as a pest by the farmers and ranchers. They look nothing like the American opossum, having instead thick, luxurious fur. There is a large fur trapping company in New Zealand which traps these shy, gentle creatures or sets out poisoned bait to kill them for their pelts, which are sold to companies in the U.S. and elsewhere. Last winter, the Spiegel catalog contained an opossum coat, with the notation that the country of origin of the fur was New Zealand.

—Darla G. Deen
Seattle, WA

Purpose of Guns is to Kill

The gun lobbyists have a very simple and true slogan: "Guns don't kill, people do." It's odd, however, that their brains cannot seem to finish that thought: "Therefore, keep guns out of the hands of people."

Illegal drugs by themselves don't harm anyone either, but society has taken the responsibility to outlaw the possession of harmful drugs because it knows that harmful drugs plus irresponsible people equal a harmed society. When will society

realize that the purpose of guns is to kill? Must we put up with the possibility of being shot or having our wives raped at gunpoint just so a relatively few people can engage in target practice or slaughter what little wildlife we have left?

Considering the many things most of us have given up for the well-being of animals, it's curious that some in the movement would cling so tenaciously to these instruments of death. If it's for protection, they'd better think again: many guns kept "for protection" end up killing the very ones they were meant to protect.

—Steve McRoberts
St. Paul, MN

Group Processes Can Help

I loved John Robbins' article on group dynamics, appreciation, and healing ("Reach Out and Touch Someone," April 1989). I can think of no way more powerful for the animal rights movement to enhance its strength and cohesiveness than by developing clear and gentle group processes. We'd all benefit tremendously from more of such articles.

—Ian Shapiro
Syracuse, NY

Wrongs Don't Add Up to Right

The arguments surrounding the use of dogs by the Israeli Defense Forces (*Dateline: International*, March 1989) underscore all arguments used in defending the misuse of animals. Vivisectionists justify vivisection because animals are slaughtered for meat, and butchers justify what they do because hunters hunt, etc. Animal abuse is a vicious circle, because there is so much of it, but in no other sphere of action do we justify abuse because abuse exists elsewhere. We would not tolerate a criminal justifying

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For the cause that lacks assistance,
The wrong that needs resistance
For the future in the distance
And the good that I can do.

—George Linnaeus Banks
What I Live For

WILL

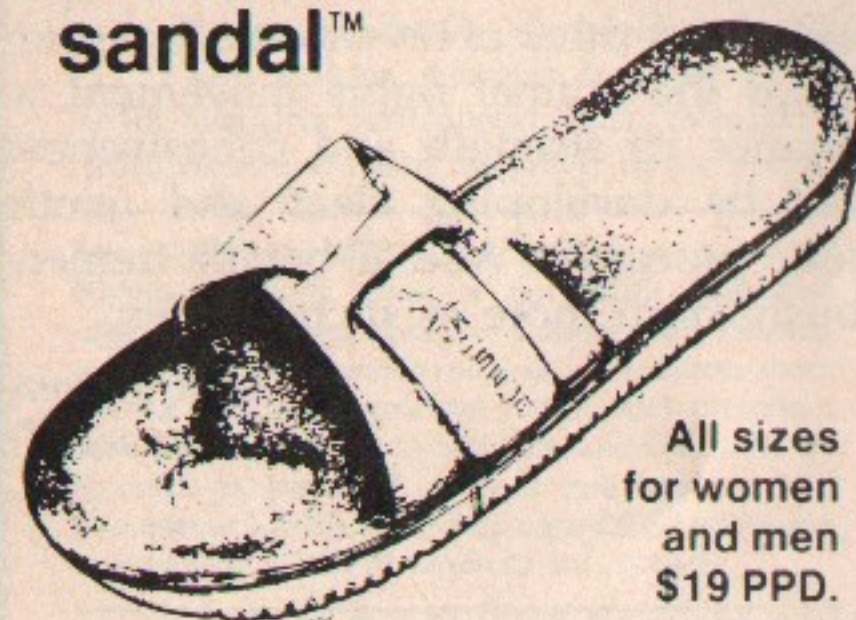
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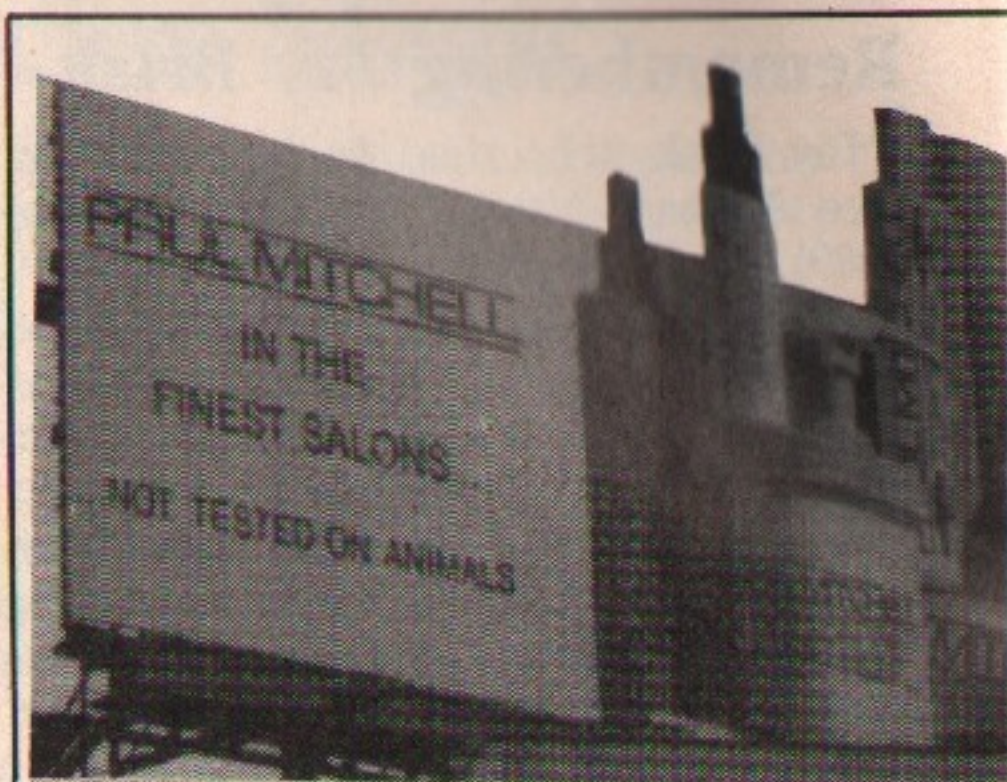
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LETTERS



Proud that his products aren't tested on animals, Paul Mitchell noted that fact on a Hollywood billboard placed opposite the site of the Academy Awards.

Continued from previous page

theft because others murder, or a child abuser justifying his actions by someone else's child abuse.

The laws regarding animal abuse in the Jewish religion are quite clear. Judaism is not in need of an ethic in this regard; it is in need of applying the ethic it already has. The principle of *pikuach nefesh* (preserving health and life) was not meant, and should not be used, as an argument for abusing other creatures.

There is a passage in Torah which reads: "When you besiege a city and make war against it, you shall not destroy the trees by wielding an ax against them; you shall not cut them down. Are the trees of the field human that they should be besieged by you?" (Deut. 20:19-20) Should we not ask the same about dogs?

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

Needs Vegan Guitar Straps

I am a musician who chooses not to use leather products but who has been unable to find a suitable substitute for leather guitar straps. So, in order to stand up against cruelty, I must sit down to make music, and a lot more is lost than just mobility. There must be other vegetarian or vegan guitarists who have faced the same predicament, and I would appreciate receiving any suggestions that would get me back on my feet again.

—Edward McLeod
Route 3, Box 1014
Murray, KY 42071

Favors Ferrets

In response to what is apparently The ANIMALS' AGENDA's ongoing "warnings" against pet ferret ownership, I can unequivocally state that with proper breeding, training, health and nutrition, ferrets make excellent companion animals in many situations. A broad generality such as appeared in your March 1989 issue (*News Shorts*) does a disservice to your readers.

The case referred to in Florida was not confirmed as involving a pet ferret. Unethical pet wholesalers have been selling "fur quality" animals into the pet resale channels for years, and it is highly possible that the animal who "bit a six-month-old baby over 100 times" was a fur

quality fitch, an animal who appears much like a pet ferret but has the disposition of a wild animal. The other incident referred to never occurred in Maryland.

Our organization sponsors Ferret Expo, the largest pet ferret show held in the U.S. We will not tolerate slander against a pet who has been domesticated longer than the house cat, who coexists serenely with many other domestic animals, and who has helped mankind so much by providing the medical research industry with data.

—Chip Galls, President
Montgomery Ferret Club
#5 Honey Brook Circle
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Editor's Note: We are opposed to the breeding and selling of any animals by the pet trade, and we do not believe that wild or exotic animals can find fulfillment in the role of companion animal. There are always exceptional circumstances, of course, and situations in which wild animals are dependent on human care. When animals need our help, it is proper for us to bring them into our homes or otherwise care for them. When they do not need human assistance, we have no right to hold them captive.

In the case of dogs and cats, these species have lost their place in the natural world, and are rarely capable of surviving at all without human intervention. Tragically, there are not homes enough for them, and friendly, lovable animals are destroyed by the ton every day in pounds throughout much of the world. Though the animal rights movement has not yet reached consensus on the morality of pet keeping in general, it is surely wrong to intentionally breed more animals as long as there's a surplus.

Good Books for Kids

As a teacher and animal rights activist, I try to provide my students with non-exploitative, animal-oriented books. It was with interest that I read "Animals, Kids, and Books: Violence Against Animals" (*Reviews*, March 1989).

I preview all books before I let the students read them, and I recently came upon two books that are distinctly pro-animal and anti-hunting: *A Fabulous Creature*, by Zilpha Keatley Snyder (Dell, 1981); and *Incident at Hawk's Hill*, by Allan W. Eckert (Bantam Starfire, 1971). The first book portrays a boy as he discovers girls and his own identity. He has several important decisions to make, especially pertaining to hunting. The second book is about a boy lost on the prairie who is adopted by a female badger. This story also portrays hunting and trapping in a bad light.

—Terry Tunkel
Cranford, NJ

The Wild Horse Pogrom

The obliteration of wild horse and burro populations from America's public lands has been carefully engineered, both politically and bureaucratically. In about a third of their 300-plus legal herd areas, these animals have been entirely eliminated through various excuses, including the use of government agents to request their removal on behalf of Indians, or simply through clandestine operations.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has allowed Appropriate Management Levels (AMLs) to be set by committees in each public lands grazing district—committees that are dominated by local public lands livestock grazers. Most of the AMLs are ridiculously low (numbers below 50 for vast acreages are common) and will lead to inbreeding in about 90 percent of the horse populations if they are left isolated.

As in 1988, the House of Representatives Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands has just approved a whopping sum—this time \$12,314,000—for the removal of 8,700 wild equids from the public range. The U.S. Senate must now approve.

Like Native Americans and buffaloes before them, the wild horse and burro are being systematically exterminated. Soon, there will remain only a remnant of their population in isolated areas. Only about 30,000 will be left on the public lands, equivalent in grazing pressure to the livestock of only several ranchers. There

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LETTERS

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are about 30,000 public lands livestock operators nationwide, approximately one for each wild equid who will remain on public lands. The number of 30,000 is relative to an ever-growing herd of cattle and sheep, now around 12 million—about 125 to one in terms of grazing pressure.

Over two million wild equids roamed the West a century ago. But massive slaughter and roundup, often under the most brutal conditions, led to these animals reaching a low of about 30,000 by the late 1960s, just before the Wild Horse Act was passed. Until the early 1980s, an overall population of about 65,000 had stabilized with adopt-a-horse roundups of about 6,000 annually. Then the current policy of clearance began with government-approved roundups funded by Congress and spurred on by a vendetta of the public lands livestock industry, which resented encroachment of the public interest on its accustomed monopolization of the public lands.

ANIMALS' AGENDA readers should write to their Senators and Representatives, asking them to stop any further reduction of wild horse populations.

—Craig C. Downer, M.S.
Minden, NV

Eulogy to Lucki

The recent passing of Lucki, the venerable Asian elephant at the San Diego Zoo, prompted a reflection on her life and death. Her needs were few; we gave her less.

At the age of four, she was shipped to the San Diego Zoo from a zoo in India. In captivity, she had chronic infection in her foot pads, with nails distorted and overgrown. Elephants in the wild normally walk 18 to 25 miles a day, but we gave her an area only 100 by 200 feet. A surgically removed tooth resulted in poor mastication, poor digestion, and weight loss. She had vaginal polyps and tumors, and some years ago sustained a severe injury to her trunk.

Every night of her life, she was chained by two legs and locked in a barn for at least 15 hours. In the wild, elephants sleep less than five hours a night. We know that during the hottest part of the day, elephants seek shade; but for Lucki, shade came only during the last six weeks of her life.

It is ironic that after she was euthanized to end her suffering, an unprecedented concession was made. For about an hour, her fellow elephants were allowed to

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PROFILES

Marian Probst

In the Shadow of the Curmudgeon



Marian Probst and Cleveland Amory of the Fund for Animals.

Early in Cleveland Amory's *The Cat Who Came for Christmas*, we encounter Marian Probst, whom Cleveland describes as his "long-time and longer-suffering assistant." But closely though we follow the text, we learn little about Ms. Probst and less about the tenure and vicissitudes of her assistantship. We are told that she works in the Fund for Animals' New York office, that she is "a hard woman on old jokes," and that she is "very bad at taking direct orders." We conclude that she is a person of tact, for when it is time for Cleveland to take his cat on his first trip to the vet, there's a carrier waiting in the hall closet—"which Marian, with her usual foresight, had surreptitiously brought in and placed... on an upper shelf." And we suspect that she is not without influence when Cleveland describes a men's haberdashery as one in which he occasionally buys a new suit, "when the spirit, or rather Marian, moves me." But we do not get more than a fragmentary sketch of this quietly influential woman, who has been with the Fund for Animals since its inception—and in Cleveland Amory's curmudgeonly employ for six years longer than that. What follows is an attempt to flesh out that sketch.

Marian Probst had just returned, in 1961, from doing freelance work in England for a year when a friend who was the general editor at *Saturday Review* called to say that Cleveland Amory was looking for an editorial assistant. Marian's response was unexuberant.

"Cleveland's book *Who Killed Society* was number two on the bestseller list," she recalls, "and I featured him as this short man with a mustache in a silk dressing gown. I thought the job would be terribly lah-de-dah and that I wouldn't fit in."

But she decided to call nonetheless, and Marian, who had graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in speech in 1957, agreed over the phone to go to work for one of the dandiest speechifiers of them all. Her duties included typing, copyediting, and proof-reading whatever columns, TV scripts, critical reviews, books, or magazine pieces Cleveland was working on. She also answered the telephone and conspired to keep her boss on schedule if not always in line. But her duties, she made it clear, would not include taking any lip.

"One of the first things I remember about Marian," says Cleveland, "is getting absolutely furious when she lost something right after she had come to work here. I said to her, 'Women are better at simple, repetitive tasks.' She whirled

around and said, 'Yes. Like listening to simple, repetitive jokes.' I've always thought that was the funniest goddamn thing."

Contrary to her silk-dressing-gown notions, by the time Marian went to work for Cleveland, he was more interested in reforming society, *vis-a-vis* its treatment of animals, than he was in describing it. Ultimately, he launched the Fund for Animals in 1967. Marian—in addition to continuing her journalistic duties, which Cleveland described as "being an editor at the source"—would become an invaluable adjunct to Cleveland's animal rights campaigns as well.

She was temperamentally suited for her new role. As a child growing up in Salem, Ohio, she had seen duck hunters returning from the field "with these beautiful, dead birds hanging upside down. I remember absolutely hating those people."

But for this, Marian's childhood was near idyllic. "Salem was one of those antebellum towns full of large houses with large porches and wonderful old trees. Walking home from the movies on Friday nights, you could listen to the Cleveland Indians' baseball game through the open windows because everybody had it on the radio. That's always been my

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"She's been a tremendous influence on the movement, but you don't see her because she doesn't require limelight."

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symbol of peace and harmony."

During the last two and a half decades, Marian Probst has seen the animal rights movement evolve from "a little-old-ladies-in-tennis-shoes concern" into a vigorous force that she believes "will become the movement of the '90s." She delights in this evolution and in the emergence of "young leaders who have brought the movement a whole generation ahead of its time," and she is proud of the Fund's success, particularly "where we have been able to stop or challenge a hunt." But she dismisses the notion that she has been anything more than a foot soldier in the crusades: "I am in no way a star or a leader or a speaker for the movement."

Wayne Pacelle, recently appointed executive director of the Fund, disagrees. "If you know the Fund intimately," says Wayne, "you know Marian, otherwise you don't; and that's an absolute injustice because Marian is such an integral part of the Fund. We've seen people step out and do dramatic things for animal rights



COMING SOON

◆ **WHEN OPUS THE PENGUIN WENT INTO A LABORATORY** to rescue his mother, he stirred up a storm of protest against the use of animals in product testing. How and why Pulitzer-prizewinning cartoonist Berke Breathed communicates his emerging animal rights views through *Bloom County* characters.

◆ **IT IS NOW KNOWN THAT FRAN TRUTT DID NOT ACT ALONE** when she placed a bomb in the parking lot of U.S. Surgical Corporation. USSC paid *agent provocateurs* to set her up. A brief review of recent history shows that undercover agents who advocate violence are quite common in movements for social change—so common that those who suggest violence as a tactic are worthy of suspicion.

◆ **THE FOCUS OF A.I.D.S. EFFORTS IS CHANGING** as more and more scientists suggest that cures or vaccines may not be forthcoming in the foreseeable future. Animal models have not led to the significant treatment advances that had been hoped for, and a shift in emphasis towards prevention is being recommended.

in this decade, but the Fund had already distinguished itself for being courageous back in the '70s. Marian played a large part in that. She's to be commended for her vision, her good judgment in helping to frame policy, her excellent writing skills, and her willingness to work behind the scenes to get things done. She's been a tremendous influence on the movement, but you don't see her because she doesn't require limelight."

That, adds Cleveland Amory, is because "Marian's the only person I know in this field who has absolutely no ego. That's what makes her fascinating. There's too goddamn much ego around. If people took everything down a notch, it would be very helpful. Marian's the symbol of that."

"There's frequently no weekend for her. People can't get me because I'm out playing chess in the park or just plain having a good time, and she's answering the phone, feeding cats in the office, working for strays, and doing things for everybody all day."

What little time she does have to herself Marian spends with her orange-tabby cat, Bronwyn. "She was found in the Bronx, along with these four little orange balls by another person in our office. We found homes for the four orange balls, and I took Bronwyn. She is the most wonderful cat—the most friendly, companionable, even-tempered, animal in the world. She is just pure light."

The same is often said about Marian Probst by those in the animal rights movement who know her.

—Phil Maggitti

Early this year in the first installment of a new mystery series, a wizened old familiar slouched his way across the TV screen in a furrowed raincoat that looked as if it had been worn hard and put away wet. After a dozen years out of pocket, Columbo was back, with shambling diffidence wrapped tightly around himself like a blanket, hands still signing a continual stream of stammers and non sequiturs in the air.

A few critics sniffed that Peter Falk was overplaying the role this time around, but as the old song goes, too much ain't enough for old five and dimers like me, and I figured the lieutenant was still finer than frog hair and twice as slick. Besides, the big news coming out of the *Columbo* reprise was a decision that Falk had made when signed on to do the series last year. Henceforward and from now on, said the star/co-executive-producer, the only cosmetics allowed on the set would be cruelty-free products that had not been tested on animals. What's more, there would be no fur coats tolerated on the show either.

Falk, whom John Cassavettes described as deep, gentle, and 2,000 years old, had made this decision after being alerted to the cruelty-free issue by his wife, actress Shera Danese.

"I thought product testing on animals was horrible when I heard about it," says Falk. "Why would anyone need to torture animals in order to produce makeup?"

Why, indeed. And why haven't other shows followed *Columbo's* example?

"I was surprised," says Falk, "that other shows hadn't taken similar steps. I hope the idea starts to spread. I think once people understand what's happening, they'll go along with it. I don't see any reason why they wouldn't."

Falk's reaction, says makeup artist Richard Dean, exemplifies an untapped, as-yet-unfocused source of pro-animal-rights sentiment in the entertainment world. "People in this industry are not necessarily informed about what goes on in testing commercial cosmetics," says Dean. "But when they do become aware of the nature of testing and the irrational activities it involves, they want to do something about it. As long as they're able to find alternative materials, they're not only willing to use them, but by and large they prefer to."

Dean, who worked on *Fatal Attraction*, *Desperately Seeking Susan*, and *Cotton Club*, among other films in his 12-year career, explains that there are three types of cosmetics: commercial products such as

PROFILES

Peter Falk ...And Mrs. Columbo, She'd Agree, Too



Peter Falk and wife, actress Shera Danese.

Revlon and Clinique that are sold in stores from K-Mart to Rodeo Drive; theatrical products such as those produced by William Tuttle and Joe Blasco that are used by professional actors; and natural cosmetics distributed mainly through health food stores.

The only kind of product always tested on animals is the commercial variety, says Dean. That's because large commercial "houses" have the greatest public vulnerability—i.e., the greatest chance of being sued if somebody breaks out in a rash. But even though theatrical makeup is largely cruelty-free to begin with, this does not mean it's the only kind used on a film lot or a TV set. In fact, there are some shows that use nothing but commercial products. And therein lies the significance of Peter Falk's edict.

"Peter is a very interesting and understanding person," says Dean. "I'm proud of him for taking the stand he did."

It's too soon to gauge the ultimate effect of Falk's decision, but the early returns—as they say in that other branch of the acting world, politics—are looking good. Mr. Falk's assistant, April Ray Nell,

who, with Richard Dean, was instrumental in supporting the *Columbo* ban, reports that other actors have either adopted or have expressed an interest in adopting cruelty-free cosmetics on their projects, too. And Jo Blasco, one of the film industry's foremost producers of cosmetics, applauded the cruelty-free edict in a letter to April Ray Nell: "The step you have taken in this regard is definitely the kind of action to which others must also commit. Hopefully your stance on this issue will become an incentive for others to also become more vocal on this matter."

That, says April, is the goal. Meanwhile, what would the old gumshoe have to say about this decision? Would he approve of cruelty-free cosmetics?

"Oh, absolutely," says his creator. —Phil Maggitti

For more information about the cruelty-free makeup and hair products used in the entertainment industry and on *Columbo*, contact ECO-HEART, 8033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 402, W. Hollywood, CA 90046.

NETWORK NOTES

New Groups

Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has started a chapter at East Carolina University. Contact Craig Spitz, Route 3, Box 202-C2, Greenville, NC 27858; (919) 830-1480. ♦ Stop Taking Our Pets is fighting pound seizure in San Diego County. Join them at Box 1032, Solana Beach, CA 92075.

Vet School Curriculum Project

The Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights has begun a Curriculum Modernization Project, to save some of the 17,000 animals killed each year at 27 vet schools. For details write Eric Dunayer, VMD, 22 Bradford Drive, Old Bridge, NJ 08857.

Another Dissection Lawsuit

The American Civil Liberties Union has asked New Jersey education commissioner Saul Cooperman to order the Woodstown-Pilesgrove school district to provide student Maggie McCool with an alternative to dissecting animals in class.

Vacations Helping Animals

Spend ten days with the Azores Benign Whale Research Project (\$2,600), or eight days studying dolphins off the Bahamas (\$1,090). For details, write the Cetacean Society International, Box 9145, Wethersfield, CT 06109.

Frat Pranks

Pressured to quit hazing humans, many fraternities and sororities still keep exotic mascots, give animals beer, and swallow goldfish. Alumni have the most influence in making them stop. The Progressive Animal Welfare Society is fighting fowl abuse in Delta Upsilon initiations. Complain to: Delta Upsilon National Headquarters, Box 40108, Indianapolis, IN 46240.

Protest Cruel Products

Protest the selling of furs and other animal-derived products on CVN, the Home Shopping Channel, at 1-800-422-2454.

EDITED BY MERRITT CLIFTON



Animal rights protest reached new heights in a display of opposition to a new lab planned at UC-Berkeley.

An Up-Scale Protest at Berkeley

Six protesters scaled a crane during a sit-in against construction of a University of California at Berkeley research lab, and remained aloft for days. At least 17 demonstrators were arrested. UC-Berkeley uses some 64,000 animals a year in experiments. The lab is opposed even by the Berkeley City Council, which recently joined in Defense of Animals and Berkeley Citizens for a Toxic Free Environment in suing to overturn the university's environmental impact report.

Prepare to March!

Activists have a year to get ready for a national march for animal rights planned for Sunday, June 10, 1990.



A nationwide gathering of activists is planned for June 10, 1990.

day, June 10, 1990, in Washington, D.C. The march will be led by Tom Regan and coordinated by the National Alliance for Animal Legislation. Details will be forthcoming, but mark your calendars now.

Coming Events

The Mid-Atlantic Regional Chapter of the Humane Society of the U.S. and the New Jersey State Dept. of Health will host a workshop June 7-9 on issues including rabies, Satanic cults, and pet shops. For details, call 201-927-5611. ♦ Farm Sanctuary will hold a 60-hour vigil outside the American Veal Association Annual Conference, at the Sheraton Hotel, Lancaster, Penn., June 12-14. To help, call 302-654-9026. ♦ The Red Acre Farm Hearing Dog Center is holding open house at Stow, Massachusetts, on June 4. For info, call 508-897-5370. ♦ The 29th Annual Vegetarian Convention will be held at Humboldt State University in Arcata, California, August 2-6. Get details from the American Vegan Society, 501 Old Harding Highway, Malaga, NJ 08328. ♦ Vegfest '89 will be held June 24-25 on the Mall in downtown Washington, D.C., across from the Washington monument. Call Vegetarian Events, (301) 493-2526, for details.

♦ The Scientists Center for Animal Welfare is sponsoring two one-day conferences in the Washington, D.C. area: "Canine Research Environment," June 22; and "Well-Being of

Nonhuman Primates," June 23. Registration fees are \$120. For information, contact SCAW, 4805 St. Elmo Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814; (301) 654-6390. ♦ The American Mustang and Burro Assn. has arranged for the proclamation of "National Wild Horse and Burro Week" June 10 to 18 in most states. To participate in events, contact AMBA at P.O. Box 216, Liberty Hill, TX 78642.

Cruelty-Free Symbol Contest

The Vegan Society has announced a competition for an international logo to identify products that are 100 percent free of animal ingredients and animal testing. As we go to press, the prize has not yet been chosen, but the winner will be announced at the 3rd Living Without Cruelty Exhibition in London, June 16 to 18. Send entries via airmail (45 cents per half-ounce from the U.S.) to: Logo Competition, The Vegan Society, 33-35 George Street, Oxford OX1 2AY, United Kingdom. The Society has also announced the establishment of a cruelty-free database to be launched in late 1989. It is designed to serve as the world's first comprehensive, rapid-access computerized information bank on cruelty-free products and services. Financial assistance for the project may be sent to the same address, payable to the "Cruelty-Free Database Appeal."

Letters Needed

The Society of St. Francis seeks letters of opposition to dog racing. Write the Board of Directors, Kenosha County Humane Society, 7811 60th Ave., Kenosha, WI 53142. Three different groups want to start dog tracks in Kenosha County. ♦ The Lab Animal Medicine Ethics Committee at the University of South Florida has approved an experiment by David Fitzpatrick that would use smooth muscle airway tissue from 150 dogs, even though such tissue is available from human cadavers via the National Disease Research Interchange. Protest to Dr. Francis Borkowski, President, University of South Florida, 4202 Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL 33620.



Unconfined pigs are happier pigs.

Fighting Big Pig Farms

Chased from Nebraska when voters passed an anti-corporate farming law last fall, Sand Livestock Systems seeks new places to set up confinement hog factories. The Michigan Humane Society (MHS) suggests stopping them with anti-pollution and zoning laws. MHS recommends that anti-factory farm activists join the Center for Rural Affairs, Box 405, Walthill, NB 68067; Americans for Safe Food, 1501 16th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036; and the Rocky Mountain Institute, 1739 Snowmass Creek Rd., Snowmass, CO 81654.

Stop Hunting in Texas Parks

The Fund for Animals' Texas office is circulating petitions asking Texas Parks & Wildlife to close state parks to hunting. Signatures of Texas residents are needed. For a copy of the petition, contact the Fund's South Central Regional Office, P.O. Box 770243, Houston, TX 77215; (713) 952-5024. Or send your anti-hunting comments directly to Charles Travis, Executive Director, Texas Parks & Wildlife, 4200 Smith School Rd., Austin, TX 78744.

Offerings

For a detailed brochure on *Raccoons And Your Home*, send a donation to the Toronto Humane Society, 11 River St., Toronto, Ontario M5A 4C2, Canada. ♦ The Education Department of the Marin Humane Society offers a variety of materials to grade school teachers. Write to 171 Bel Marin Keys Blvd., Novato, CA 94949. ♦ The Animal Liberation Network has a lending library of

videos on animal issues. Write Box 983, Hunt Valley, MD 21030, or call 301-666-9113. ♦ Write to the Consumer Information Center, Dept. 572V, Pueblo, CO 81009, for a free pamphlet on *Endangered Species*. ♦ For free info on America's only marsupial, write the Opossum Society of California, Box 3091, Orange, CA 92665-0091.

♦ *Animal Rights Forum* is a weekly cable TV program broadcast in over 40 U.S. and Canadian cities. Program tapes are available to activists. Titles available include "Increasing Abuse of Pigs," "Ritual Killing of Animals," and "Fur Crimes." For a catalog, write Animal Rights Information Service, Box 20672, Columbus Circle Station, NY 10023. ♦ The four-part, two-hour series *The Wonderful World of Whales, Dolphins, and Porpoises* is now being distributed by Focus on Animals, Box 150, Trumbull, CT 06611. ♦ *Grieving the Loss of Animals in Our Lives* is a 45-minute video available from the University of Minnesota Media Distribution, Box 734 Mayo, 420 Delaware St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455. ♦ Concern for Helping Animals in Israel offers a video on Israeli animal issues (in Hebrew or English) and a humane education kit based on Judaic teachings. Write to Box 3341, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Dog Stories

A bowhunter shot a friendly German shepherd in the head last fall at Milton, New York. The owner abandoned him, but the Saratoga County Animal Welfare League nursed him to health and found him a home. ♦ Grocery clerk Katherine West-



Native American pup.

ling of Milwaukee was fired for helping a lost dog on the job. When they found out, the store owners rehired her. ♦ The American Indian Dog Club preserves the American native dog breed. For information, write 17647 Orchard Lane, Prunedale, CA 93907.

Jewish Materials Needed

Dr. Richard Schwartz, author of *Judaism And Vegetarianism*, and Roberta Kalechofsky, founder of Jews for Animal Rights, seek material for a book on Judaism and animals. Write to Schwartz c/o College of Staten Island, 715 Ocean Terrace, Staten Island, NY 10301.

Meat-Out '89

Some 55 groups in 33 states joined the fourth annual Great American Meatout on March 20, a day of abstinence from meat-eating coordinated by Farm Animal Reform Movement (FARM). In the nation's capital, a meatless buffet luncheon was prepared for Members of Congress and their aides, and a "Lifestival" tent was set up on the National Mall.

Achievements

TORT-Group, "the organization for the protection of Nevada's resident tortoises," recently convinced the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners to adopt a regulation that "Prohibits the possession or collection of reptiles for commercial purposes." ♦ When Wayne Dog Foods closed its lab in Libertyville, Illinois, 16 dogs were given to a research animal dealer before word reached the West Suburban Humane Society. With help from seven other groups, the society then found homes for 22 other dogs.

Zoo Views

Backstage at the Zoo, a series described by its producer as a family program about saving endangered animals, is airing on the Disney Channel through August. May's segment is "Pandamonium"; for June it's "Zookeepers" (5th, 17th, 15th, 30th); "Save that Tiger" appears in July (9th, 14th, 22nd, 29th); and the series is completed in August with "Bears, Bears, Bears." Check your cable guide for exact times.

Summit Success

The 1989 Summit for the Animals, an annual gathering of national animal protection organizations, was held in San Francisco in March. Sixty groups were represented this year, more than ever before. Among other resolutions adopted was one "opposing violence to both human and nonhuman animals." Stated Belton Mouras, Summit founder and secretary general of United Animal Nations-USA, "The animal rights movement is a life-affirming movement in the tradition of Gandhi and King. Our purpose is clearly a peaceful one which denounces violence against animals—human or nonhuman."



Dr. Alex Hershaft of FARM explains the hazards of eating meat.

U.S./Canadian Humane Summit

Representatives of eight major U.S. and Canadian animal rights groups met recently in Montreal to map strategy and share information. On the agenda were the continuing seal hunt, the fur trade, ivory poaching, genetic engineering, and transboundary transport of animals.

Animal Rescuers

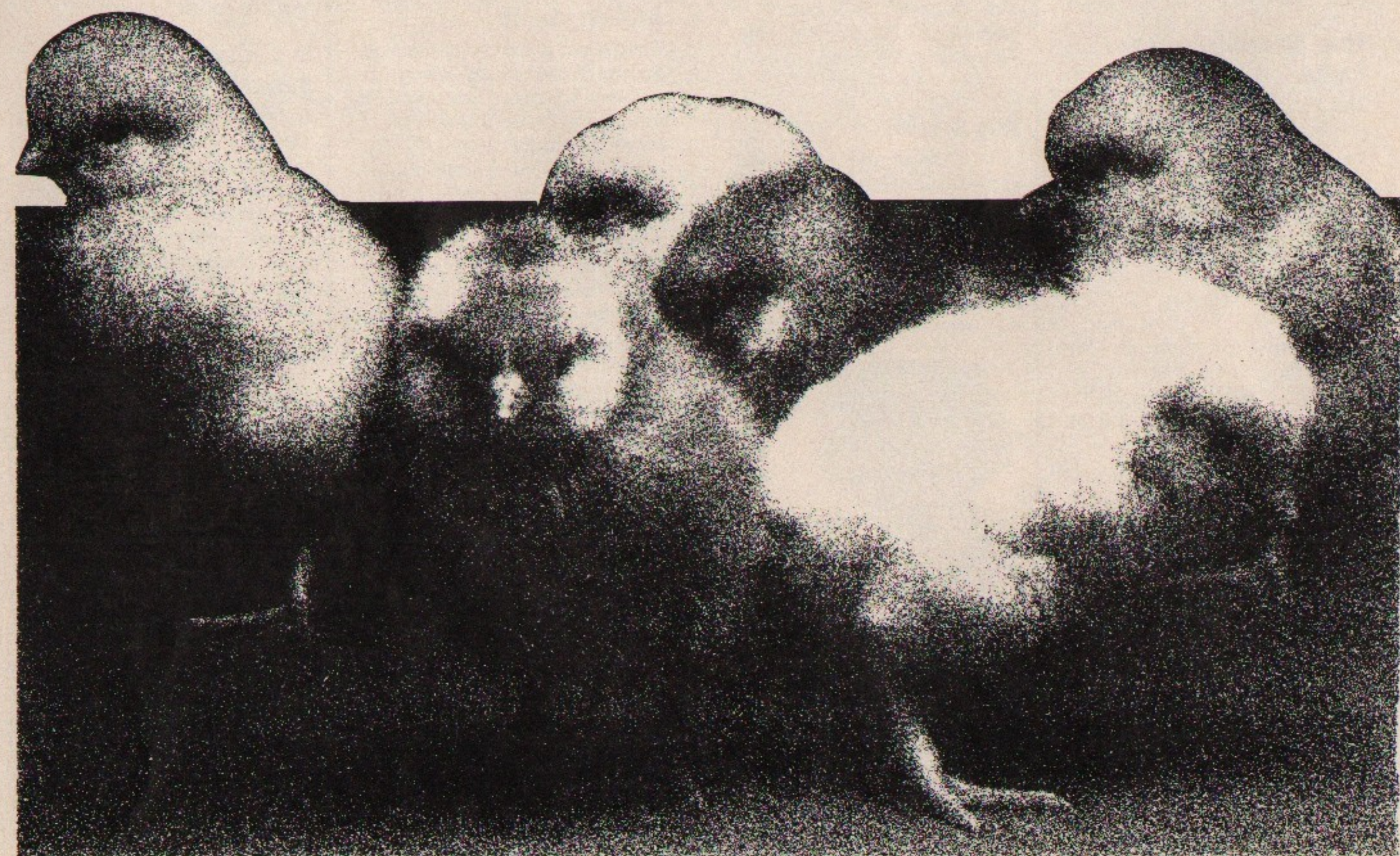
DELTA rescues animals abandoned in rural areas surrounding Los Angeles. For details, write Box 9, Glendale, CA 91209. ♦ Whiskers neuters 1,000 stray cats a year in the vicinity of Albany, New York. To help, write Box 6625, Albany, NY 12206. ♦ Alley Animal picks up strays in the Baltimore area, while Animal Rescue houses some 500 former strays. To join either group, call 301-675-8789. ♦ Petfinders (1-800-666-LOST) does computerized searches for lost companion animals in the New York City area. Lifetime membership is \$24.50; a search is \$49.

Brave New Chicken

BY JOHN ROBBINS

The sun, the moon, and the stars would have disappeared long ago, had they happened to be within reach of predatory human hands.

—Anonymous



—Farm Sanctuary

The track record of our culture's relation to the natural world is a litany of tragedy. At the current rate, as many species will become extinct in the next 20 years as have been lost in the last 20 million years. And that's if we are lucky and avoid a nuclear holocaust, which could wipe out the very existence of life on earth.

Yet there have been many human cultures that lived in harmony with nature and endured for tens of thousands of years without harming the ecosystems which sustained their lives. All such cultures have had in common a reverence for creation, a spiritual attitude toward nature, and a profound sense of connectedness with the whole of the natural world. None of these societies ever looked upon the world—as members of our culture so often do—as merely an assortment of objects to consume. Only a human being who has become grievously estranged from the web of life could, for example, look at a redwood forest and think merely of the number of

board feet to be obtained. How isolated from kinship with creation must one become to be able to say, as our last President did, "If you've seen one redwood, you've seen them all."

The cultures that have lived in ecological harmony have all held sacred the world around them. They did not romantically idealize the forces of nature—they knew the world could be violent and dangerous as well as peaceful and beautiful—but they sought to respond to the power and vitality of the world with respect, whereas all too often we seek to dominate it.

Thus has our culture fought a war against nature, against the environment, against the animals, and even against the human spirit. In seeking to conquer the earth, to manipulate and exploit it, we have lost touch with the force that connects us to all creation.

The price we pay for this loss cannot be overestimated. It is our very humanity. Thinking ourselves superior to the planet's other lifeforms, we forget that the word "human" originally derives from the same root as the word "humus"—the organic part of the soil. Alienated and proud, we see other animals only as means to our ends, and deem ourselves justified no matter how unspeakably we oppress them. As other sentient beings become to us mere objects, something precious inside us is lost. Our capacity for compassion withers.

Our lack of respect for the total earth community is particularly apparent in our treatment of the animals we use for food. Modern agriculture treats these creatures as commodities. "Livestock" is seen strictly as a resource to exploit, hardly different from inanimate forms of wealth.

But what if we look with different eyes, with eyes that see how interwoven all lifeforms are in the fabric of existence? What would it mean to look at these creatures with our vision unclouded by cultural conditioning?

It would mean understanding that what we have seen through alienated eyes has not been the creatures themselves, but only reflections of our own depersonalization. It would mean grasping how fully our relationship to life has been distorted by a worldview that holds the nonhuman world to be somehow less alive than we are. We might see that the stereotypical images we have held of these animals could hardly be less relevant to the actual nature of these creatures.

BRAVE NEW CHICKEN

Unlearning prejudice

Take the chicken, for example. The word "chicken" is often used as a synonym for "coward." But, in fact, while chickens can be high-strung and quick to startle, they are anything but gutless, timid creatures. Roosters are renowned for their pride, ferocity, and the adamant assertion of their power. Indeed, this very fact is what makes possible the so-called sport of cockfighting. So virile and vital are roosters that in literally hundreds of languages the word for the male chicken is used as a term for male human genitalia.

telligence: if an animal does something remarkable, we call it instinct; if we do the same thing for the same reason, we call it intelligence.

For this reason, I wouldn't be too quick to try to define the intelligence of chickens. I'd be wary of judging them by standards that are to them irrelevant. For the more I've learned about the kinds of creatures they are and what they have been known to do, the more I've been impressed by their unique kinds of intelligence.

One naturalist gave a chicken hen 21 guinea-fowl eggs he had found, just to see what would happen. These small, hard-shelled eggs were a far cry from



—Farm Sanctuary

An idyllic barnyard setting is almost never the reality for farm animals today.

Our conditioning dictates that hens—female chickens—are craven, fearful creatures. But far from it, they can be absolutely fierce in defending their little ones, even against terrible odds and much larger predatory birds.

What, then, about the generally agreed upon idea that chickens are stupid? I would not proclaim that chickens are the most brilliant of animals; but then again, our understanding of what constitutes intelligence is utterly relative. Someone pointed out that if an Australian aborigine drafted an I.Q. test, all of Western civilization would probably flunk. We have a very convenient and self-serving way of defining in-

a chicken's eggs. But the hen took the task to heart, and somehow managed to tend to all 21 eggs without a sign of protest. As a product of our conventional notions about chickens, I originally assumed she did this only because she was too stupid to notice the eggs were not her own. When the chicks hatched, she didn't seem at all perturbed by their not being chickens. Their small partridge-like appearance and unfamiliar ways evidently presented no problem to her. Again, seeing the whole situation through conditioned eyes, I concluded that she was simply too stupid to notice that the little birds were not chickens.

Continued on next page



Lucille was a rescued battery-cage hen who arrived at Farm Sanctuary with a grossly infected eye (above). She underwent surgery, and today her eye has healed. Right: Lucille today, healthy and happy.



Farm Sanctuary

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But I was wrong. She was far more sensitive to reality than I knew. After a few days brooding the little guinea fowl, she took them away into the cover of some bushes. Instead of asking them to feed on the ordinary mash that was given the chickens, she scratched in an ants' nest for the white pupae. Chickens don't eat such food, but guinea fowl do! The little ones took to it with instinctive relish.

How could she have known? What form of intelligence was she displaying? Was she perhaps sufficiently "tuned in" to the little ones to have received some sort of intuitive message from their collective psyche? That's more than a human being can do!

On another occasion, a naturalist gave a chicken hen some duck eggs.

She tended them and hatched them as if they were her own, yet wasn't fazed at all when ducklings emerged from her labor instead of chicks. Utterly nonplussed by the situation, she proceeded to do something neither she nor any other chicken in the area had ever done before. She walked up on a plank bridging a stream. Then, clucking, she invited the little ducklings into the water.

It is a mystery to me how these mother hens knew what to do for the babies they hatched who were of another species. But somehow they did. It appears that when we speak of being "taken under someone's wing," we are correctly referring to a remarkably caring and sensitive kind of nurturing.

Living as divorced from nature as most of us unfortunately do, we may

not have much personal experience with chickens anymore, and so may not know what wonderful mothers they are. But in many cultures throughout recorded history, the hen has been a symbol of the best kind of mothering. In fact, the Romans thought so much of the maternal qualities of the hen that they frequently used the phrase "son of a hen" to mean a fortunate and well-cared-for man.

One thing's for sure: chickens are far more sensitive than most of us give them credit for. A study at Virginia Polytechnic Institute found that chickens flourished when treated with affection. Researchers there spoke and sang gently to a group of baby chicks. As a result, the chickens were friendlier and put on more weight for the amount of feed consumed than did the chickens who were ignored. The well-treated birds were also more resistant to infection than the other chickens.

Welcome to chicken heaven

The raising of chickens in the industrialized world today is not, however, a process that overflows with compassion for these animals. Nor is it anything like the barnyard operation that comes to most of our minds when we imagine the lives of chickens. Fundamental changes have taken place in the past 30 years. Formerly, chickens were free-range birds, scratching and rooting around in the soil for grubs, earthworms, grass, and larvae. They knew the sun and the wind and the stars, and the rooster crowing at the break of day was only one of many signs that showed they were deeply attuned to the natural cycles of light and dark.

But today this has all changed. Gone is the barnyard chicken. What we raise instead is a mechanized, assembly-line chicken.

Modern agribusiness is proud of its methods of chicken production. "Farmers" boast of their many improvements on nature. In our grandparents' day it took 16 weeks to raise a two-pound bird; chicken flesh was available only seasonally, and was expensive. Now, broilers reach market weight in seven weeks, year round, and the price is affordable. In the 1920s, a hen might lay 120 eggs a year.

Today, she averages 250, and the number is rising.

But what price do we unknowingly pay? There is a story behind today's chickens that we would never know from the clean little packages for sale in brightly lit modern supermarkets. It all looks so neat, comfortable, and dependable—so carefully wrapped and labeled. As I stand in a tastefully decorated supermarket, serenaded by piped-in music, looking at egg cartons and poultry packages with happy drawings of smiling chickens, I find it

hard indeed to imagine anything could be amiss. Every attempt is made to assure us that the chickens couldn't be happier or better cared for, and that no expense is spared in bringing us quality eggs and produce. Advertisements for Perdue, Inc., one of the U.S.'s largest producers of chickens for meat, are typical. In them, the company president, Frank Perdue, declares that his chickens live in "a house that's just chicken heaven."

But the contemporary chicken accommodations Frank Perdue refers to

as "chicken heaven" might be more accurately described as "chicken hell." Contemporary chicken farms are more like factories than farms. Factories, because the chickens live their whole lives in a world of assembly lines, conveyor belts, and fluorescent lights. Factories, because these proud and sensitive creatures are treated strictly as merchandise. Factories, because the birds are deprived of every expression of their natural urges.

I wish I were exaggerating. I wish I

Continued on next page

Right: Supermarket chickens are now raised in warehouses on factory farms. Below: "Broiler" chickens reach market weight in seven weeks.



—Jim Mason/J.A. Keller from Animal Factories



—Jim Mason/J.A. Keller from Animal Factories

Male chicks are of little use in egg production, so they're literally thrown away—dropped into heavy-duty plastic bags to suffocate.

Continued from previous page
were describing isolated cases of cruel and negligent management. But I'm not. I'm describing the standard operating procedures of the egg and poultry industries today. I'm describing the operations that now produce 98 percent of America's eggs and poultry.

Happy birthday, little fella

Male chicks, of course, have little use in the manufacture of eggs. So what do you think happens to them? How are the

little fellows greeted after they've pecked their way out of their shells, instinctively expecting to be met by the warmth of a waiting mother hen?

They are literally thrown away, dropped into heavy-duty plastic bags to suffocate.

It's not a picture to bring joy to a mother's heart, but over half-a-million little baby chicks are "disposed of" in this fashion every day of the year in the United States. In the seconds it takes you to read this sentence alone, over 2,000 newborn male chicks will be thrown by human hands into garbage bags to smother among their brothers, without the slightest acknowledgment that they are alive.

And they are, perhaps, the lucky

ones. Because for those chicks allowed to live, the "life" that follows is truly a nightmare.

These little chicks come equipped with a natural life expectancy of 15 to 20 years. But under the conditions of modern factory farming, "broilers" might make it to the ripe old age of two months. In comparison, the "layers" are veritable Methuselahs—the oldest among them might live as long as two years.

Chickens are by nature highly social animals. In any kind of natural setting, be it a farmyard or the wild, they develop a social hierarchy, often known as a "pecking order." The chicken's wild ancestor—the red jungle fowl—still lives in the tropical forests

of India and Burma. Here these birds strut and peck and crow, and live in small groups with a clear-cut pecking order.

Studies have shown that these animals maintain a coherent social order with as many as 90 birds in a flock. Beyond 90, though, things get out of control; so in a natural setting, no flock ever gets that large. In today's "chicken heavens," however, flocks are much larger.

How much larger? *Poultry Digest* reports that the flock size in a typical egg factory is 80,000 birds per warehouse!

In such a situation, the birds are completely unable to satisfy one of the most basic and intense priorities of their nature, which is to develop a sense of social order and their place within it.

The results aren't very pretty. Unable to establish any kind of social identity for themselves, the cooped-up animals fight constantly with each other. They are driven berserk by the lack of space and the complete frustration of their primal need for social structure. In their frustration, they peck viciously at each other's feathers, frequently trying to kill one another and even trying to eat each other alive.

The industry "solves" this problem by cutting off part of the birds' beaks so they can't do as much damage when they peck. This practice, known as "de-beaking," is standard operating procedure in the industry today, though it does nothing to remedy the unnatural conditions that drive the birds crazy in the first place.

Many of the poultrymen I've spoken with have adamantly insisted on calling the process "beak trimming" rather than "de-beaking." The tenacity of their commitment to this terminology can be gauged by the fact that they maintain it steadfastly, even though the word "de-beaker" is written in very large letters on the device they use for the job.

Of course, the industry would much prefer the public not know too much about the whole thing. But if the matter does arise, and they are not able to euphemize it away, they simply blame the need for the operation on the chickens' own "quarrelsome" nature.

Then, they turn around and tell the public that, under their care, today's chickens "couldn't be happier." One huge broiler producer, Paramount Chickens, has aired TV commercials in which a smiling Pearl Bailey (who probably doesn't know the truth any

The word "chicken" is often used as a synonym for "coward." But, in fact, while chickens can be quick to startle, they are anything but gutless, timid creatures.

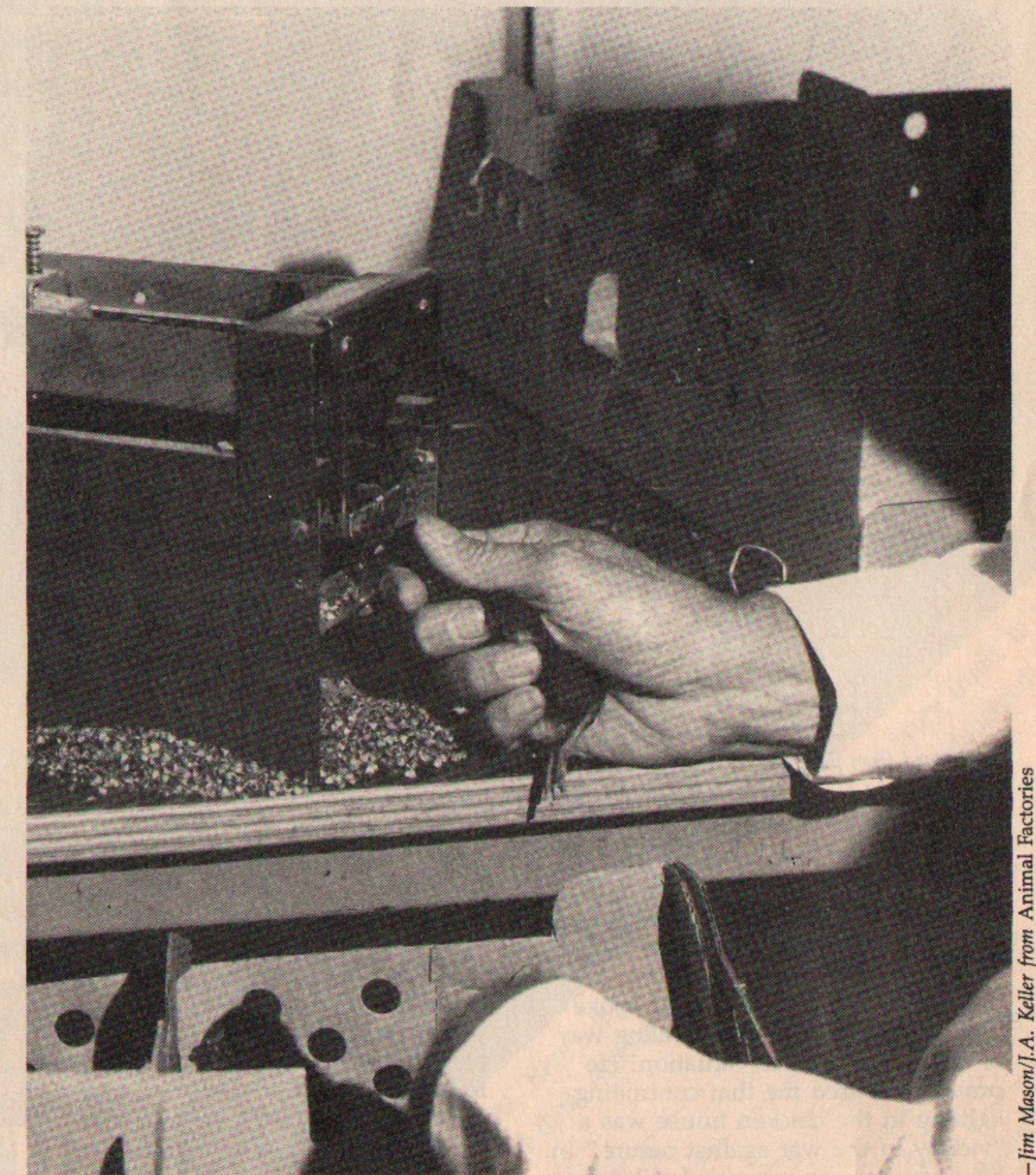
more than most of us) reassures us that Paramount looks after their chickens "just like a mother hen."

This truly remarkable statement takes my breath away. I've never known a mother hen to cut the beaks off her babies and then force them to live under conditions that drive them berserk.

Improving on nature

It may not be wise to tamper with nature. It may even be foolhardy. But if there's profit to be made, today's chicken producers are sure to try it. One poultryman dismissed my concern about the copious use of drugs in the industry with a wave of his hand.

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"De-beaking" of chickens is standard operating procedure in the industry today.

—Jim Mason/J.A. Keller from Animal Factories



Egg-laying hens may spend their entire lives in cages so crowded the birds are unable to lift a single wing. Cage floors are made of wire mesh, which adds to the birds' discomfort.



—Jim Mason/J.A. Keller from Animal Factories

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He pointed out that one class of substances are "nothing to worry about—they're just growth permit-tants." The medications he was refer-ring to are actually antibiotics, used to alter the bacterial populations of the chickens' intestines.

Another poultry executive I spoke with had a particularly revealing way of explaining another situation. He proudly assured me that controlling lighting in the chicken house was a "victory in the war against nature." In his operation, as in many broiler out-fits, the artificial lights are kept on 23 hours a day. To his way of thinking, this technique constitutes, as he put

it, "a strategy to defeat the tyranny of the seasons." As he repeatedly boasted of his "triumphs" in the "battle," I felt sad. How had it come to pass that this poor man could see the creatures in his care and the natural cycles of the earth as his enemies.

Many modern "improvements" come from the industry's selective breeding programs. But those, too, are hardly a blessing for the animals. In breeding for heavier and heavier birds, they have produced creatures whose skeletal development can't keep up with their weight gain. The result are birds so obese they can hardly stand. They are so fat they topple over every time they try to perch.

Broiler breeders at a number of ma-jor universities are hard at work today on developing another freak: a chicken without feathers. This marvelous ad-vance on old-fashioned nature would save the industry the bother of pluck-ing out the birds' feathers after they've been slaughtered.

In the laying operations, breeders have aimed for higher and higher egg production, but have inadvertently produced creatures even more ill-suited to caging than they began with. It turns out that high egg production correlates with dominance behavior, so their selective breeding has taken an already passionate animal who is ter-

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BY THE YEAR 2,000, ELEPHANTS MAY BE ONLY A MEMORY

More than 80,000 African elephants are brutally killed each year to feed the world's voracious appetite for ivory jewelry and carvings. Entire herds—adults and babies—are slaughtered with machine guns or poisoned. Ivory hunters hack off the faces of still-living animals for the ivory that you can buy as trinkets in any de-partment store.

Unless we stop the world ivory trade now, the African elephant could become extinct in five to ten years.

Elephants never forget.... We must not forget the elephants. You may never have another chance.

Act now: don't buy ivory, and fill out the coupon and mail it to The Humane Society of the United States. We will present your coupon to the U.S. Department of the In-terior to support our petition to declare the African elephant an endangered species. Once the elephant is officially listed as endangered, commercial trade in ivory will be illegal.

REMEMBER THE ELEPHANTS..... FORGET IVORY!

☐ I won't forget the elephants. Here's my contribution to help stop the ivory trade, in the amount of \$_____ ☐ I think African elephants should be listed as endangered.

Signature _____

Printed Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Clip coupon and mail to The Humane Society of the United States, "Ivory Cam-paign," Dept. EL1, 2100 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037.

Continued from page 18

ribly distressed by confinement and made her even more aggressive. Not one to be disheartened by a little setback like that, however, the industry has attempted to calm the birds down by fitting them with contact lenses, or spectacles called "polypeepers," that limit vision.

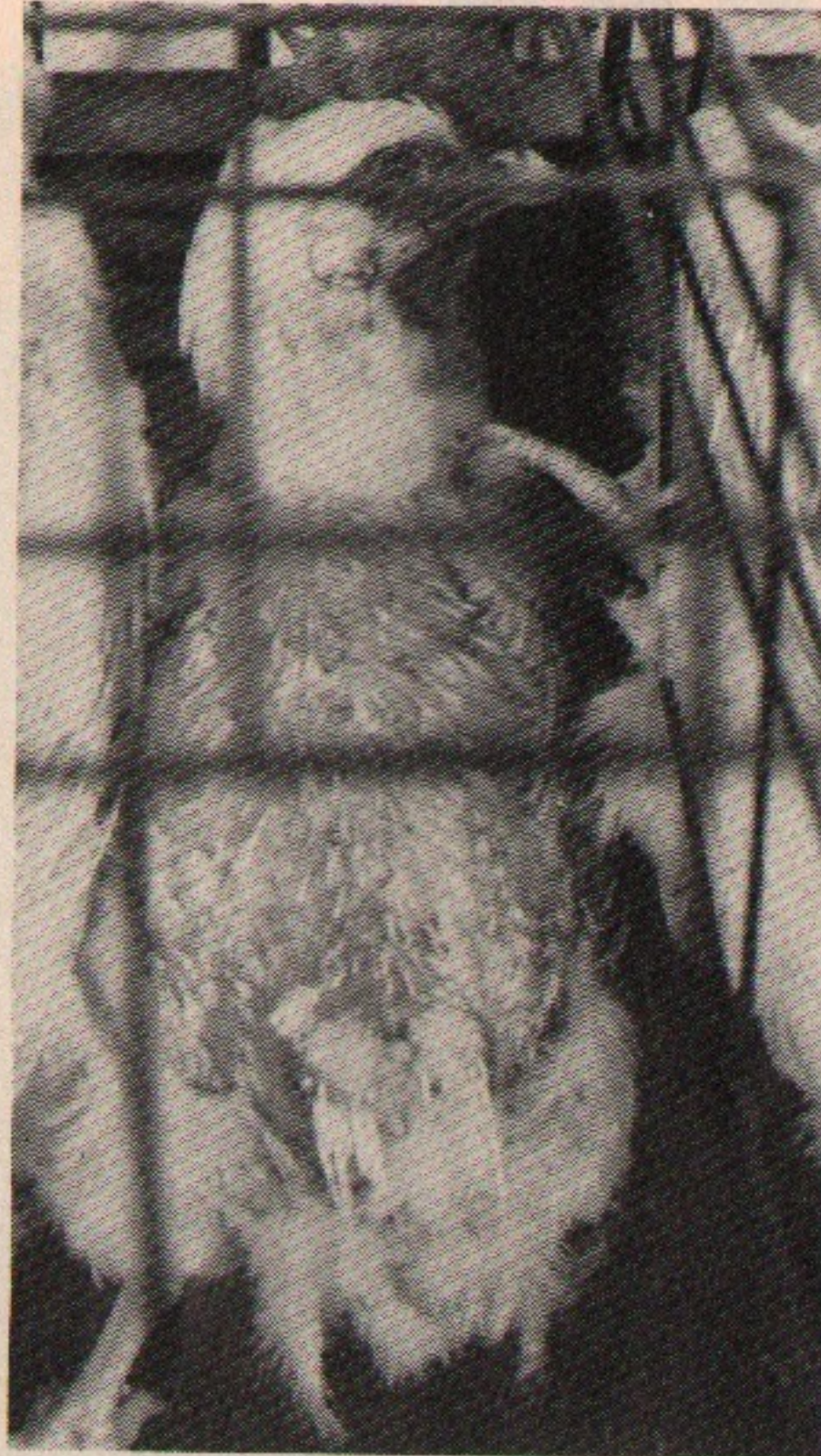
When I first saw chickens wearing glasses, I must admit the incongruity of the spectacle made me laugh. But the lengths the industry is willing to go in tampering with these animals are far too extreme to be funny. A 1985 Canadian study generated enormous industry excitement when it found that certain chickens were more docile and had a better "feed conversion ratio" for egg production. Their enthusiasm was not daunted when they discovered that the birds were blind.

The panic button

Despite being treated consistently as meat machines in modern chicken factories, the chickens still stubbornly refuse to settle down and devote themselves singlemindedly to producing as many eggs as possible and growing as fat as they can in the shortest possible length of time. Instead, they insist on thinking of themselves as animals, with drives and needs.

But they are allowed no expression of these urges. They cannot walk around, scratch the ground, build a nest, or even stretch their wings. The bizarre lighting manipulations allow these light-sensitive creatures no vestige of a natural sleep cycle. They cannot establish a pecking order or any sense of social identity. They cannot keep out of each other's way, and weaker birds have no escape from stronger ones, who may be maddened into a frenzied aggression by the grotesque conditions in which they must live.

The result is that these poor birds live in a state of perpetual panic. They go into an uproar at the slightest disturbance, and show every sign of complete insanity. One naturalist noted: "The battery chickens I have observed seem to lose their minds about the time they would normally be [separated from] their mothers and off in the woods chasing grasshoppers on their own account. Yes, literally,



-Patty Mark

Feather loss is common in battery caged chickens.

the battery becomes a gallinaceous madhouse."

Another scientist tells us that chickens are prone to "...stampedes. With no apparent cause, a wave of hysteria sweeps over the whole battery; wild, unnatural chirps, jumbled screams, and a flutter as if every feather on every chicken had become possessed and frantic."

In their panic, birds will sometimes pile on top of each other, and some will smother to death. Poultry producers are not, by and large, what you would call sentimental types, but since smothered birds represent a "waste of feed," this is the type of thing that will definitely spur them into action. Not to be outsmarted by some natural phenomenon triggered by unnatural conditions, they have found the piling problem can be decreased by crowding the chickens so tightly into wire cages that they can hardly move. This way, when they panic, they can't pile on top of each other as readily.

The cages produce a few problems of their own, however. The caged hens cannot seem to overcome the old-fashioned idea that they were designed by nature to live on the earth, instead of in wire cages. For instance, their toenails continue to grow. With

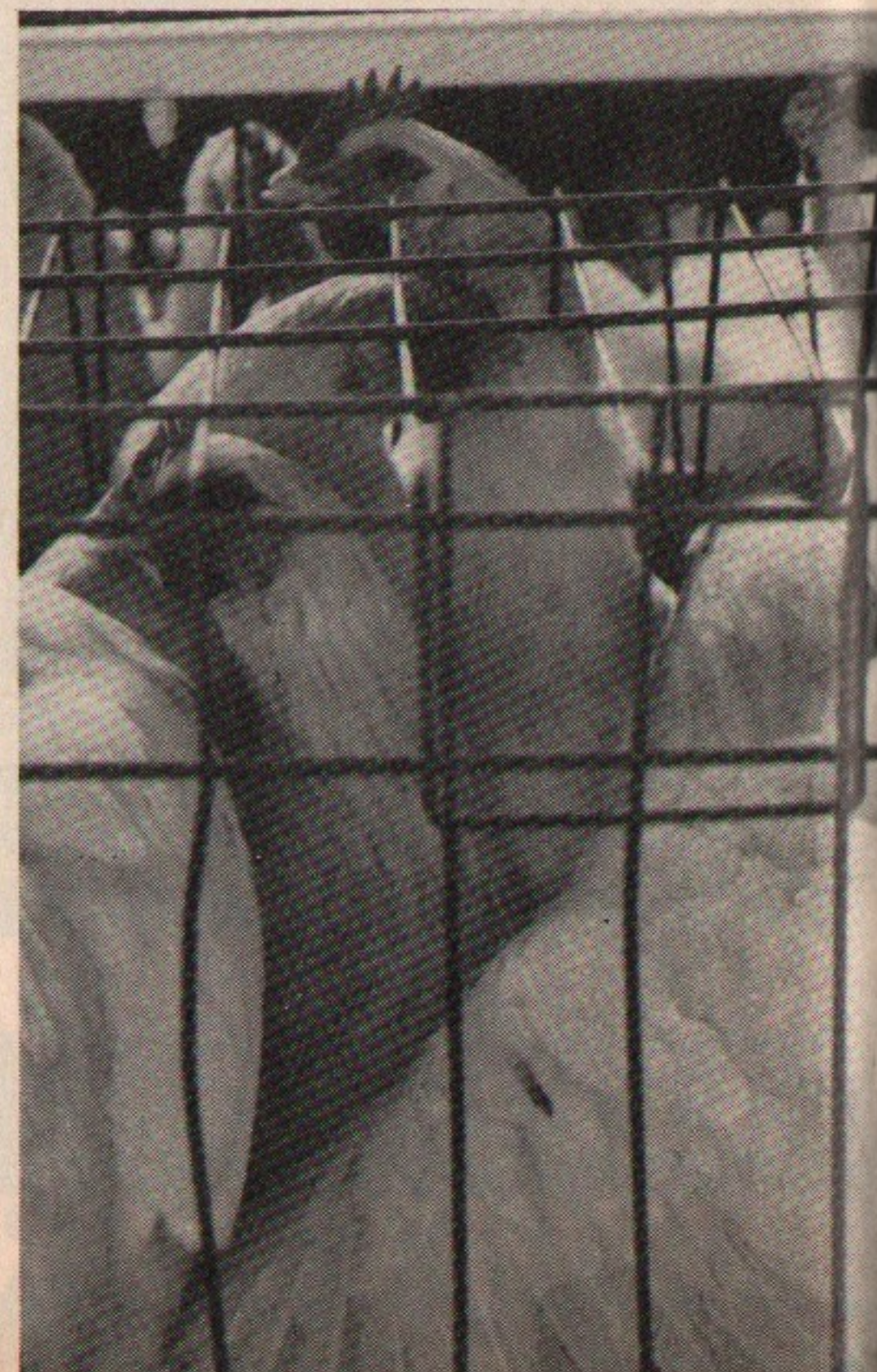
no solid ground to wear the nails down, they become very long; sometimes they get permanently entangled in the wire. The ex-president of a national poultry organization wrote in the *Poultry Tribune* about the many times when, on removing a batch of hens from a cage, "...we have discovered chickens literally grown fast to the cage. It seems the chickens' toes got caught in the wire mesh in some manner and would not loosen. So, in time, the flesh of the toes grew completely around the wire." Needless to say, those birds who get stuck in the back of the cage, where they cannot reach food or water, starve to death.

Once again, however, the minds that created this whole situation have come up with an ingenious solution to prevent such a distressing "waste of feed." The idea is simply to cut off the toes of the little chicks when they are a day or two of age.

Are chickens animals or vegetables?

I have met quite a few people who seem to think that chickens are vegetables. When someone says he or she is a vegetarian, these people reply with something like, "Yes, but you do eat chicken, don't you?"

I feel reasonably confident that most poultry producers know their stock



-Patty Mark

CHICKEN IS A VEGETABLE #1

Some people think CHICKEN is a vegetable.



So you're a vegetarian... you can eat chicken can't you?

well enough to realize that chickens aren't vegetables. But they seem unable to grasp the fact that they are animals, and as such have profound territorial needs.

At the Hainsworth Farm in Mt. Morris, New York, naturalist Roy Bedichek found four and even five hens squeezed into cages 12 inches by 12 inches. Under these conditions, the birds are unable to lift a single wing. In fact, they are squeezed together so tightly that they have a great deal of difficulty even turning around in place. This is not seen by the factory managers as a bad thing, though. With their bodies in forced contact at all times with other chickens, they absorb heat from their fellow inmates, cutting down on heating costs.

The Hainsworth farm is an extreme example. But the industry norm isn't much better. Near Los Angeles can be found the 345-acre "Egg City." Here some 2 million eggs are laid daily by 3 million hens housed five to each 16 by 18 inch cage. To get a chicken's eye view of these conditions, picture yourself standing in a crowded elevator. The elevator is so crowded, in fact, that your body is in contact on all sides with other bodies. Even to turn around in place would be difficult. And one more thing to keep in mind: this is your *life*. It's not just a temporary bother until you get to your floor. This is permanent. Your only release will be at the hands of the executioner.

By the way, in your picture of the elevator, you may have imagined the

other people trapped with you as doing the very best they can to hold still and not make things more difficult. But what if all the others do not have the ability to understand what is happening? What if they react to the terror of it all with raw instinct, without even a trace of a civilized veneer? What if, like you, they have powerful territorial needs, and the utter frustration of the situation has driven them insane—prone to erupt into violence with or without provocation?

Now imagine further that the floor of the elevator is slanted sharply so that gravity tends to push you all in one direction. The ceiling is so short that you and the others can only stand upright towards one side, and the floor is made of a wire mesh that is terribly uncomfortable to everyone's bare feet. And to complete this approximation of the living conditions in today's factory farms, what if some of the others trapped with you in the

Continued on page 57

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If you send a contribution of \$50 or more, we will send you a free autographed copy of *Behind the Dolphin Smile* by Richard O'Barry.

Death in the Desert

Helicopter pilot John Kelly was ferrying three gold prospectors across the central Nevada desert in August when he made the first grisly discovery.

Almost within the 'copter's prop wash, strewn along the hillside at the northern end of the Toiyabe Range, he counted the carcasses of 13 wild mustangs. The horses had died perhaps two weeks before, Kelly figured, judging from his observation that the bodies were no longer bloated. Local coyotes still hadn't finished indulging in the find, and probably were making nightly visits to the hillside.

"They didn't die of bad water or anything like that," Kelly recalled. I just assumed they had been shot." There was no time to make a ground inspection. In Nevada's mini-gold rush, helicopter time is valuable and the prospectors' agenda didn't include stopping for a forensic examination of a mustang massacre.

The slaughter would not go unreported, however. Kelly grew up around horses in Jefferson City, Missouri. After returning from helicopter duty in Vietnam, he settled near Carson City. He flew for the Bureau of Land Management's mustang roundups, which were themselves controversial, but shooting horses and leaving them to rot is a radical leap in terms of outright cruelty. "Sure, it made me mad. I had been around horses all my life. I think it's the destruction of something good. There's too many horses out here, but it's a shame to waste 'em like that."

Kelly made another pass with his Bell Jet Ranger, taking note of the terrain so he could give a legal description, complete with township and range, to the BLM.

BLM horse specialists called Kelly two days after they received his report. They'd had trouble finding the dead horses and they hired Kelly to return to the spot. "There turned out to be more than I counted," he said.

In fact, there were 41. After the story got out, more reports of dead herds began to surface. Kelly flew BLM investigators to the nearby Augusta Mountain area in September, when another 73 carcasses were discovered. On October 1, they found 140 more near Bald Mountain, about 30 miles west. The carcasses never were side by side, but often within 20 to 40 yards of one another.



The sun-bleached bones of a mustang who was gunned down in the Nevada desert.

A pattern developed: horses in the foothills, always near watering holes; the carcasses spread out over a few acres. The distance between the carcasses made sense to Kelly. "There'd be a band of 'em [gunmen], and as they shoot and chamber another round, that's how far they [the horses] got."

Now the body count is 524, and the BLM presumes there are more. The first break in the case came in January, when five Nevada cowboys were indicted by a Federal grand jury. Among those arrested was David Morehead, the foreman of the C Punch Ranch near Lovelock. Morehead allegedly shot and ordered the shootings of 34 mustangs. A pair of former ranchhands have been given immunity in exchange for their testimony in the case.

Rodger Bryan, an investigator who accompanied Kelly, believes there could be many more dead mustangs scattered throughout the thousands of square miles of uninhabited desert. "If there was a little more flying in the other districts, we'd be filling in the gaps."

BLM officials say the investigation remains open and an \$18,000 reward is still posted for information leading to further arrests. The serial killings, by the sheer number and geography involved, suggest

an obsessive mentality. Almost none of the dead horses has been found close to roads. To get to the carcasses, one must leave even four-wheel-drive vehicles behind and hike, sometimes for miles. It's easy to conclude that the killers did the same, or did their shooting from horseback or all-terrain vehicles.

For outsiders hiking through the sage and yucca, it finally sinks in that in such remote country, the most efficient way to kill horses would be from the air. Bryan and other investigators decline to discuss the various possibilities. Details from autopsies, such as the angle of fire, have been withheld. The caliber of the ammunition also remains a secret. It has only been acknowledged that no horse has been found with more than one bullet wound and that automatic weapons have not been used. Kelly also declined to discuss how the horses were killed.

"We've found skeletons of mares that were pregnant at the time they were shot. The bones of the foals are right there inside," Bryan said. "It's hard to fathom that anyone would go out and do that kind of wanton killing." Not all of the victims died immediately. Bryan said that in September and October, the BLM found three horses with festering wounds, limping in the desert.

Photos by Chuck Bigger

Reaction to the wild horse shootings has ranged from outrage to disbelief. "To me, it's a very difficult thing to understand, how someone could shoot those horses without any remorse," observed Bob Hillman, field services director for the Sacramento-based Animal Protection Institute. "If you look at where the horses are, it tells me that the person who shot those horses did it as a very premeditated act. Someone spent a lot of time and effort. Whoever did it knew the land. Systematically hunted them down near water holes."

Most of the desert rangeland is marginal for grazing purposes. Much of the vegetation is inedible. Between clumps of sagebrush and scattered juniper trees, the sun-baked, barren ground often is so hard that boot-heels don't leave tracks. It's a windblown, relentless environment, and those who survive there have not done so through the art of compromise.

Aware of the smoldering sagebrush rebellion, BLM investigators initially insisted that they had not narrowed their focus only to ranchers. But the classic crime analysis formula involving means, motive, and opportunity strongly suggests otherwise, and Hillman is blunt about it. "Everything points to the stockmen, as far as I'm concerned... There's a network, a grapevine situation among ranchers. They're doing what they think is necessary to protect their stake in western rangeland. They have had those grazing permits for so long, they consider the land theirs. They consider you and I interlopers."

Whether there is an active conspiracy is open to conjecture. Because of the sheer number of killings and the thousands of square miles involved, it seems likely that there are multiple culprits and numerous incidents involved.

Hillman claims the ranchers don't hope to increase their livestock herds in the desert. The motive for the shootings is simply to preserve the status quo. "They won't get more cattle out there, but they won't get their existing allotment cut, either."

Claims that a harsh winter killed the horses have been discounted by BLM investigators. "Our winter last year wasn't that tough," Bryan said. He added that full-blown autopsies aren't necessary to determine that an animal has been shot. Bryan said the animals most susceptible to winter die-off, as in other wildlife populations, are the youngest and the oldest. In investigating several sites, Bryan said, all ages were present. The discovery

of pregnant mares also has ruled out winter as the time of death.

In the waning days of the Reagan administration, BLM committed much of the agency's investigatory resources to the horse shootings case. "[There's] been a phenomenal amount of time and money devoted to this since August," Bryan noted. "It's definitely moved to the top of the priority list."

Meanwhile, BLM's investigators have been reduced to drawing Xs on maps to depict each new horse killing. In Bryan's district, about one-sixth of the horses have been killed.

Wanted posters have appeared, offering cash for information leading to the capture of the "wild horse killers."

Shooting wild horses is a Federal crime, punishable by a fine of up to \$2,000 and/or two years in prison per violation. Apparently, the penalties have not served as much of a deterrent. Hillman, convinced the case involves many culprits, believes it is only a matter of time before there is a leak. "Sooner or later, someone is going to turn in someone for the money."

BLM roundups have diminished the mustang herd numbers in recent years,

but apparently the reductions haven't come quickly enough to satisfy someone. The timing of the shootings, like so many other aspects of the case, seem hard to explain. If shooting wild horses could ever be logical, it would have seemed more probable in the early 1980s, when the horse population was at its peak. Some animal defenders, such as the Denver-based American Humane Association's Dennis White, feel that ranchers who found there were sympathetic ears in high places became more daring.

The BLM investigators only shrug when asked, "Why now?" In past years, a few horses were killed. The BLM's Tim Reuwsaat recalled, "It's happened before, right here in Carson City, about a year and a half ago. There is normal mortality with wild horses. But they don't die in bunches."

Reuwsaat said investigators still "are working like mad on it." Anger has given way to frustration. "You can't be out there covering five million acres by yourself. And [there is] confusion, because you can't figure out why someone would do that."

—Barry Noreen



Helicopters, which are often used for rounding up wild horses, may have been used for shooting them.

Humane Societies Track a Travelling Zoo

Dick Garden has a way with animals. And that, according to the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and dozens of local humane organizations, is the problem.

The owner of a circus and a traveling zoo based in Sarasota, Florida, Garden has been plagued by allegations of animal mistreatment since a month after the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued him an exhibitor's license four years ago.

But now, following a trek along the Eastern Seaboard last summer by Garden's Wonder Zoo and its caravan of injured and dying animals, the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission has revoked Garden's state license. And the USDA, after years of complaint, may follow suit and revoke Garden's national license—effectively closing down an operation that has racked up a near-record 73 alleged violations of the Federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA). "It appears that he's an unusually flagrant violator," said one USDA regulatory enforcement officer. "He's not typical of violations and he's certainly not typical of the people we license."

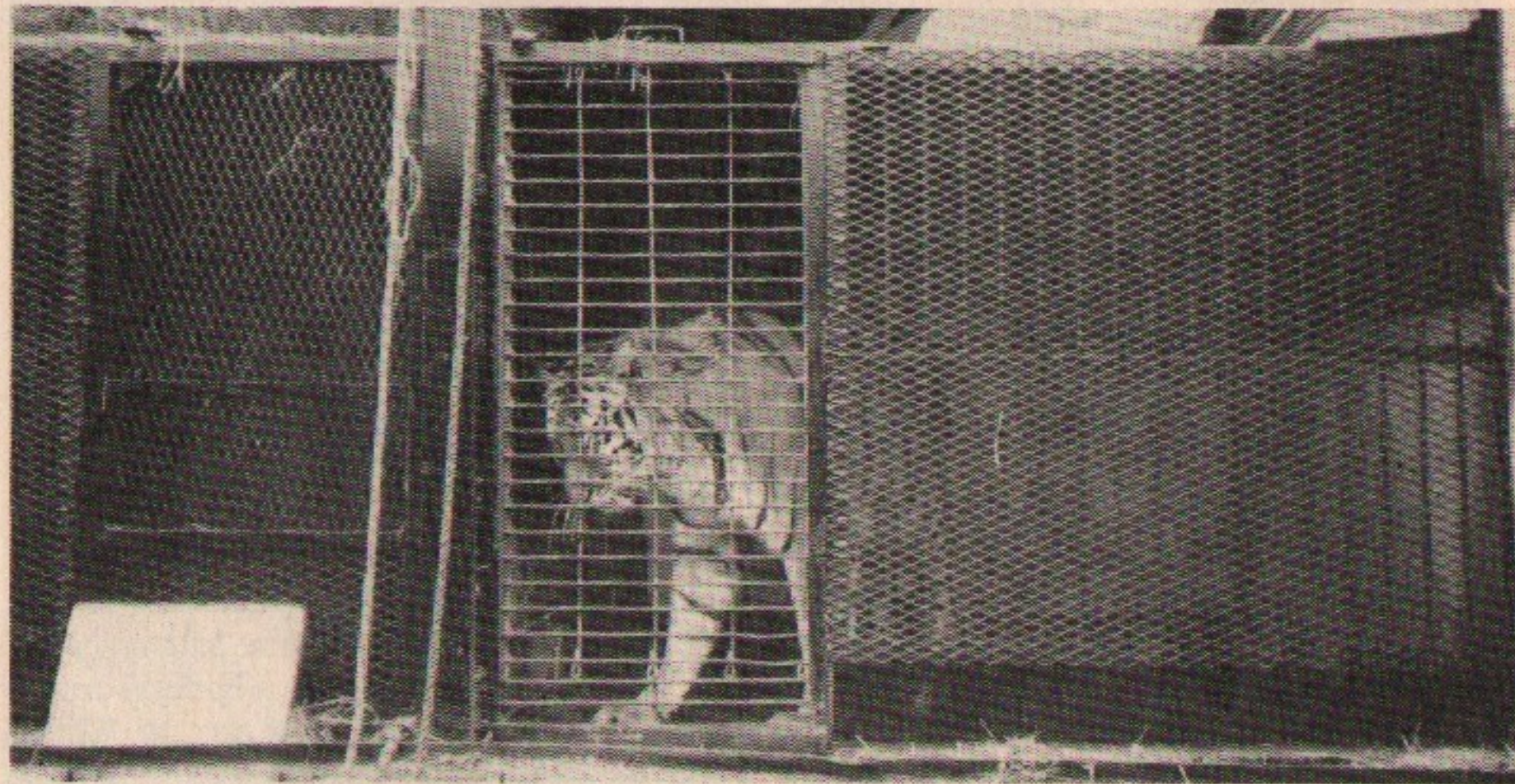
Although Garden has surrendered most—if not all—of his animals, given up his Florida license, and agreed not to exhibit for a year under a plea-bargain agreement, the native Canadian is free to reapply for his state license.

Should he do that, the animal rights activists who met several of his zoo's stops with protests will meet Garden with renewed opposition.

"I hope that they're shut down permanently," said Carol Linville, head of Pet Helpers Inc., of Charleston, South Carolina, who led a protest against the Wonder Zoo last summer. "That's my hope and prayer. I'd love to see this type of operation banned."

Garden, leery of past articles painting his zoo and his Toby Tyler Circus in a poor light, has refused repeated requests for an interview. But he told the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune* last September, after leaving court on a charge of illegally housing wildlife, that he did everything he could to follow state and Federal laws governing traveling zoos.

"It was my dream to have as many animals as I did," said Garden, 46. "I got to have a lot of exotic animals, and I loved them all." But the Game and Fish Commission questioned the "love" Garden showed his animals. Colonel Robert



Brantley, executive director of the state agency, wrote Garden that he was revoking his license because "you have repeatedly demonstrated that you and your personnel cannot provide responsible housing and quality care for wildlife species in your custody and control."

Although complaints have poured in to the USDA as well as to the Game and Fish Commission, action by the Federal agency has been slow in coming. "We don't jump on something immediately," said Frank Germaine, the senior compliance officer in the agency's compliance and enforcement division. "The party's always given the opportunity to make corrections. But when something becomes so flagrant... it's necessary to take action."

The USDA is still investigating what action to take against Garden; one agency official said the "sanctions will be substantial." Each violation of the AWA carries a maximum fine of \$2,500. Although Garden will likely not face the maximum fine, the official said, any penalties will undoubtedly spell more financial trouble for Garden, who already owes millions of dollars in court judgments to other states for past problems with his circus.

Animal rights activists argue that traveling zoos are inhumane and that the Wonder Zoo is worst than most, and would be pleased to see Garden out of business. "These people would exhibit their mothers if they thought it would make money for them," said Bettijane Mackall, a court-appointed animal abuse investigator in Fairfax County, Virginia.

Mackall and presidents of local humane societies say the Wonder Zoo has ignored

provisions of the AWA requiring that trained handlers travel with the zoo and that adequate ventilation be available for the animals during transport. They charge that the animal handlers are hired from missions and flop houses and that the tractor-trailers used to carry the animals are poorly ventilated, with animals jammed inside with no room to breathe.

Mackall said that in one tractor-trailer seized in Virginia last year, she found a tiger, a rhinoceros, goats, sheep, a calf, ducks, a llama, and two ostriches—among other animals. Temperatures inside two of the Wonder Zoo trucks, where Mackall said the animals had been kept for four days, reached 106 degrees. One young elephant, according to a USDA veterinarian, was thin and favored a misshapen and atrophied right rear leg. The ponies were underweight and appeared to have had no care. Garden agreed to surrender the seized animals to Virginia authorities to avoid prosecution.

A similar plea-bargain with prosecutors in Bradenton, Florida—where Garden kept his winter quarters—had Garden pleading no contest in December to charges he housed his animals in too-small cages. He voluntarily surrendered his animals to the Game and Fish Commission and agreed not to exhibit any animals for a year, in exchange that he not be fined and that a formal finding of guilt be withheld.

Continuing allegations of animal mistreatment may cost Garden his zoo—as well as prevent the exhibition of any animals in his circus—should the USDA decide to permanently revoke his exhibitor's license. "They [the complaints]



Dick Garden's Wonder Zoo has racked up a near-record number of Animal Welfare Act violations. Like other inmates of the traveling zoo, the tiger (above, left) and rhinoceros (above) live in cramped and uncomfortable cages.

have been documented," Germaine said. "All those have been compiled and sent to the department...for review. And that's in the hands of the attorneys now."

The Game and Fish Commission's problems with Garden stemmed from his treatment of the animals at their winter quarters. For the USDA, its concerns about the zoo came from the traveling operation's trips around the country. Problems with the zoo were often noted by visitors to the parking lots and shopping malls the Wonder Zoo temporarily called home, but the zoo was usually in and out of a town too fast for authorities to take note or action.

"You can't get them in court because they're out of here [by then]," Linville said. "We in Charleston were fortunate enough to stage a major protest." Last May, as an exhausted Linville recuperated from her husband's successful City Council campaign, her phone rang with news that, as tired as she was, she could not ignore. Often called to rescue injured dogs and cats, Linville found herself scrambling to form a picket against the Wonder Zoo. She was horrified when she visited the zoo at a mall near Charleston. The animals were crammed into tractor-trailers with little ventilation and no room for the animals to move—something Mackall would see a month later.

Linville remembered the rhinoceros living in a cage only slightly larger than his own body. The animal was given a few buckets of water daily to drink. "He basically survives," Linville said, "but he is not really living. I equate this to a POW situation at its worst. You can keep

somebody alive, but there is no quality of life."

Together with the local SPCA, Pet Helpers pressed charges against Wonder Zoo animal handler J. Sandy "Safari" Swanson, alleging six counts of animal cruelty.

Linville doubts Swanson knows anything about animals. "This man stood before [reporters] in Charleston and proclaimed that he had millions of dollars invested in these animals and that he had saved the rhino from a poacher," she said. "He claims to have degrees in exotic animal welfare. He claims to have been in Africa. Personally, I don't think he's ever seen the first blade of grass in Africa."

Swanson blamed Linville's protest on animal rights activists trying to "drum up publicity for their own organization," a Charleston newspaper reported. "I have a God-given gift with animals, and I'm trying to make a sincere difference in saving endangered species," Swanson said. "I've spent millions of dollars saving endangered species, but as soon as I try to give them [the activists] the facts, they scream in my face."

Swanson gambled that a judge would clear him of the six animal cruelty charges, and he was right. A municipal judge heard six hours of testimony before throwing out the charges. He ruled that a "pattern of neglect" wasn't proven.

Undaunted, Linville has pledged to continue her fight. "We may have lost the battle," she said, "but we'll win the war."

—L. Wayne Hicks



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ANIMAL NEWSLINE

Astrid Lindgren Receives Medal



Left to right: Swedish Ambassador Wilhelm Wachtmeister, Astrid Lindgren, and AWI's Christine Stevens.

When Swedish author Astrid Lindgren received the Albert Schweitzer Medal in Washington, D.C., recently, she said the medal "gives me the guts" to fight for strengthening of Sweden's highly-acclaimed new animal protection law—a law she is credited with inspiring.

The forthright but frail 82-year-old writer of the famous Pippi Longstocking children's books expressed disappointment over the law's shortcomings when she accepted the Animal Welfare Institute's medal from Rep. Charles E. Bennett, sponsor of the proposed U.S. Veal Calf Protection bill, at the Swedish Embassy ceremony.

Farm-raised Lindgren's campaign to end factory farming began in 1985 with newspaper articles. The Swedish public supported her in asking parliament to decree more natural housing and living guidelines for farm animals. But, she says, in the law's final version, improvements in pig, cattle, and chicken housing were hemmed in with exceptions and delayed deadlines for implementation. Great regulatory power for the law was given to the National Board of Agriculture.

Astrid Lindgren returned to Sweden after the ceremony determined to carry on the "struggle" against "reactionaries."

"Let us hope," she said, "that one day we can get [the] animal protection law that kind and decent people in other countries believe we already have."

—Ann Cottrell Free

How to Find a Lost Pet

BY THERESA GOFFREDO

A lost or stolen pet may never be found, but there are steps people can take to cut the risk:

◆ Do not allow your pet to roam unsupervised.

◆ Always keep your pet tagged. If you are not using a registry with a 24-hour number, be sure to include a day and night phone number where you can be reached.

◆ Take immediate action. Don't wait for the pet to come home on his own.

◆ Be sure you are thoroughly familiar with your pet's identifying characteristics. Note color, sex, coat markings, and any other individual characteristics such as missing teeth.

◆ Pets—cats especially—sometimes hide in out-of-the-way spots such as attics, basements, and sheds. Be sure to completely search your premises.

◆ Contact all area humane societies, animal shelters, and animal-control offices, leaving a detailed description and phone number. It is very important to visit these facilities in person, preferably every day.

◆ Blanket the area with flyers quickly; photocopy at least 200. Include all permanent identifying characteristics. Include home and work phone numbers; if you have an answering machine, be sure to leave it on when you're out. Offer a reward, but don't list an amount to avoid calls from people who might not really have your pet. Keep a photograph of the pet that will reproduce well, and use it in the flyers.

Be aware that an animal lost with a collar may not be wearing it when found—word the flyer accordingly. Experts disagree on whether the animal's name should be included, since animals who normally respond to their names may not do so when frightened or injured. Not everyone can recognize breeds, so don't just name the breed: draw or trace an outline profiling the breed as well. Post the flyers wherever you can and be sure to include shelters, veterinary clinics, and groomers. Recheck every day to ensure the flyers have not been removed.

◆ Search your neighborhood, going out at various times of the day. The most effective time to find a cat may be late at night. Talk to children, mail carriers, shopkeepers, and other people in your neighborhood.

◆ Cats usually stay within a two-mile area, but owners of lost dogs should check at least a 20-mile radius.

◆ Place a box on your back porch with an article of clothing that contains your scent. For a lost cat, also put out some food.

◆ Use the classified section of the newspaper, placing a "lost" ad as well as checking the "found" column. The extra money spent on display ads may be wasted, as these ads may not appear in the same section as the commonly read classified pet ads. If you suspect your pet was stolen, check the "pets for sale" column too.

◆ Call local radio stations; some will announce "lost pet" information on the air. Check to see if your city has a telephone service that lists lost and found animals.

◆ Call the U.S. Department of Agriculture office in your area to ask inspectors about dealers who sell stray animals for research, and leave a description of the pet.



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ANIMAL NEWSLINE

Hungry Winter For Animals

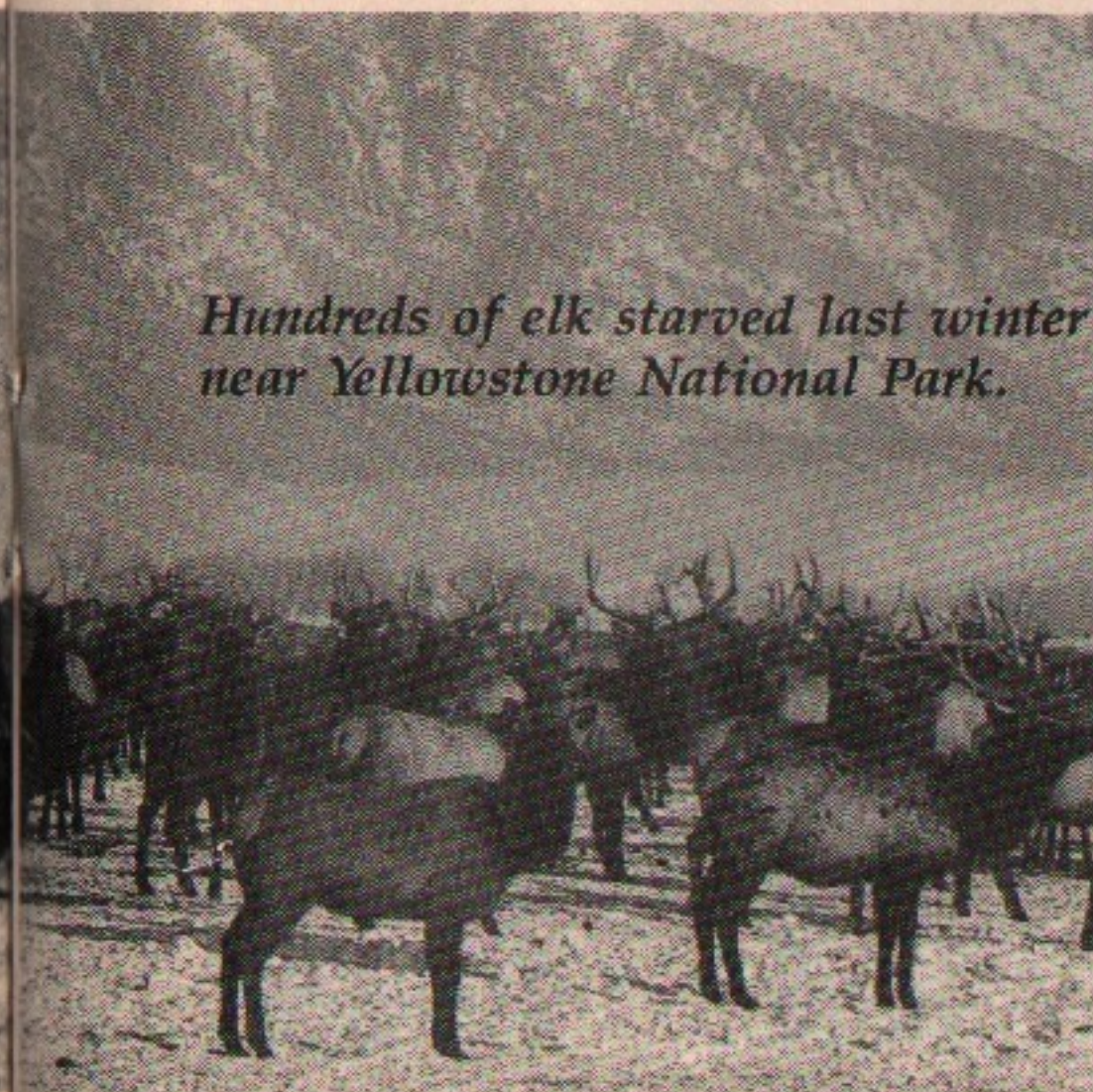


It was a hungry winter for animals, wild and domestic, symbolized by 300 elk who starved within sight of hay barns near Yellowstone National Park, and 750 bison who were gunned down point-blank by trophy hunters as soon as they crossed the park's northern boundary. National Parks Service director William Mott clung to the same policy of non-intervention with nature that allowed fires to burn unchallenged in Yellowstone last

year, destroying the elk and bison's usual forage areas. Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan, Jr. was more moved by suffering, however, than ecological theory. "You can't let Bambi die because it is policy," Lujan told Mott, ordering him to deliver an anti-starvation management plan by fall. Returning wolves to Yellowstone will likely be part of it.

Up to 750 beef cattle starved, meanwhile, near Elko, Nevada. Owner John

Hundreds of elk starved last winter near Yellowstone National Park.



Casey was previously convicted for letting cattle starve in California and Oregon. The Elko cattle were registered to ranch boss Tim Puckett, since Casey had been barred from leasing public grazing land. In parallel cases, 200 cattle starved at the 8,700-acre Investco Financial Corp. ranch near North Powder, Oregon; and Oklahoma farmer M.C. Hopper was charged with cruelty for the second time in four months after 44 of his 66 horses starved.

Marketing The Anti-Animal Message

The four-year-old, Denver-based Coalition for Animals in Commerce, Science and Sports calls itself "the only comprehensive effort anywhere that unites commercial, scientific and industrial communities" to oppose animal rights. But a three-month probe by local activists and The ANIMALS' AGENDA suggests CACSS is more style than substance.

CACSS was founded four years ago by self-styled "animal advocate" Bill Winter, a longtime community representative on the Colorado University Animal Care and Use Committee. Winter had just been dismissed from the Colorado Humane Society board of directors for advocating vivisection and pound seizure in a televised interview.

CACSS boasts an international mailing list of 6,000, but most of it consists of schools, libraries, and legislators—not paying members. The only verifiable members are a "steering committee" of six members in 1985, 21 in 1987, and 19 last year. Of the 19, 17 lived in Denver and two in Colorado Springs. Affiliations included the Colorado Serum Co., the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, and the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Press kits were sent out by the public relations firm Direct Marketing Services. But in responding to the press kits, reporters found that the listed CACSS telephone number actually belongs to the animal research facility at Colorado University, Denver—which refers callers to Winter.

Although CACSS claims to keep a video library on animal issues, no one at the listed number knows anything about it, while letters sent to the listed address, a post office box, were returned as undeliverable.

Protection For Captive Elephants

Following the recommendations of the task force assembled to probe the Dunda beating (see "Cover-Up at the San Diego Zoo," Dec. 1988), California state senator Dan McCorquodale introduced a bill, SB-892, to bar disciplining elephants by electricity, deprivation of food or rest, insertion of objects into orifices, or in any way that damages, scars, or breaks the elephant's skin. The bill also bans elephant rides, since as task force member Cleveland Amory argues, "Elephants are so browbeaten in the process of training for rides that by the time it's over, they're not elephants any more; they're large zombies." The bill is meeting vehement opposition from California's powerful zoo lobby. The San Diego Zoological Society, whose staff beat Dunda, netted \$186,000 from elephant rides in 1988.

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A tragedy that many activists thought was a thing of the past.



Canadian politicians have long pandered to minorities engaged in "traditional" occupations such as sealing and fur-trapping.

CANADA— Sealing Continues

Perhaps underscoring the fact that victories against animal abuse will never be firm until speciesism itself is conclusively routed, sealing is making a disturbing comeback. Animal defenders hailed the "demise of sealing" a few years back as one of this movement's most satisfying accomplishments, but, as events have developed in Canada, that may have been premature celebration. Sealing is very much alive, as this year's seal hunt off eastern Canada—one of the bloodiest on record—may prove. Thus, while Canada stopped the large-vessel hunt in 1985, the "landsmen's hunt," using small boats and always the cruelest, has grown. Instead of clubbing newborn whitecoats, most hunters now shoot at raggedy-coats (two weeks old) and beaters (three weeks to a month old). Inaccurately shooting from their boats amid rough water and disintegrating ice floes, the hunters kill or wound many more seals than they recover; as many as two-thirds sink, estimates Steve Best of the International Wildlife Coalition. Filling this year's quota of 165,000 seals would mean killing seals in record numbers. Canada recently gave the Canadian Sealers Association \$5 million to revive the hunt, yet seal-watching is fast becoming more lucrative. This doesn't daunt hunters, who figure they can skin tourists early in the season, then skin the seals later. Over 500 seal-watchers visited Quebec's Magdalen Islands this spring, twice as

BY DAVID PATRICE GREANVILLE

many as in 1988. When the seal-watchers number 1,000, locals say, tourism will boost the economy more than sealing ever did. Women especially benefit, as seal-watching creates jobs in the female-dominated service sector. Meanwhile, as mentioned previously in this column, the Canadian government is to be rebuked for its virtual pandering to pro-sealing groups, a policy stemming from the need to appear politically sensitive to what is widely regarded as "traditional" occupations. *Main sources: Merritt Clifton, The Toronto Globe & Mail.*

COLOMBIA— Cruelty to Animals a Cultural Trait?

Colombia, best known to Americans as the land of mythological Latin coffee-picker "Juan Valdez," and of exacting coffee-buyer "El Exigente," has acquired in recent years a less benevolent image. Riddled, as her sister republic Bolivia is, with druglords who now control vast portions of the country through graft and the deployment of private armies, the country is currently one of the world's major sources of drugs for the U.S. and European markets.

But Colombia also has another

negative distinction: a culture in which cruelty to animals—born out of horrific poverty, lack of education, and feeble or nonexistent enforcement of animal protection statutes—is rampant. Indeed, it's no accident that Bogota, the capital, was chosen by WSPA in 1984 as the site for its sixth regional office.

An example of this often mindless cruelty made Bogota's leading newspaper, *El Tiempo*, some time ago. According to Alvaro Posada, the WSPA representative, a biology teacher in one of the city's schools instructed his students—between 11 and 12 years of age—to each go out and get a dog for "required course work." The animals were to be taken to the students' homes, killed there, cooked, and their bare skeletons brought back to the school for examination. The dogs were to be killed by an injection of air into the heart. Said Posada: "This is simply monstrous and abhorrent. Children at a very early age were being acculturated to commit heinous acts of cruelty without so much as a thought for the suffering inflicted."

This attitude may have recently prompted animal protection groups to join in a protest against prevailing educational and social practices. The action was triggered by school policies in Bogota, Medellin, and Cali—three of the nation's largest cities—which apparently promote direct student attendance and participation in

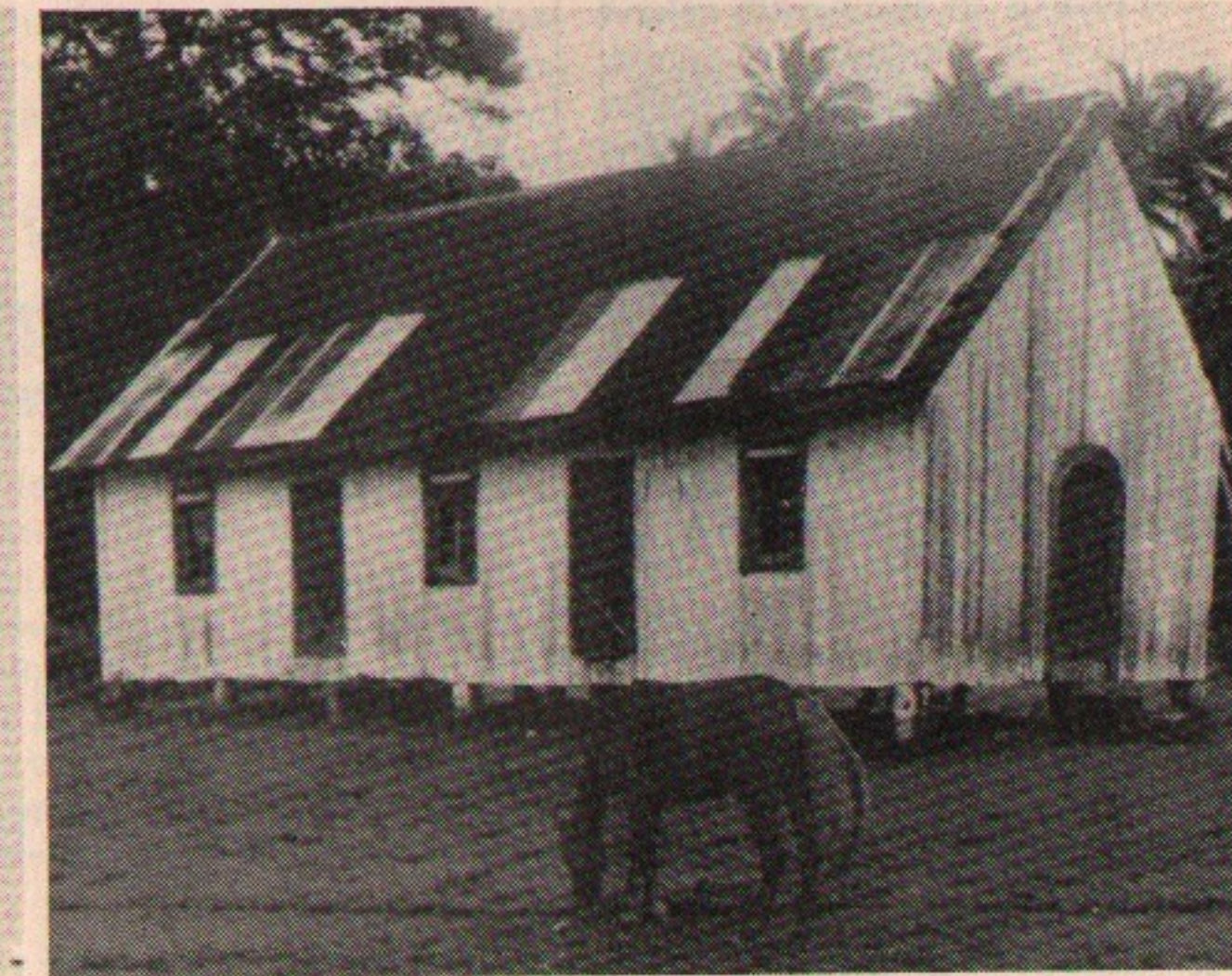
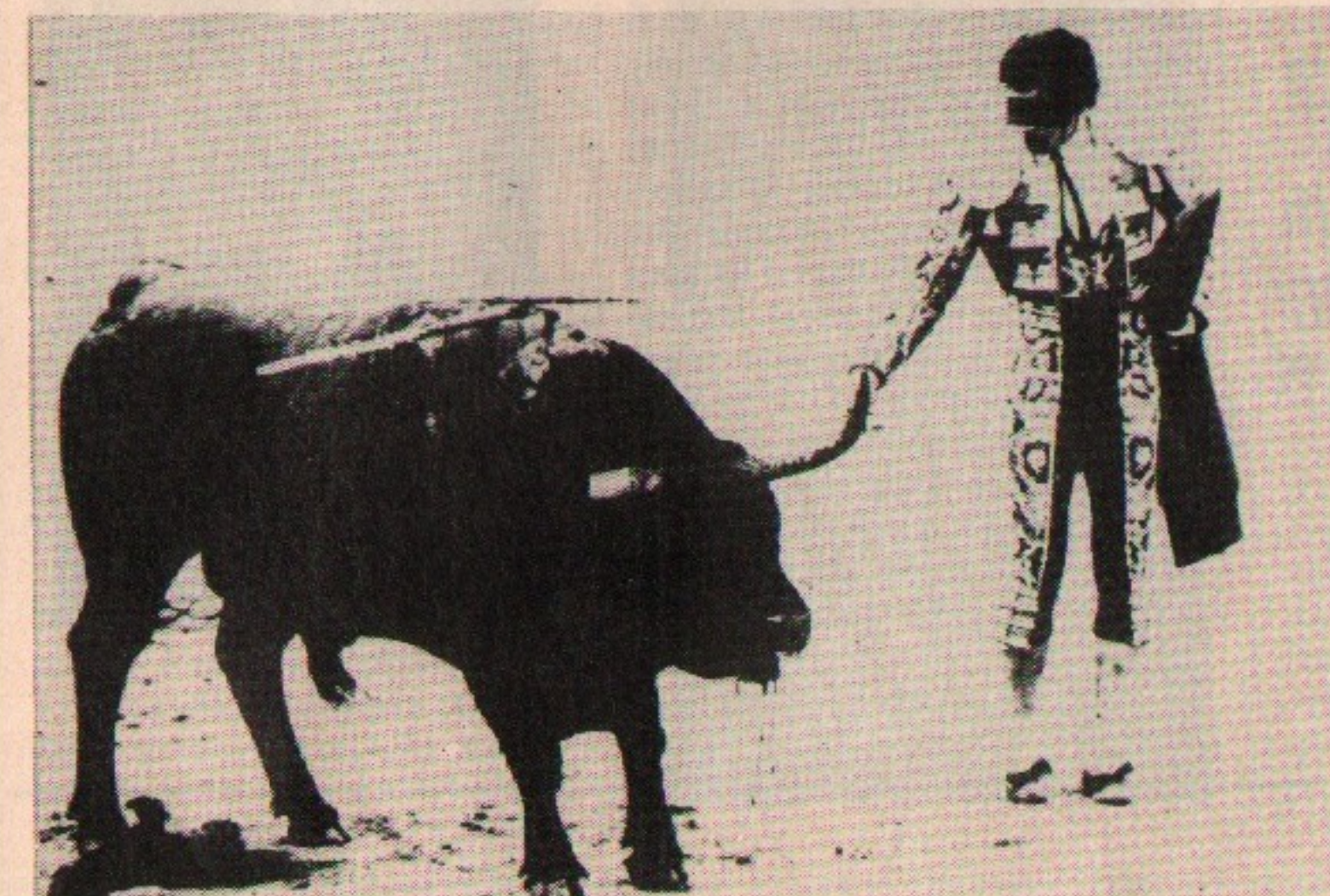
bullfighting. In a letter sent on Feb. 20 to the local daily *El Espectador*, the Asociacion Defensora de Animales (ADA), the Sociedad Colombiana para el Bienestar de los Animales, and the Sociedad Mundial para la Proteccion Animal (WSPA), called on the government and public opinion to protest the attendance of 11,000 children from Bogota at a "free bullfight" held at the Santamaria ring, with the full endorsement of the city's mayor, Andres Pastrana.

"The government is not only permitting the attendance of minors at bullfights," noted WSPA regional director Alvaro Posada, "but is also authorizing schools to use such spectacles as legitimate diversion, thereby endorsing the participation of youngsters in the torture and death of an animal."

Considering the crisis of violence afflicting Colombia, animal protectionists find such indifference to the promotion of violence hard to explain. "Drug traffickers and bandits are the product of a society where compassion and morality are not regarded as priority topics in its educational curricula," declared an activist who preferred to remain anonymous since, as he noted, "in this country they'll knock you off for just about any reason."

According to a report issued by psychologists attached to the Universidad Catolica, the confrontation of youngsters with such institutionalized brutality "creates a numb zone in the subconscious allowing later for the assumption that wanton homicide, torture, discrimination, war, and genocide are perfectly normal acts." Such

Bullfights are raising eyebrows all over the Hispanic world. Poverty makes it harder to protect animals.



ethical blind spots, claim the psychologists, may surface later in adults fully capable of committing all manner of crimes without a shred of remorse, and who may even kill for the sheer pleasure of it."

In this cultural climate, Colombian animal activists have tried to secure legislation for the relief of major offenses, but this has frequently proven to be a painfully slow process. Still, a pigeon shoot utilizing live birds was recently prohibited, and the Ministry of Education is currently considering barring minors from attending bullfights.

The groups working against bullfighting are now also beginning to question the Church's traditional indifference to such cruel practices; this can be a vital move in a country where 99 percent of the population defines itself as Catholic. "The Church must understand that the dark Biblical ages of animal sacrifice no longer accord with a society struggling to become fully civilized, and that it must take a position against violence of any type," said Juan M. Hoyos, one of the movement's leaders. "Ethical teachings must begin to take priority." With a nation so fully immersed in social conflict, that priority may well take a long time to be adequately realized. Readers wishing to register their support for humane education in Colombia, as well as their opposition to bullfights, may do so with: Virgilio Barco, President of the Republic of Colombia, Palacio de Narino, Bogota, Colombia; and Ambassador Victor Mosquera, Embassy of Colombia, 2118 Leroy

Place, N.W., Washington, DC 20008. *Main sources: Gloria Chavez Vasquez (Noticias del Mundo) and The ANIMALS' AGENDA correspondents.*

International Demonstration Against Bullfighting June 25 in Madrid

The development of an international campaign against bullfighting was recently discussed at the European Parliament, and Spain's animal rights organization ALA (*Alternativa para la Liberacion Animal*) hopes to empower the protest with a demonstration in Madrid on Sunday, June 25 at noon. ALA will assist travelers in securing reasonably-priced accommodations. Write to ALA (airmail) at Apartado 38.109, 28080 Madrid, Spain. (Or call: 247-4370).

THE PHILIPPINES— Protecting Endangered Species

Special report by Orlino Sol. Palapac. The government of this vast archipelago has recently launched what many observers believe is an overdue program to save endangered wildlife.

The program has started by determining, on the basis of direct observation, those species actually endangered, preserving and

protecting their habitats and sanctuaries, setting annual quotas for those allowed to be traded, and breeding them.

These moves were considered necessary to harmonize information and approaches among government and non-government entities concerned with protecting wildlife. For more than 10 years, official sources have produced varying estimates on the species and number of mammals, birds, reptiles, and even fish considered endangered in the country. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)—the main agency in this effort—is still using a list prepared by a Filipino authority on wildlife in 1978. The DENR's own Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau, on the other hand, operates with a list different from that of the parent agency.

The disparities can be severe. By categories, the DENR's list shows the endangered species as: mammals, 9; birds, 17; and reptiles, 7. The PAWB tabulation lists mammals, 8; birds, 46; and reptiles, 8. On the other hand, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) narrows the lists of indigenous endangered species in the Philippines as follows: mammals, 8; birds, 2; reptiles, 3; and fish, 2. As in the case of conflicting lists of the DENR and PAWB, some of the animals identified by the IUCN list are not in the Filipino government lists.

Ironically, the two government agencies do not have details on the estimated population of each of the species they have categorized as imperiled. Hence, an important

aspect of the protection effort will center on the recording and collating of animal data with the object of drawing up a preliminary inventory of the populations of animals, and even fish, which the authorities regard as endangered. After that, utilizing a variety of specific criteria, the agencies hope to find out whether these species are really threatened, and if so, by what factors, and how acutely.

Of particular interest will be population estimates on animals such as the Mindanao gymnore, Mindanao moonrat, Philippine tarsier, Luzon forest rat, Musang or civet cat, Calamian deer, Tamaraw (found only in the Philippines), and birds such as the Philippine eagle (formerly known as a "monkey-eating eagle" larger than the American bald eagle), and the Palawan Peacock pheasant. In addition, reptiles like the Mindoro crocodile and the Green turtle, plus a fish called Sinarapan or Tabios (reputed to be the smallest fish in the world) will receive attention. All these are said to be very rare, and on the verge of extinction.

The government has set up measures to protect the habitats of these wild animals, and instituted a prohibition on their hunting and trading. At the same time, the authorities have teamed up with non-governmental groups to protect and breed crocodiles, mainly through a \$13-million Japanese grant, on a 10-hectare farm in Palawan province. That province is also the focus of an effort to preserve other forms of wildlife, especially the tamaraw.

Continued on next page

DATELINE: INTERNATIONAL

Continued from previous page

Similarly, in the nearby island province of Mindoro Occidental, there is a Tamaraw conservation project that utilizes breeding. (The Tamaraw is a small, dark and hairy water buffalo.) The same effort has also succeeded in mating the mouse deer, the Calamian deer, giant Green sea turtles, and some exotic African wild animals.

Meanwhile, 15 provinces in the country have been declared marine turtle sanctuaries. Catching the turtles or poaching their eggs are punishable by law. There is

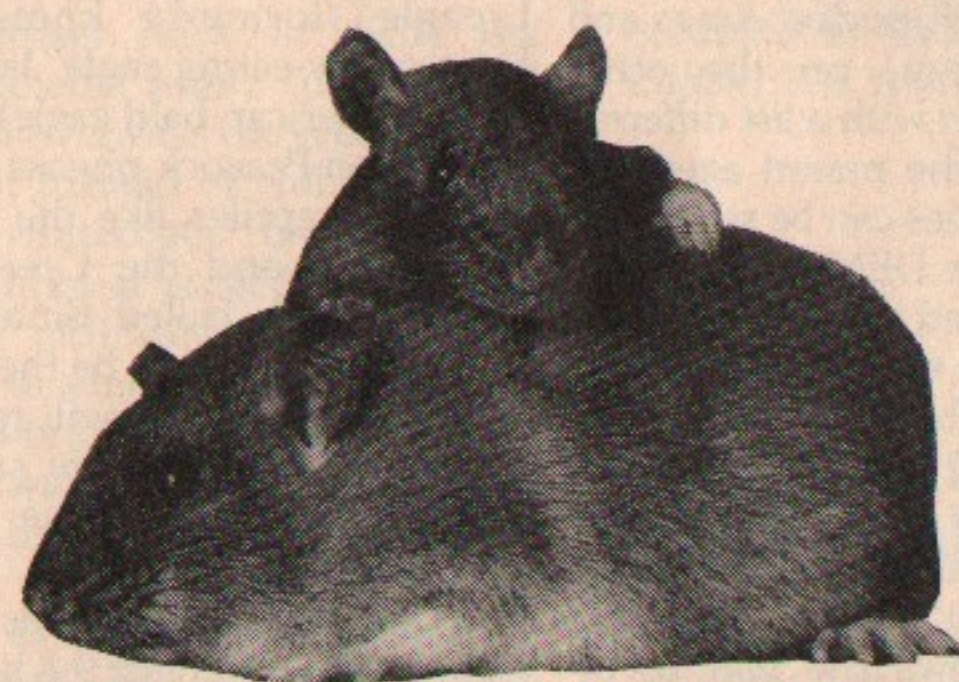
Without outside support, animals in the Philippines may have little chance of survival.

also an annual quota for each species of birds that can be legally caught and traded, with a proper license from the government. Whether these initial measures will succeed in slowing down the destruction of habitats and animals is yet to be seen. As usual, in a nation as poor as the Philippines, enforcement is spotty or too weak to be completely relied on, and the people's own imperatives to survive even on a meager income often propel them toward the illegal killing of animals.



Hoping to quell growing international criticism, Norway suspended killing baby seals last winter—but 50,000 adult seals were killed as usual.

British Columbia seems to be using the same strategy to continue wolf-hunting that Canada used to continue the seal hunt: announce it's over, cancel the most visible activity, then push it in other forms. Wolf Shepherd and the Green Party of British Columbia point out that while B.C. has quit hunting wolves by plane, wolves are still hunted and trapped in the Flathead Valley. To help stop it, contact Wolf Shepherd at (509) 326-7097, or the Greens at (604) 573-5196.



Don't trap rats in British Columbia, warns the provincial health ministry, as handling the corpses may spread an outbreak of bubonic plague.

The national sport of Afghanistan is *buzkashi*, in which horsemen compete to grab the corpse of a calf.

In what is almost a routine experiment in the U.S. and most of the developed world, Swedish researchers recently cut holes in the flanks of two cows so that several times a day they could grab half-digested feed samples out of the cows' stomachs. Stockholm's Skara Veterinary Hospital was deluged with protests after local papers ran photos.

In their biggest gain yet, the environmentalist Green Party has formed a coalition city government in West Berlin with the leftist Social Democrats. In France, the Ecologists, a Green-inspired party, recently won 13 percent of the vote at Strasbourg, near the German border, and over 15 percent in parts of Brittany.

The trend toward stiffer cruelty sentences is spreading into Canada, where humane enforcement has long been lax. In Manitoba, Dale Gogal got three months in jail, a provincial record, for torturing a kitten. Cat adoptions at the Winnipeg Humane Society doubled after the kitten was rescued.

Monsanto Corp. is helping the U.S.S.R. build a biotechnology lab.

Live ponies, heavily shackled, are forced to walk in circles on Spanish carousel treadmills for 12 hours at a stretch. Many die of exhaustion. Responding to criticism from Fight Against Animal Cruelty in Europe, a Spanish government spokesman said, "What precisely constitutes an act of cruelty is a matter for conjecture."

The newly formed China Snake Protection Assn. is marking this, the Year of the Snake, with an appeal to the government to start more snake farms so that fewer snakes will be taken from the wild. The Chinese kill 400,000 Pallas pit vipers and 50,000 nonpoisonous snakes per year for food and medical use. Snake breeding is already big business in China, home of 190 species, 40 of them venomous.



Write your nearest Canadian consulate to protest the export of wildlife, and of beluga whales. The latter don't come under a proposed wildlife export law because Canada calls them "fish," putting jurisdiction under a different ministry.

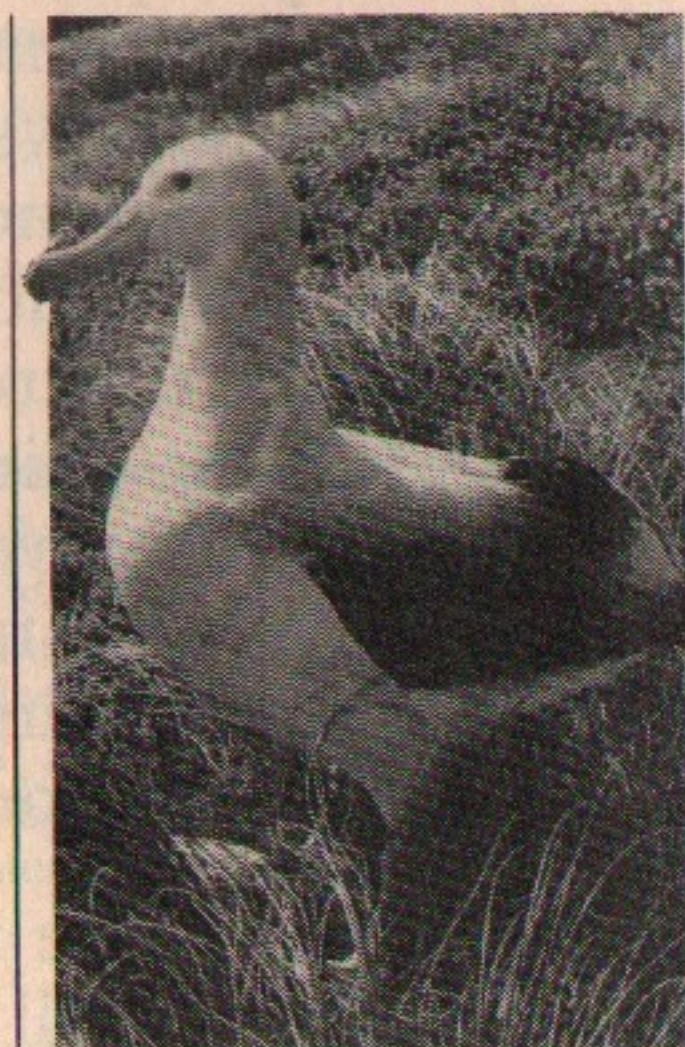
The American SPCA and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service rescued 22 Costa Rican monkeys at New York's Kennedy Airport on March 1, filing 90 cruelty charges against LACSA Airlines cargo manager Augustin Real, who left the monkeys alone overnight. Eight monkeys froze to death, packed in plywood crates so small the adults couldn't stand up.

DATELINE: INTERNATIONAL

The Canadian Anti-Fur Alliance, a project of the Toronto Humane Society, debuted with an 86-page dossier with many revealing fur industry documents. Join CAFA at 11 River Street, Toronto, Ontario M5A 4C2, Canada.

Of 109 plastic objects found plugging the guts of dead albatross chicks, 108 were made in Japan. Forty-five of 50 albatross chicks had been fed plastic by their parents, who mistook various objects for their normal prey.

Nomadic reindeer herdsman called *Nentsi* are protesting the loss of millions of acres of grazing land to Soviet oilfield development.



Nuvan, a chemical used to kill sea lice at Scottish sea loch fish farms, is rated one of the 26 most dangerous water pollutants by the British government, yet is still being applied virtually without restriction.

As the battle to save African elephants escalates into something increasingly reminiscent of guerilla warfare, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) is seeking to protect some pachyderms by concentrating them in the equivalent of "fortified hamlets," theoretically safe from poachers' attacks. The problem is that the WWF hopes to protect only 29 concentrated elephant populations selected according to

questionable eugenic standards, writing off most of those animals who will remain at large.



Quebec is changing hunting rules to slow down the moose hunt. More than 145,000 hunters bought moose tags last year, reporting 11,200 kills.

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Do you feel that lately the animal rights movement is gaining momentum? Have you noticed that almost every day items on the rights and plights of animals are appearing on the evening news and in newspapers? There are now hundreds of celebrities who denounce the wearing of fur and the mistreatment of laboratory and farm animals. All over the world magazine cover stories are identifying us as a moral force to be reckoned with. Animal advocates are speaking out, and people are listening.

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If The ANIMALS' AGENDA is to continue to provide a forum for the growing animal rights movement, we must appeal to you to make a pledge of support. Although our subscriber base is increasing, we depend in large part on the steady financial support of our sustaining contributors. If you possibly can, please pledge \$250, \$500, \$1,000 or more per year to become a Sustainer.

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NEWS SHORTS

EDITED BY MERRITT CLIFTON



New York City rat controllers.

■ **Carbamate insecticides kill two million birds a year**, says the EPA. Poisoned birds are often hit by cars or eaten by predators, who may suffer secondary poisoning.

■ **Late winter storms smashed 600 chicken houses** in Arkansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma, killing four million birds. Farmers under contract to Townsend Poultry Products then killed another 400,000 who became unfit for consumption after eating seed contaminated by the pesticide heptachlor.

■ **Someone poisoned over 150 herring gulls** on Long Island recently, the worst such incident in New York in 20 years.

■ **The Port of Los Angeles claims** that protecting least tern nesting habitat costs \$718,000 a year in lost revenue.

■ **The U.S. Forest Service plans to spray** 50 to 75 tons of herbicides in California's Tahoe and Stanislaus National Forests next year, ending a five-year moratorium. The idea is to help saplings outgrow weeds, but the sprays also kill wildlife. The herbicides pose a danger to human health, as the forests are watershed for drinking water and seven of the thirteen herbicides to be used cause cancer.

■ **A rare desert cat of India** was recently born to a housecat through *in vitro* fertilization at the Cincinnati Zoo.

■ **The Massachusetts Supreme Court** has ruled that the state's 1974 ban on land use of steel-jawed leghold traps does not apply to padded traps.

■ **The National Institutes of Health have again rejected** University of Washington researcher Dr. Hans Ochs' scheme to give pregnant and infant macaques a deadly viral disease resembling AIDS. The plan drew flak when Ochs' former secretary, Diane Broughton, resigned in protest and made the details public.

■ **Responding to protests against poisoning**, the New York City Parks Department now hopes to control rats by encouraging owls to take up residence in park areas.

■ **Continuing a trend toward stiffer sentences** for cruelty, a New York judge recently gave dog trainer Alan Baskerville nine months in jail—three months more than the prosecutor asked—for numerous offenses dating to 1985. Baskerville now faces seven more charges filed last summer. In Boston, fireman Steve Mortlock got 40 hours of community service and a "seek counseling" order for burning a skunk alive.

■ **The space shuttle Discovery** carried four rats who had been maimed. Scientists wanted to see how their bones healed in orbit.

■ **The Bank of Boulder, Colorado**, has been giving rifles and shotguns to those who buy certificates of deposit.

■ **The Marine Mammal Commission has absolved the Navy** of abusing dolphins. (See "Boot Camp For Sea Mammals," January 1989.)

■ **Former Senator from Connecticut Lowell Weicker**, a leading foe of lab reform bills, now heads Research!America, an umbrella group for biomedical interests.

■ **The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service tampered with data** to keep spotted owls off the Endangered Species list so that the agency could avoid having to protect their habitat, says the General Accounting Office. And a federal judge denied an injunction which would have saved owl habitat by delaying new sales of federally-owned old growth forest. Transmitters used to track the owls meanwhile are suspected of contributing to high juvenile mortality and a low reproduction rate.

■ **Fishermen idled to protect the declining Maryland rockfish** built 80 nesting boxes for owls last winter under a state-financed compensation program.



Offstage: Lefort's cats in solitary confinement.

■ **Sidewalk circus trainer Dominique Lefort**, of Key West, Florida cracks his whip at underfed, terrified housecats, making them leap through flaming hoops. Key West Animal Control rescued the cats once, but under lax state cruelty laws had to give them back the next day. Protest to the Greater Key West Chamber of Commerce, 402 Wall Street, Key West, FL 33041.

More SHORTS on next page.

NEWS SHORTS

■ **The Vision Quest wagon train** is rolling again in Tucson, Arizona, amid allegations of horse and mule abuse. Vision Quest is an alternative sentencing program for teen delinquents, who go on supervised adventures to develop a sense of self-worth. California convict John Clem, a former Vision Quester, told us that the program routinely overworks animals, and that the staff beat and shock horses while teaching youths how to break them to the saddle. VQ spokesperson Mark Contento didn't answer Clem's specifics, which were partially confirmed by many others, but averred that any recent animal abuse would be by disturbed youths who slip past screening.

■ **You don't have the right** to picket, leaflet, or petition in a shopping mall without management permission, according to nine of 13 court rulings to date.

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—Chinese proverb

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Real food for sick people.

■ **Coronary blockages can not only be prevented**, but can be reversed by a vegetarian, low-fat diet, Dr. Dean Ornish recently told the American Heart Association. A study of 750 Italian women by New York University meanwhile found that those who ate the most animal fat were three times more likely to get breast cancer than those who ate the least. The National Research Council has urged Americans to eat 20 percent less fat.

■ **Synthetic skin**, which could save millions of animals used in product testing, is being developed by three U.S. firms: Marrow-Tech, Organogenesis, and Clonetics.

■ **At Somers prison in northern Connecticut**, a German Shepherd drug-sniffing dog flushed out a mother cat and her litter of two-day old kittens during a routine search through prisoners' cells on March 6th. The cats were being "harbored" by a prisoner, something which is against prison rules. The dog killed one kitten, and the guard—a prison supervisor—proceeded to break the necks of the two other kittens and flush their bodies down the toilet. The incident was reported to *The Hartford Courant* by another prisoner, who claimed the killing was an act of deliberate cruelty against the unidentified inmate who was keep-

ing the cats. Prison officials state that no disciplinary action will be taken against the guard, but that he was told not to do it again. No one seems to know the whereabouts of the mother cat. Comments may be directed to Larry Meachum, State Commissioner of Corrections, 340 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106.

■ **Fish in the Everglades** are suddenly showing some of the highest mercury levels ever recorded. A similar jump in mercury has appeared in fish from a bayou near New Orleans that was slated to become a National Wildlife Refuge. Nobody knows where all the mercury is coming from.

■ **Oil wastes have destroyed tundra** on the North Slope of Alaska, reports the EPA. Congress is debating whether to allow oil drilling in the nearby Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

■ **Guilford County, North Carolina banned pound seizure** at the behest of the North Carolina Network for Animals, just a week after Duke University, the University of North Carolina, and private biomedical researchers formed an anti-animal rights alliance.

■ **World Health Organization research** recently led the USDA to lower contraceptive licensing requirements to two years' study on rats, three years on beagles, and 18 months on mice. Requirements had been seven years on beagles, ten years on monkeys, and two years on rats.

■ **A combined desert turtle refuge** and low-level radioactive waste dump at Ward Valley, California, is being planned by the waste management firm U.S. Ecology. The waste, mainly from hospital X-rays, will go on 100 acres, while the turtles will get the surrounding 19,000 acres.

■ **Horses like living with other horses** in natural light, Cornell University veterinarians have discovered. This confirmation of nature could revolutionize horse breeding.

■ **After denying any part** in selling furs for Barbie dolls, Mattel introduced an "Animal-lover Barbie" whose clothes look like animal skins. Write Mattel again at 5150 Rosecrans Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250.

■ **There are 54.6 million companion cats** in the U.S., 52.4 million dogs, and 12.9 million caged birds, says the American Pet Food Manufacturers Association. Bird ownership is up 24 percent since 1985. 43 percent of the caged birds are parakeets; 18 percent are cockatiels; parrots, finches, and canaries account for seven percent each; lovebirds for five percent; cockatoos for two percent.



New studies reveal that parrots are capable of understanding the meaning of words.

■ **The Bureau of Land Management wants to cut wild horse numbers** to less than in 1971, when the horses were first protected, charged the American Horse Protection Association in a new position paper. According to AHPA, a third of all wild horse herds have been eliminated, and the population is now barely half what the BLM claims. For details, write AHPA at 1000 29th St. NW, Suite T-100, Washington, DC 20007.

■ **Cats were ordered indoors for 90 days** in Prince William County, Virginia, after discovery of three rabid strays. The county planned to trap some 4,000 feral cats.

NEWS SHORTS

■ **Schering, parent firm of Maybelline and Scholl**, recently put 1500 animals through painful tests without anesthesia, then asked the USDA to erase Animal Welfare Act violations because "the inspection reports with these citations are obtained under the Freedom of Information Act by organizations intent upon embarrassing the scientific community." Which is just what the International Society for Animal Rights did.

■ **Exploiting an 1872 mining law**, developers have recently bought public land from the Department of the Interior for as little as \$2.50 an acre, says the General Accounting Office. Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan has pledged to amend the law.

■ **The American Horse Protection Association has sued** to overturn new USDA rules for walking horses put into effect March 20. The AHPA contends the rules bypass the intent of the Horse Protection Act.

■ **Shelters are scrambling** to dispose of euthanized carcasses. Most dumps won't take carcasses, few shelters have proper crematoria, and renderers—who once turned the carcasses into pet food—are now refusing them because cats and dogs aren't efficient to process.

■ **Only two Colorado counties**, Larimer and Denver, still permit pound seizure, and the Humane Society of Larimer County just severed its supply deal with Colorado State University. Local activists are uncertain, however, if this is really a victory. At the same meeting the society, in the midst of a power struggle between animal rights activists and biomedical interests, fired board member Jeff Young, who led the push against pound seizure.

■ **The poultry breeder Arbor Acres** has dropped a three-year effort to "improve" chickens through genetic manipulation.

■ **There were 263 million laying hens** in the U.S. in 1980, but only 232 million now, a drop of 12 percent.



Lead shot can poison birds.

■ **Ingested lead shot** killed 34 trumpeter swans in Minnesota last winter, cutting the state's wild population to 86, of about 2,000 nationwide. One lead pellet, mistaken for a snail or a pebble, will poison most waterfowl within weeks. Though lead shot will be banned in 1991, it already pollutes most wetlands, killing up to three million waterfowl a year.

■ **The New York department store FAO Schwarz**, already infamous for fur and ivory sales, further offended animal protectors recently by displaying a live elephant to promote merchandise associated with the Babar movie.

■ **Evading laws barring the sale of "game,"** the University of New Hampshire since 1984 has "given" dozens of deer to hunting preserve owner Laurent Gilbert, who has in turn donated \$14,000 to the UNH wildlife department.

■ **Socialite Patricia Rose Kluge** is reportedly closing her captive bird shoot at Charlottesville, Virginia, and opening a new one in northern Scotland. (See "Poetry In Munitions," April 1989.)

■ **Plastic models of canine bones** that can be fixed like real bones are saving 100 dogs a year at the University of Illinois veterinary school in Urbana. Save the Animals Fund put up \$2,000 of the \$12,000 cost of setting up the plastic bone lab. The bones are cast in molds made from real bones by Pacific Research of Vachon, Washington.

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She had not expected to die. It was a heart attack. She lay dead in the house undiscovered for three days. With her were four dogs and five cats. When the police came, the cats scattered. The dogs were handed over to a humane organization. They were all old, fragile, or sick. One was totally blind. They spent their last two weeks uncomfortable and fearful, until they were finally euthanized. The cats' story is even worse. They struggled on their own for months before being rescued.

It may seem that a will would have been the solution to this problem, but while wills are necessary to settle your affairs properly, companion animals require further protection. Weeks can pass before a will is acted upon or even located. During this time, companion animals can die, or be lost, hurt, or otherwise traumatized. They need food and care from the very first day—and extra-special care, too, because they will miss you greatly and won't understand why you're gone.



What to do

1. Designate some person to take custody of your companion animals immediately in the event of your death or a sudden incapacitating illness or injury.
2. Post the phone number and address of the designated person where it cannot be missed. A close neighbor might also be given this information.
3. Give the designated person a signed letter from you granting him or her permission to take possession of your animals. This will help satisfy requirements of the police or other authorities.
4. Consider giving the person a key to your home.
5. Include information about these arrangements in your will.

Don't put it off. Provide for the future care of your dependent animals today!

Reprinted from The Furbearers, 2235 Commercial Dr., Vancouver, BC V5N 4B6, Canada.

COMMENT

Confession of a Closet Vegetarian

BY DEBORAH GIBBONS

If you saw me at the grocery store with my three little cherubs in tow, you'd probably think I look pretty normal. In my well-worn Nikes, pink sweats with baby drool on the shoulder, and Cheryl Tiegs designer glasses from the Sears Roebuck optometry clinic, there would be nothing to distinguish me from all the other harried, middle-class housewives plowing down the aisles—except that I harbor a deep, dark secret that only my closest friends, immediate family members, and hairdresser know about.

No, I'm not the illegitimate love-child of Elvis Presley, or one of the privileged

few who have been beamed aboard an alien spacecraft and lived to tell about it. Nor have I been secretly photographed in a sleazy motel room doing unspeakable things with Jimmy Swaggart.

The truth is, I'm a hard-core vegetarian, converted five years ago by an animal rights brainwashing squad, after a lifetime of gorging on the flesh of cows, pigs, chickens, and other assorted creatures.

"What's the big deal?" you ask. Well, it's not a big deal if your head is shaved, your body wrapped in miles of flowing muslin, and you earn your livelihood playing tambourines and peddling flowers. You're expected to be a vegetarian! It's awkward, though, when your husband's new boss, who also just happens to be co-owner of Jack and Al's Meat

and Butcher Shop, invites you over for a get-acquainted barbeque and asks you if you'd prefer T-bones or filet mignons.

Vegetarianism can be downright heart-breaking when a freckle-faced little boy shows up on your doorstep with a sob story about needing to sell only 173 more foot-long pepperoni sticks by today's deadline to win a week-long, all-expense-paid trip to Orain, Oregon. How do you justify your moral stand against the inherent cruelty in the factory farm industry to a teary-eyed seven-year-old who sees his last shot at the big time going down the tubes?

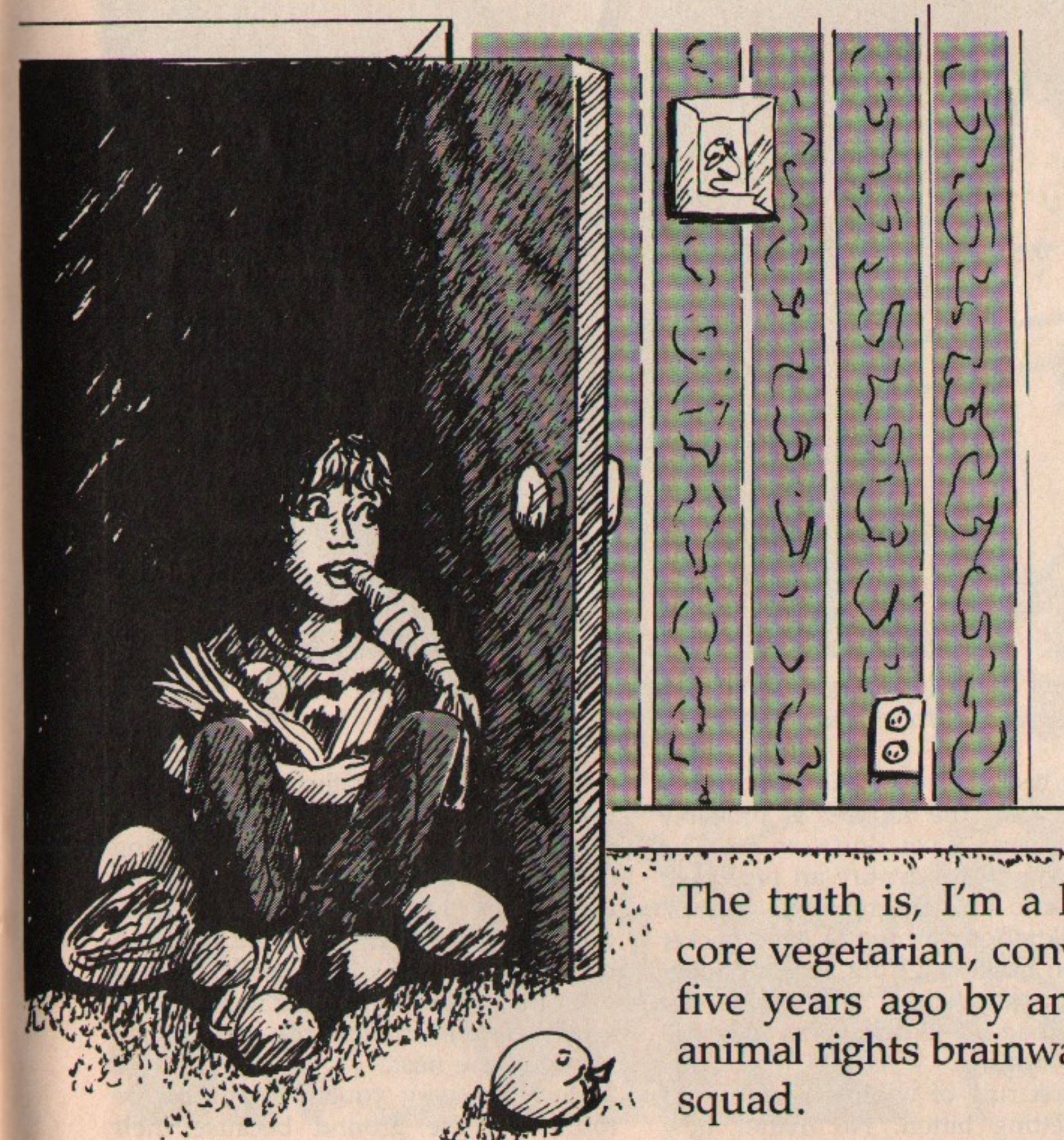
It's embarrassing, too, when a persistent product representative from Oscar Mayer, encased in a giant wienie costume, pursues you down the aisle during a grocery story opening, insisting that you try a sample of her company's new hot dog on a rope, "for people on the go." First, you politely tell her, "No, thanks," and then, "I'm still full from lunch." But that doesn't deter her, so, in exasperation, you finally yell, "I'm a vegetarian, lady, leave me alone!" The aisle suddenly clears and you discover how a government auditor must feel at a Pentagon Christmas party.

"So what kind of social life do I have?" you ask. Mainly, my husband (who is also a vegetarian) and I enjoy clandestine get-togethers with other non-meat-eaters with whom we are collaborating on a surefire best seller entitled *1001 Ways to Enjoy Refried Beans*.

Holiday dinners are somewhat strained these days. Do you know what it's like to try to stare nonchalantly at your meatless plate while two dozen relatives, not wishing to offend you, pass a 20-pound platter heaped with turkey under the table?

No doubt, vegetarianism does have its drawbacks. But when you consider that I'm 52 pounds lighter than I was five years ago, have low blood pressure, the cholesterol level of a newborn, the lowest grocery bill in the neighborhood, no greasy messes to clean up in the kitchen, and the satisfaction of knowing that no animals are dying to become my dinner, it's not such a bad deal after all!

Deborah Gibbons is the vice president of Northwest Action for Animals. This article won a humorous writing contest sponsored by one of Washington's largest daily newspapers.



The truth is, I'm a hard-core vegetarian, converted five years ago by an animal rights brainwashing squad.

When You Find An Orphan— Do's and Don'ts of Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation

BY MERRITT CLIFTON

"...the ground was torn and bloodstained, the earth moist and the leaves scattered. The raccoon had been caught, torn apart, and devoured by dogs."

So began Tom Brown's first wildlife rescue, described in his book *The Search*. Days later, Brown discovered the victim's den. "I reached in and grabbed a handful of fur and pulled it out. There in my hand was a baby raccoon, dead. I was shocked and thought I'd cry, until I remembered that raccoons give birth to more than one baby. I reached again and again and each time I pulled out a dead baby raccoon. I felt hollow. Yet there was a sound. A weak, monosyllabic sound like the mew of a kitten. I lifted my head and listened intently. I heard it again and forced my arm and hand to move toward the hole that had offered up nothing but death. I plunged my hand in and grabbed wildly at a little ball of fur, knowing that it would not be alive. But it was—it was weak and almost dead from hunger, but it was breathing."

Other rescues begin with finding an owl caught in a leghold trap, a baby bird on a sidewalk, an oil-fouled seagull or turtle on the beach, or noticing movement in an apparent road-kill. First comes exhilaration at discovering life, at being able to help, and at getting close to an animal usually seen only at a distance, in rapid retreat. Then come the problems: How to help? Where to find information? Just how does one rescue and rehabilitate a young raccoon, owl, or turtle, anyway?

May is the peak month for wildlife rescues, according to Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation executive director Lynn Cuny, "because that's when all the baby animals come out. Most of them don't need to be rescued, but people find them and bring them in anyway." Baby rabbits appear helpless when they "freeze" and are easily caught, but can be self-sufficient when only four inches long. Fawns may look abandoned while the mother forages—but unless you know a



Raccoons are frequently injured by motor vehicles, as well as by hunters and trappers. Often, they can be saved.

doe has been killed recently in the immediate area, the mother is probably watching, even if you don't see her. The only sure way to identify an orphaned animal is to find the mother's carcass, then backtrack to the den. A good tracker can often backtrack from a newly road-killed nursing female and rescue her young. Road-killed opossums may still carry live young.

The first rule of wildlife rescue is to avoid getting bitten. No matter how young and weak the animal, he's likely to be frightened and frantic.

Baby birds found on the ground usually tried to fly too soon or simply fell from the nest. A rescue is as easy as putting them back. According to Carol Meyer of the Texas Wildlife Rehabilitation Coalition, it isn't necessary to avoid touching baby birds, so long as they aren't removed from the area around their nest. If they are removed from sight, the parents may abandon the nest.

However, very young birds may be found on the ground because their parents evicted them on account of physical defects, or because stronger sib-

lings crowded them out. These have a slim chance of survival no matter what you do.

Some birds, like the killdeer, nest on the ground. To fool predators, the nests don't look like nests. Despite appearances, a baby killdeer on the ground is probably neither in distress nor abandoned.

Distinguishing injured birds can be hard, since mothers of many species feign injury and emit distress calls to decoy predators away from their nest. To capture such an "injured" bird and attempt to treat it is to doom her eggs or nestlings.

Birds must be identified by species as quickly as possible, not only to make sure they should be rescued, but also to feed them correctly. High protein cat chow soaked in water will sustain insectivores. Seed-eaters may be given oatmeal or cooked millet.

Don't try to water a baby bird. "This is totally foreign to it," Meyer explains. "Adult birds do not bring them water, just food. Frequently they will aspirate the water into their lungs and get pneumonia."

HOWL, the Help Our WildLife center run by the Progressive Animal Welfare Society in Lynnwood, Washington, gives further tips. "Most wild babies have sensitive digestive systems and require specialized diets," HOWL flyers explain. "You can help [an orphaned animal] most by keeping it warm and contacting HOWL," or your local equivalent. "In the case of an injured animal," HOWL adds, "it is best to call someone experienced in handling wildlife, thus avoiding further

injury to the animal as well as possible injury to yourself. Often an injured animal will crawl into bushes or under a log and disappear, so try to leave someone watching the animal while you go for help."

If you do rescue a wild animal yourself, HOWL concludes, "Never try to make it a pet. Wild animals are generally not happy in captivity. Confinement goes against the very instincts of their wildness." In many states and provinces, keeping wildlife without a permit is illegal.

Despite increasing institutional involvement, most wildlife rescue and rehab work is still done through private initiative.

Martine Colette put \$250,000 into founding the nation's biggest wildlife rehab center in 1976. Her Wildlife Waystation, a 160-acre site in the Angeles National Forest, near Los Angeles, California, was planned as a sanctuary for unwanted exotic animals, but rehab soon took priority. Wildlife Waystation sends rescue teams in response to calls about marauding animals or injured animals, and also accepts injured wildlife from regional humane societies. More injured animals are brought by the Los Angeles Department of Animal Regulation, which evacuates wildlife of every sort from suburbs to the outlying hills. Wildlife Waystation shelters from 600 to 1,000 animals at a time, most of whom return soon to their native habitat.

Betsy Lewis began the next biggest



Road-killed opossums may be carrying live young, whose survival depends on immediate and expert care.

rehab center, Lifeline for Wildlife, in January, 1979. She ran it alone for three years. Located an hour from Manhattan, the center now has 14 full-time employees plus many part-timers, who help 4,500 animals a year. Animals are referred from such organizations as the ASPCA, Staten Island Zoo, Bronx Zoo, Animal Medical Center, and National Audubon Society. Despite the references, the Lifeline budget of over \$5,000 a week still comes entirely from private sources, a typical situation. Lifeline's new wildlife hospital was built with donations of labor and materials coordinated by sympathizer Ray Carlisle, president of AARK Construction. Throughout the job, Lewis appealed for "concrete" aid.

New York State Police investigator Sue McDonough and five others formed the Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Network in 1987 at Brunswick, New York. WREN occupies McDonough's 40-acre farm, in the midst of a 700-acre tract posted against hunting and trapping. "This is not a hobby, it's a dedication," McDonough tells reporters. "When other people are at the beach, I take care of animals." Her father did wildlife rehab before her. So far, most WREN rescues have been deer struck by cars and animals of various sorts who lost paws to leghold traps.

Sigrid Ueblacker founded the Birds of
Continued on next page



A flight enclosure at the Birds of Prey Rehabilitation Center outside Denver.

Continued from previous page

Prey Rehabilitation Center outside Denver in 1981. She accepted 50 raptors her first year, 150 two years later, 205 in 1984, and 300 last year. She has successfully rehabilitated over 1,000 raptors in less than a decade, with a higher-than-average release rate of 65 percent. In September 1987, she released a peregrine falcon, the first in 15 years to be rehabilitated in Colorado.

Ueblacker keeps the birds in 19 chambers, six flight enclosures made of wooden strips to avoid potentially injurious wire, and a former milking barn now used as an intensive care unit. Two more flight enclosures, which will be the biggest in the nation, are being built by some of Ueblacker's 20 volunteer aides. The large enclosures allow Ueblacker to see if the recovering birds can catch their own live food before they are released—something many animal rights activists would find objectionable. The birds eat about 120 rabbits a month.

Formed by Lynn Cuny in 1978, Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation of San Antonio, Texas was nearly wiped out by a 1985 flash flood, but the big cats took to trees, birds flew, and most of the animals survived. On March 1, 1986, Cuny opened a new 21-acre refuge at a safer site. By May 1987, the refuge held over 200 animals, including raccoons, jaguars, mountain lions, and various raptors. The year-round average is about 150. In 11 years, the facility has assisted as many as 15,000 animals.

A short distance away, by Texas standards, the Houston-based Texas Wildlife Rehabilitation Coalition first assembled in response to a major oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Some 300 volunteers were

trained to aid the animal victims. As it happened, that disaster produced few victims, but the group remained active, finding other animals who needed help.

At Dillsboro, Indiana, former Cincinnati Zoo staffer Paul Strasser has run a 23-acre rehab center devoted to predator species for the past decade. Recent guests included four grey wolves, two red wolf/coyote hybrids, a mountain lion, two golden eagles, a great horned owl, and a barn owl. Most of Strasser's animals were maimed by hunters, some of whom don't quit. When four of his wolves escaped in 1986, three were shot dead.

Dorothy Spero pioneered marine rescue and rehab at her West Quoddy Biological Research Station, near Lubec, Maine, set up in 1979. Ecological research was Spero's first purpose, and still is, but almost immediately she and her volunteer staff also began saving stranded dolphins, whales caught in fishing nets, and seals wounded by fishermen's gunfire.

The Connecticut state Department of Environmental Protection has licensed some 120 wildlife rehabilitators since 1982, most of whom work out of big backyards. Recognizing that amateur wildlife rescues could produce a lot of half-tame nuisance animals unable to cope on their own, Connecticut requires would-be rehabilitators to show they can train animals to return to their native habitat.

Ruth and Bob Hummel of Plainfield were among the first licensees, having done rehab work since the early 1970s. "You can't raise a baby raccoon on dog chow, take him out in the woods, pat him on his little behind, and say 'Go be a wild raccoon,'" Ruth Hummel explains. Rac-

coons readily forage in gardens and cornfields, but learning to survive all year is tougher. "You've got to teach them to turn over rocks to find beetles," Hummel continues. "You've got to put crayfish in their water dish so that when they go to a reservoir or a little marsh area, they are going to know there's crayfish in that water."

In 1987 Anita Porto founded The Nature Connection at Madison, Connecticut, a project combining rehab of troubled youths and injured animals. Animals are attended by a mix of volunteers, aged 11 to 17, and youths suffering from acute shyness, withdrawal, or learning disabilities, who have been referred by guidance counselors. A second branch was started last year in Waterbury. While rehab work occupies the summers, Nature Connection groups remain together to do humane education each winter. The Nature Connection gets grants from several sources, plus food donations and free veterinary care, but Porto admits, "We are always operating in a deficit," because "nobody wants to pay for administrative things."

Donna and Kevin Haynes brought wildlife rehab back to Kentucky last year, after others quit in exhaustion or went broke trying to keep centers going. They struggle too, despite veterinary care and hardware needs supplied at cost. As in Connecticut, Kentucky requires rehabilitators to train the animals they treat to return to the wild.

Despite the hardship of tight budgets and little help, some private rehabilitators set remarkable standards. Katherine McKeever has done owl rehab and captive breeding at her Owl Rehabilitation and Research Foundation in Vineland Station, Ontario, for 23 years. Of 2,500 owls she has helped, some 200 members of 10 species were permanently crippled, and remain with her as breeders, two in each cage of from 500 to 3,000 square feet. The owls get their choice of various nest and perch styles, and the cages are built around trees and hillside, so as to resemble natural habitat. McKeever's center has become the biggest breeder of scarce raptors in the world, exceeding the accomplishments of the best-endowed zoos. McKeever told wildlife journalist Judy Hughes recently that she thinks her cage style should be the standard at raptor centers, not the exception. "Most bird of prey centers in the United States are run by institutions, universities, or veterinary colleges that don't think enough about what the birds need," she argued.

Hughes formerly worked for the Raptor Research and Rehabilitation Program (RRRP) at the University of Minnesota.



—Tom Jenkins

Sigrid Ueblacker with an owl. She has successfully rehabilitated over 1,000 raptors in less than a decade.

Since 1972, RRRP has aided nearly 4,000 birds, including almost 400 bald eagles and 75 peregrine falcons. RRRP claims a success rate of returning birds to the wild of "nearly 50 percent." Permanently disabled birds are used in a captive breeding program. RRRP also collects data on leghold trap injuries and the effects of pollution on raptors.

RRRP is only one of many recently founded institutional wildlife rescue and rehab centers. The seven-year-old National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association has over 700 North American members at some 225 centers, while worldwide, the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council claims 1,000 members. (Their membership overlaps.) Aquatic rehab centers are linked by the Marine Mammal Stranding Network, a private group working with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

"Ten years ago," Sy Montgomery wrote recently in *Animals*, "the few kind-hearted folks who took in injured wildlife could offer their patients little more than warmth and love. In makeshift clinics run out of garages and backyards, most of their injured robins, sick squirrels, and maimed rabbits eventually died despite their best intentions. Lacking experience and specialized training, these good-Samaritan handlers sometimes caused their charges unnecessary suffering and stress. Most animals that survived lost

their wilderness skills and never were able to live free again."

Montgomery's charges may have been unfair, since Colette, Lewis, Cuny, McKeever, and others have as good a record at rehab and release into the wild as anyone; few rehabilitators can claim better than a 50 percent survival rate, and those who do are necessarily quite selective about which animals they choose to help.

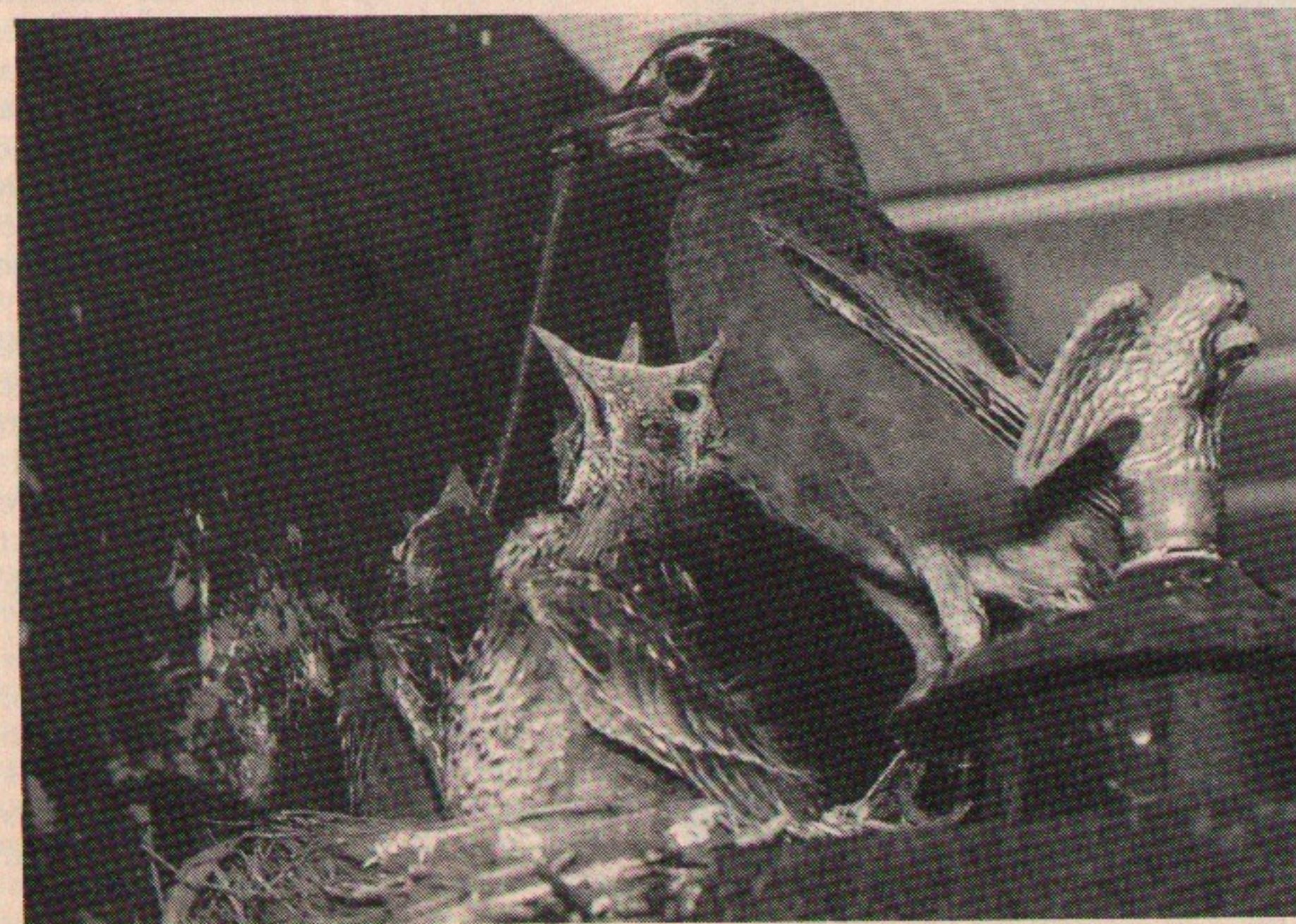
Institutional ties help rescuers and rehabilitators raise funds, a job that otherwise may take more energy than remains for the animals. But even an institutional name doesn't insure solvency. RRRP gets under 20 percent of its budget from the University of Minnesota. Grants and donations cover the rest. Care costs RRRP as much as \$500 per bird, ten times the cost at private facilities. Institutions accept common birds mainly to help veterinary interns learn to treat more prestigious endangered species. Some institutional centers use common species in lab research, not what most people who take them injured animals intend. While the institutions do pioneer advanced rehab techniques, they help animals mainly as a business function—not from love.

An alternative is for major animal concern groups to fund rescue and rehab. The PAWS/HOWL project in Washington is one example. Another, perhaps the most ambitious rehab project yet, is the Wild Animal Orphanage and Rehabilitation Center in Liberia, funded by Friends of Animals. The recently-opened center includes a 24-acre collection and quarantine site near Monrovia, mostly housing animals confiscated from smugglers. From quarantine, the animals go to a 505-acre site at the Sapo National Park wildlife sanctuary, where they are freed when ready.

For anyone empathic toward animals, rescue and rehab work can be frustrating and disillusioning. In my own first attempts, I put a baby bird back into the nest with his siblings, only to watch both parents swoop down, push him out, and tear his head off. Next I freed a squirrel who had been glued to hot asphalt by a car that crushed only her forepaws. She died anyway of shock and fright, as did a young rabbit I took from a cat who carried him like a kitten.


The deaths may be called part of the balance of nature, survival of the fittest. But automobiles, toxic chemicals, and housecats who don't eat their prey aren't really part of nature. In that respect, rehab only helps restore the balance, just a little.

To locate wildlife rehabilitation near you, contact animal shelters or your state's wildlife agency. Injured animals should be examined promptly by a veterinarian, who can also advise about diet and care for most species.



Rescuing baby birds may be as simple as putting them back in the nest.

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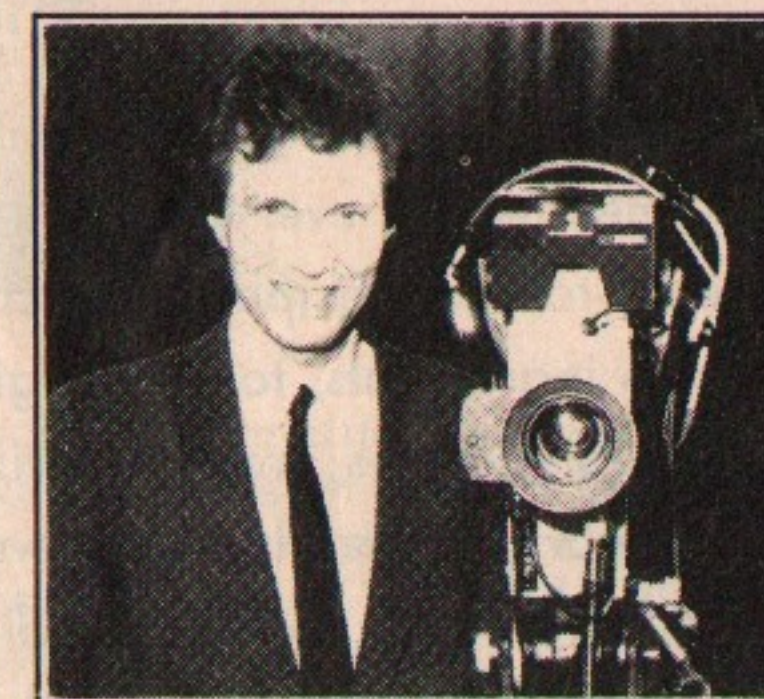
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MEDICINE: IN LAY TERMS

BY NEAL D. BARNARD, M.D.

A Draize Alternative

The Noxell Corporation, makers of Noxzema, Cover Girl, and other cosmetic products has consistently opposed efforts to ban animal testing. But recently Noxell announced that the company will use an alternative to the Draize test. The new test is called the agarose diffusion method. In validation trials, this test has compared very favorably to the Draize test.

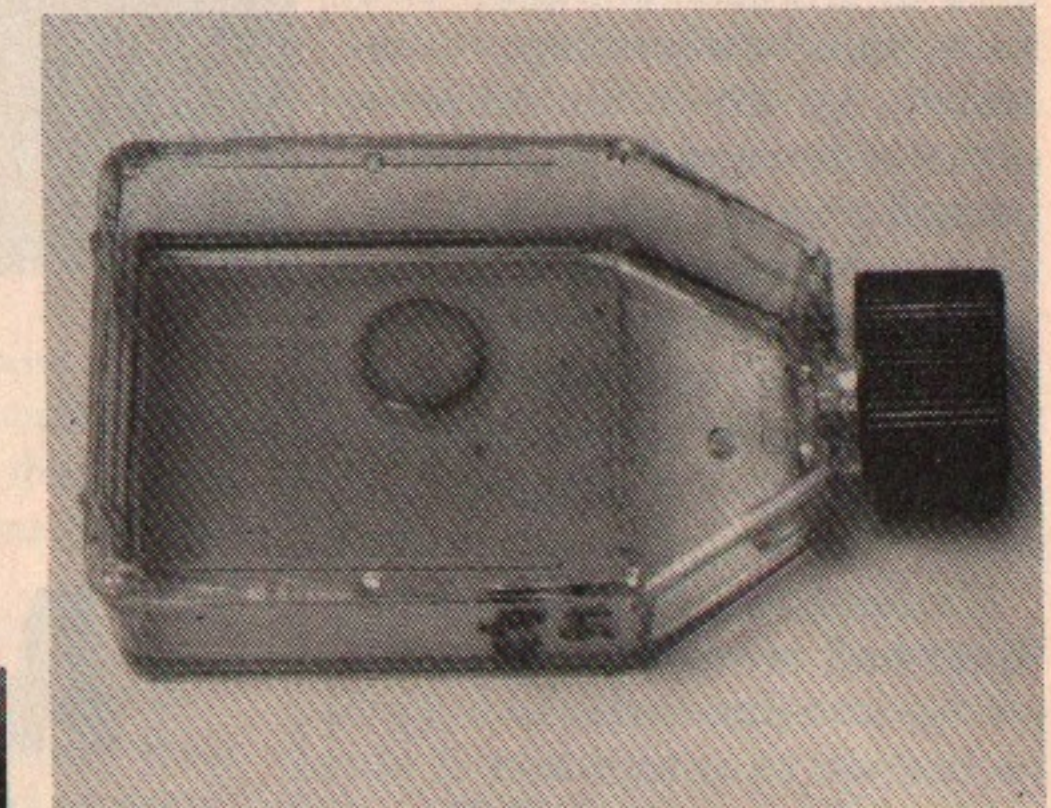
The agarose diffusion test has long been used for testing the safety of plastics and other synthetic materials in medical devices that come in contact with human tissues. Heart valves, intravenous lines, artificial joints, and other products have been tested for irritancy with this method for about 25 years. The method was adapted for testing cosmetic products by Richard F. Wallin and R. Douglas Hume of North American Science Associates in Northwood, Ohio, and Edward M. Jackson of Noxell. The test is included in the *U.S. Pharmacopeia*, an indication of its official acceptance.

In the procedure, a thin layer of cells is placed along the bottom of a flask. Small amounts of the substances to be tested are placed on top of the cell layer. A thin cushion of agarose, a polysaccharide derivative of the sea plant agar, allows the test material to be held near the cells without crushing them. If the test material is an irritant, a zone of killed cells will be seen around it.

In their 1987 report, Wallin, Hume, and Jackson found an 81 percent correlation between the agarose diffusion method and the Draize test for 16 products. The discrepancy can be credited to the fact that the agarose method is slightly more sensitive than the Draize: two substances that passed the Draize showed some potential for danger in the agarose method. In addition, one chemical that failed the Draize appeared to be non-irritating in the agarose method.

In their next report, the authors tested 22 cosmetic products and found a 100 percent correlation with the Draize. The two tests agreed in every case. The researchers stated: "The most impressive result... is the 100 percent correlation between *in vivo* and *in vitro* test results. The agarose diffusion test correctly identified every test material, whether it was positive or

The agarose diffusion method is a nonanimal screening test Noxell will use in place of the Draize eye irritancy test which is performed on rabbits. The culture flask shown contains a test disc with mascara.



negative in previously conducted Draize tests."

Regarding the broad applicability of the test, they stated: "To date, we have tested virtually every type of aqueous and non-aqueous cosmetic product formulation type by using actual finished cosmetic products as test materials. These products were emulsions (oil/water and water/oil; pigmented and nonpigmented), solutions, suspensions (both water-based and hydrocarbon-based), gels, and physical mixtures (both powder and wax mixtures)." Specifically, they tested several mascaras, gel and paste oral hygiene products, powders, nail glaze and polish, lipstick, and facial cleansers.

The new method costs less than the Draize. The agarose diffusion test costs \$50 to \$100 per product compared to \$500

to \$700 per product for the Draize. The agarose diffusion test can be run in 24 hours, in contrast to the Draize which must be read at 1, 2, and 3 days, and again at days 7, 14, and 21 for products causing continuing irritation. Furthermore, the agarose diffusion test can be run in any microbiology laboratory. It does not require tissue culture capabilities or other laboratory modifications, or special technician training.

The test uses cells that originally came from mice. However, these cells are now obtained from cultured immortal cell lines, so no further animals are required.

Dr. Barnard is chairman of the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, P.O. Box 6322, Washington, DC 20015; (202) 483-1312.

It was along about Wasson or Pankeyville when I began to feel the jitters. Route 45 through the southern tip of Illinois is beaded with barren little towns. For miles, I had seen nothing but feed stores and gun shops, reminding me that I was in the midst of a region that draws its money, sport, and soul from busting the lives of animals. It must have been bowhunting season, for down the occasional side road I could see parked pickup trucks and men garbed from head to toe in camouflage gear. I had intended to camp out, but that began to appear out of the question. I pressed on.

Crossing the Mississippi River had always been exciting, but this time, as I looked down under the bridge, the river looked like an open sewer. Crumbled hulks of boats and barges lay rotting along the edges of the riverbed. Below them, in what was left of the main channel, swirled the slime and sludge from thousands of towns to the north, east, and west.

I was in a foul frame of mind for what lay ahead: Cape Girardeau, Missouri, the site of an annual auction of exotic animals claimed by its promoters to be the world's largest. Each October, this seamy trade fair draws breeders, collectors, suppliers, exhibitors, hobbyists, and killers from all over. For five days and nights, they eat, sleep, and drink together—all the while bargaining, trading, complaining, and trying to expand their markets. It's the best place to go if you want a quick education on who's who and what's what in exotic animal trafficking.

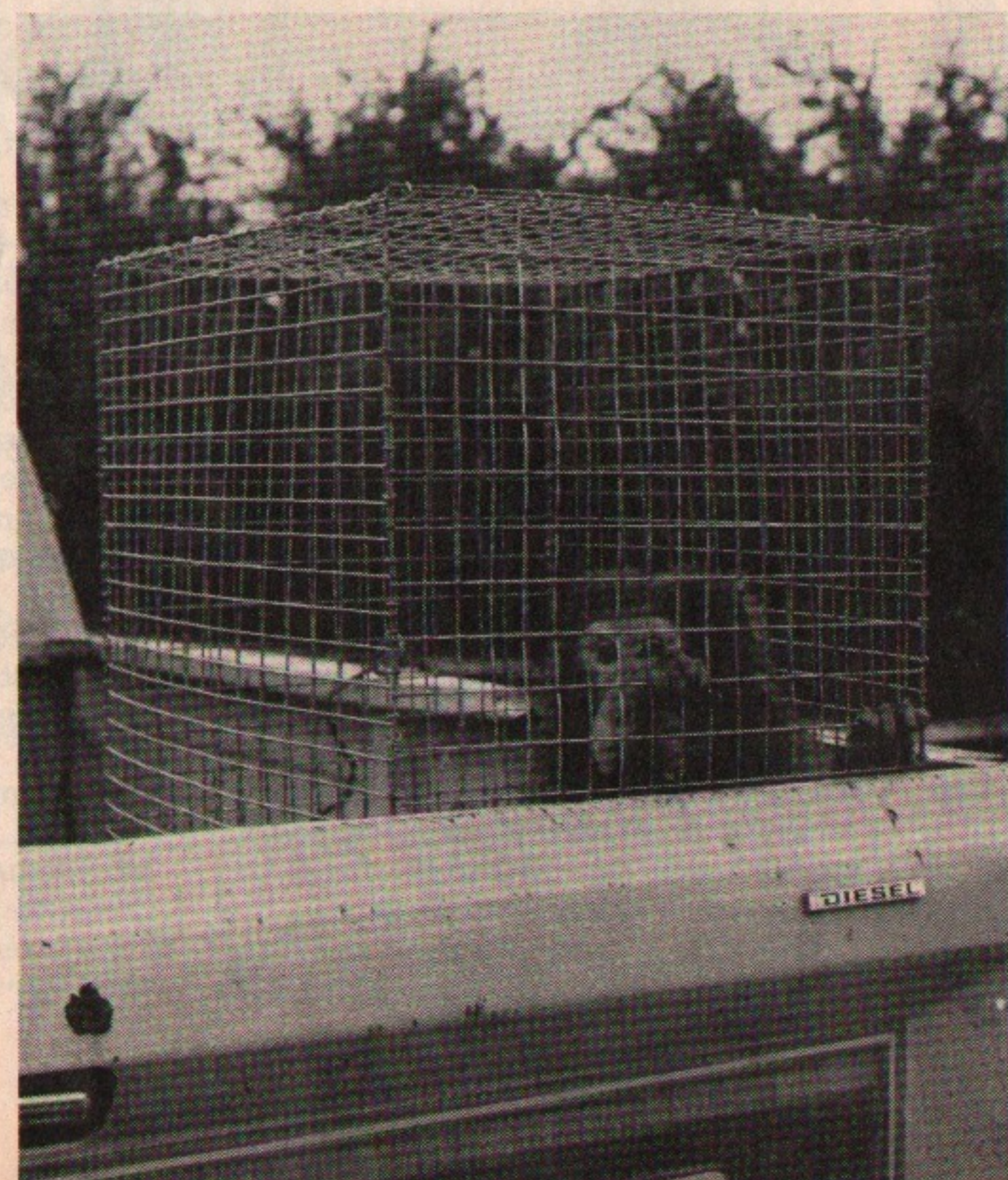
I did, and I figured the best approach would be to get there a day or two early and offer to pitch in with the chores of feeding, watering, and handling animals. Gathering the goods for my book *Animal Factories* taught me that you can get what you need on animal exploitation by working alongside its profiteers for a



—Photos by Jim Mason

A Trip to the World's Largest Exotic Animal Auction

BY JIM MASON



while. To pull it off, you have to fit in, though; you have to engage and disarm people. You have to be "one of them" to gain their trust and confidence—hoping all the time to find out what they don't want people to know.

It was relatively easy for me to disarm them. I had been raised on a farm and have a lot of experience in tending and handling animals. I'm also a semiprofessional photographer of wildlife and no one doubted my story that I was drawn to the auction because it offered an excellent, inexpensive way to get close-up shots of unusual animals from faraway lands. To practice my role—to get into it before getting to the auction—I first went to a local bar for a beer and a chat. I knew enough to be cool and not too curious. Accordingly, in keeping with my assumed persona, I changed the subject often to ball scores, the weather, and all sorts of extraneous matters.

Preparations made, mind properly framed, I rolled into Hale's 5-H Ranch, five miles north of Cape Girardeau on Route W, on a blazing Friday morning in October. It was a great day for some outdoor work, and I joined "Ron" in hosing down some empty cages. Straight off, I got lucky. A woman in her fifties, whom I'll call "Katie," dropped by for some cages, and we began to talk about the auction. Katie, it turned out, makes her living tending to exotic animals, and she knew all about the trade. She was also (I would come to find out) an animal "lover," albeit one who had taken to working within an exploitative trade in order to have a life among animals. How many like her, I wondered, make a living in zoos, circuses, farms, and other such places? How quickly she would be cast from that life among animals if she raised a voice or a finger against it.

Katie dropped what she was doing to take me on a tour of the auction grounds. It was a maze of pens,

barns, and tents, all interconnected by chutes and runs. Everything was laid out to make it easy to get animals from the trucks to the holding pens, to the auction arena, and then back to the pens or the new owners' trucks. As we walked among giraffes, zebras, Watasi cattle, buffalo, elk, and four-horned goats, we talked about the exotic animal business. Katie told me that, yes, the zoos dump some animals here, but "they don't like to be associated with us." The zoos, it seems, have lofty ideas and a prestige that would be sullied by any direct involvement with private profiteers. So they use go-betweens—brokers—to take surplus animals off their hands and to the auctions.



I suppose we can dispense here with some of the more obvious details of the business. This tawdry trade has been amply covered in previous issues of *The ANIMALS' AGENDA*, notably the articles by Merritt Clifton ("Exotics for Slaughter," July/August 1987; "Chuckling Zoo Animals Overboard," March 1988; and "Big-time Poaching: Game No Longer," July/August 1988). In a nutshell, it has become too expensive and troublesome to go to Africa, Asia, and other continents for unusual animals. Now those who



want lions, elephants, giraffes, llamas, and ostriches can get them right here in the U.S.A.

Who wants these animals? People who run drive-through "safari parks" and petting zoos. Some of the consumers are simply rural folk who have enough land for a few buffalo or Sicilian donkeys—for pets, essentially. But then many of them naturally get to wondering how they can make some money, and so they start a petting zoo or they become breeders. In fact, small-farm advocates are encouraging rural people to start breeding exotic species for the pet/exhibitor trade. The word goes out that such-and-such species is selling like hotcakes. In recent years, the "hot" sellers have been miniature horses, llamas, and Sika deer. This year, everybody was talking about "getting into" Vietnamese pot-bellied pigs and ostriches.

Oddities. People want oddities. Then such-and-such becomes common, and the fad shifts to another species.

Of course, you can do what the miniature horse fanciers have done. You can take a common animal and tinker with size, shape, and color until you have a new oddity. Like in dog and cat breeding. When the auction ring opened on Sunday, it was full of miniature horses for hours. These animals are described by size: "Now

folks, here's as good a 30-inch mare as you'll ever see. Her daddy's that 28-inch stallion you just saw in here."

In the pens out back, Katie stopped at one and said, "Poor little thing, they oughta put her out of her misery." The pen contained a deformed dwarf horse, straining to stand up on twisted legs and feet. Her breathing sounded forced, difficult—just what you would expect through a misshapen mouth and nose.

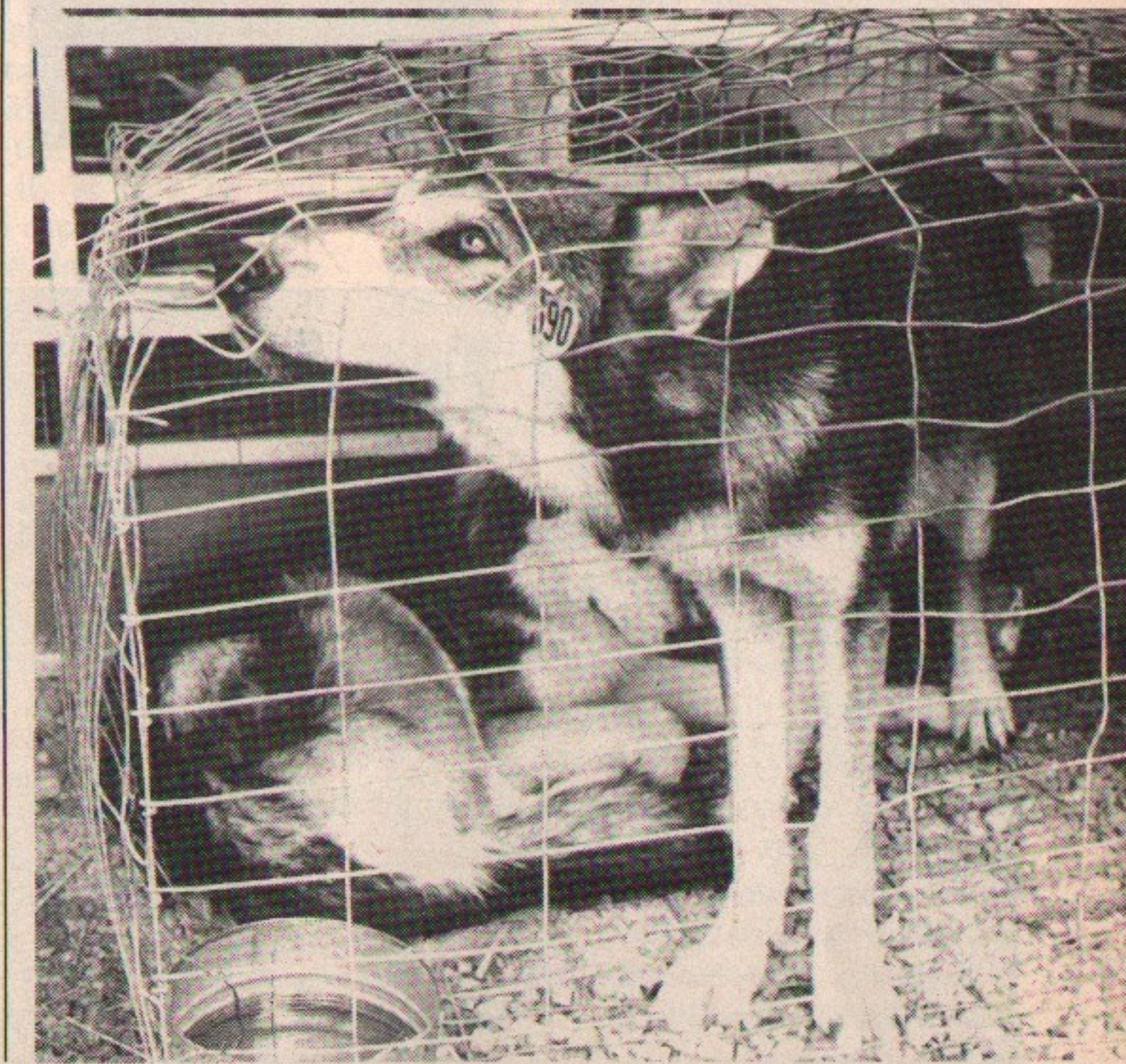
Novelties. Curios. What the hell, species are endangered—you've got to get them while you can.

But here's what will happen: Zebras and ostriches

are hot now, but they are difficult animals to handle. Katie told me, "You can go in the pens with most animals, but don't try it with a zebra or ostrich. They're killers." People are already wanting docile, pettable zebras and ostriches. Pretty soon they'll want miniature docile, pettable zebras and ostriches. Right after that, they'll want pink and grey miniature, docile, pettable zebras and ostriches. Endangered species—or any exotic species, for that matter—having lost out in their natural habitat, will be "saved" by the breeders and traders, who will turn them into so many toys and gimmicks.

Katie gave me one good chore: I "baby-sat" a month-old lion cub for a couple of hours. It was easy. All I had to do was get in the pen, lie down, and let the little, bratty fur-ball chew on me. At one point, he wearied of that and took a short nap on my tummy. A few hours later, I learned that a woman had bought him for \$450. And I learned that in a year, the woman would probably be trying to give him away, that she'd be lucky to get \$75 for him.

Continued on next page



Continued from previous page

There's not much demand for an adult lion—alive, that is. Most of these cute babies end up on hunting ranches in Texas and Colorado, where rich, "sporting" men pay a few thousand to take a trophy head or skin back home. This is much more convenient than going all the way to Africa. Since the trip can be short, one doesn't chance missing any important business meetings.

No questions are asked when the breeders turn over animals to farmers and fanciers. Never mind that these animals are attuned to climates not of North America, or diets the average small-town feed store can't supply. But I'm sure exotic animal fanciers would assure us that, since they have invested so much money in them, the animals' welfare is virtually guaranteed.

I got a pretty good reading on their notion of animal welfare during my long hours in the "caged animal and bird tent." This was a circus-type tent with rows and rows of cages, often stacked on each other. Animals were brought in boxes, buckets, peach baskets, homemade chicken-wire jobs, and just about every sort of container you could find by a supermarket dumpster. The auctioneers' flyers dictated that animals



would not be accepted in such containers, but they were anyway.

This tent was the place to assess the savvy and standards of care practiced by the exotic animal trade crowd. Most cages were without water, so I began regular watering. Some cages had nothing inside to hold water. Most cages had tin cans or paper cups, but they were unfastened, so that the animals were constantly spilling their water. I found a number of cages eight-inches high with seven-inch high cold drink cups stapled to one corner.

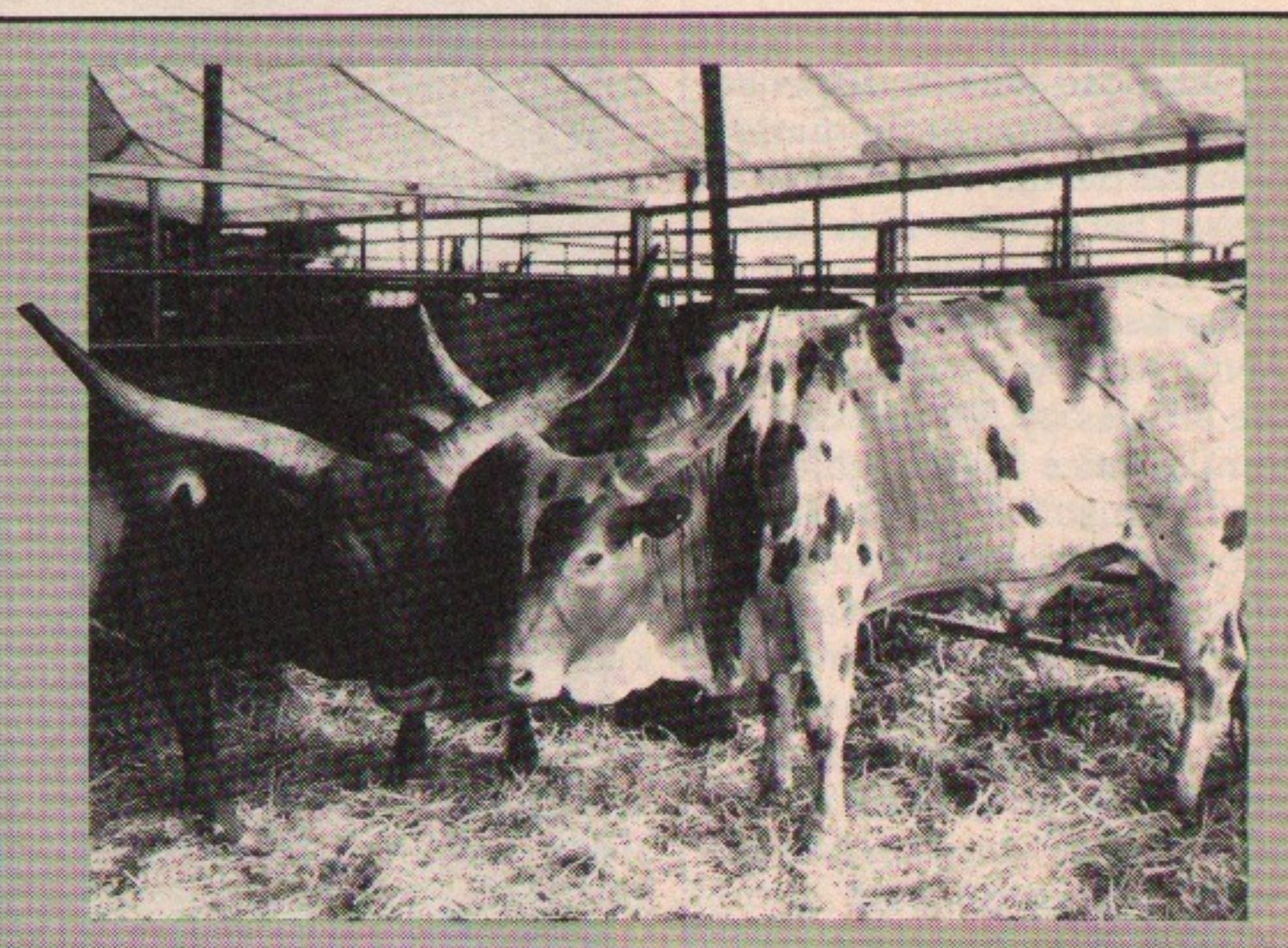
After three days and nights of hobnobbing with the traders, I couldn't take it anymore. I

fled, sorry that I couldn't take all those animals with me. I did open the tops of as many pigeon and domestic bird cages as I could, though.

Out on the road, a lot of anger and sorrow rushed out. What seemed, at the time, a brilliant idea occurred: I'd go back early, stop in Washington, D.C., and talk to the most powerful animal rights/welfare groups. And they'd forge a coalition or joint taskforce to hit the exotic animal trade. They'd put up some money to get teams of activist investigators out to all the auctions in 1989, who'd obtain enough documentation to support a big legislative and publicity campaign.

Well, I spoke to two groups. Then I didn't bother going on to the others. The organizations were already "over-extended." They were already "involved" in a campaign against a sector of the exotic animal trade. Sorry.

Now, I think we need a new group to take on the trade. A single-issue group to fight it exclusively and relentlessly. I never thought I'd see the day when I'd say the movement needs a new group, but here I am. If established organizations are too busy with their other campaigns, a new group must be formed to take on the traffic in exotic animals. Because it's an abomination that's got to be stopped. ❧



Exotic Trade Publications

The *Animal Finders' Directory*, a classified directory of the exotic wildlife field. \$3.50 postpaid from AFD Publications, P.O. Box 99, Prairie Creek, IN 47869; (812) 898-2678.

Animal Finders' Guide, a newsletter, 18 issues per year. \$25.00 from Animal Finders' Guide, P.O. Box 99, Prairie Creek, IN 47869.

Exotic Trader, a newsletter, 12 issues per year. \$15.00 from Exotic Trader, Rt. 4, Box 169c, Gainesville, MO 65655.

Rare Breeds Journal, a newsletter, six issues per year. \$12.00 from HCR 1, Box 45, Hebron, ND 58638.

In addition, get on the mailing list of the Exotic Animal Auction, Inc., 5-H Ranch, Route 2, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701; (314) 243-1479.

REVIEWS

Prisoners of Love

Behind the Dolphin Smile

By Richard O'Barry with Keith Coulbourn

Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 1988

252 pages, \$16.95, hardcover

(Available from the Dolphin Project, Box 224, Coconut Grove, FL 33133)

"Animals or aliens?" has become the question of the day about dolphins and whales. Recent films have both species in perfect communion with beings from other worlds. In *Cocoon*, dolphins serve as playful helpmates to the outerspace visitors they recognize from a previous foray on Earth some millennia ago. In *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home*, a probe from a distant world is sent to find out what happened to the humpback whales, with whom the aliens had been communicating through the depths of space (the humpbacks, of course, had been driven to extinction in the late 20th century).

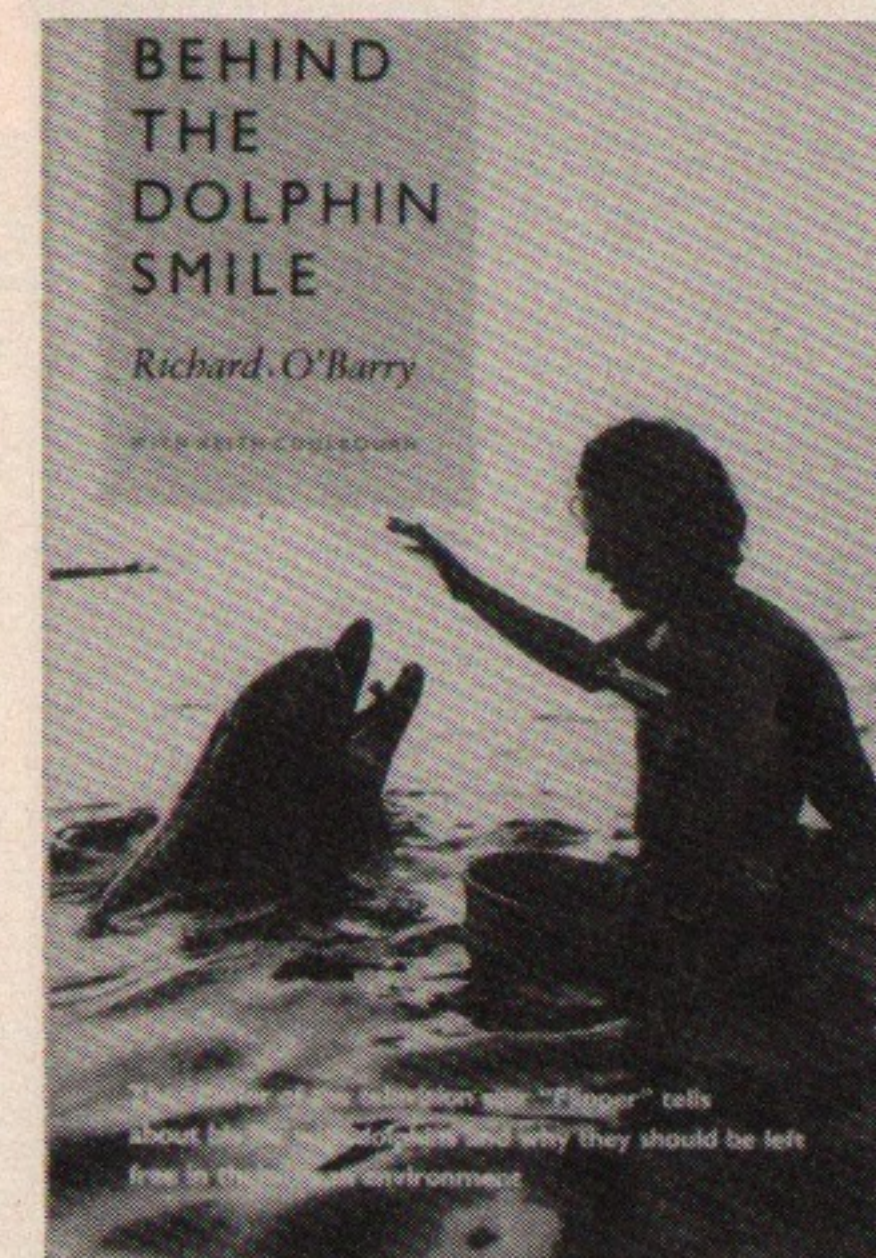
A fascination with the cetacean family isn't hard to fathom. While we share the same planet and breathe the same air, we inhabit different realms: theirs the ocean, ours the dry land. And the alleged telepathic powers of cetaceans seem to confirm their otherworldly status.

It's just possible, however, that the intelligence of dolphins and whales is what makes us want to classify them as aliens. To recognize a "mere animal" as an intellectual equal (or superior, if brain mass is an indicator of brain power) is to undermine one of humankind's most cherished conceits, and so we seek a nonthreatening explanation. If whales and dolphins had been transferred here from another planet, well, then, we would still be the "best" to have originated on this one. Hence, animals as aliens.

Richard O'Barry, who probably understands dolphins as well as anyone ever has, makes no supernatural claims about them. With over 30 years' experience working with these marine mammals, O'Barry considers them more mysterious than we imagine and yet—somehow—less so.

Growing up on the Florida coast, O'Barry was drawn to the sea, and after a stint in the Navy, took up diving for sunken Spanish treasure in the Caribbean. He parleyed his diving skills into a job on the Miami Seaquarium collecting boat, then into Seaquarium tanks as a caretaker, and, finally, onstage in the dolphin show.

Early on in his new career, O'Barry realized that he was no more training



dolphins than they were training him. He empathized so totally with his charges that when the job for which he will probably always be best known came his way—that of head trainer for the *Flipper* movies and television shows—he was often referred to as the "real Flipper."

As O'Barry tells it, at first he saw nothing wrong with capturing dolphins on the open sea, confining them in tanks, and making them earn their supper with tricks. But gradually he began to question the assumptions that make that kind of treatment of animals ethically acceptable. What began as controllable impulses to set certain dolphins free matured into a moral outrage upon the death of Kathy, his favorite of the five *Flipper* dolphins. After Kathy's star days were over, she was placed in a small tank at the Seaquarium, alone and neglected, where she became weak and sick. O'Barry was away—in India—and discovered her condition too late:

I went up to the tank and looked in. I was stunned! It was Kathy, yes, but not the Kathy I had known. Her back and head were black with blisters. Horrible! Big ugly black blisters covered almost her whole body and she lay there on the surface of the water, barely

moving... I leaped in the water with her, clothes and all. She came over and into my arms, I held her a moment and felt the life go out of her. Her tail flukes stopped and she was dead... I cradled her in my arm and held on to the edge of the pool so that I could apply pressure with my knees to Kathy's ribcage. But Kathy was dead. I pressed her ribs in and out, keeping up a breathing rhythm. But I knew that she was dead. How long I did that, I don't know. But she was dead and nothing could be done about it. I let her go and she sank to the bottom and all of a sudden I felt very dirty.

O'Barry knew he was partly to blame for Kathy's miserable death, and the miserable lives of many other dolphin captives. Propelled by a sense of guilt, he set off on a mission to free a lonely dolphin held in a Bahamian research facility. It was Earth Day, 1970. The mission failed—the dolphin refused to be liberated—and O'Barry was thrown into the Bimini jail. As a gesture, however, the action was successful. For a brief period, it focused worldwide attention on the plight of dolphins in captivity.

In the aftermath of the exploit, O'Barry created a new role for himself, that of dolphin untrainer. He would rehabilitate captive dolphins for return to freedom. He would readapt them to the sea, teach them to catch their own fish, to beware of sharks. They would become independent of humans and fit for resocialization into a dolphin pod.

O'Barry had some t-shirts printed (corporate legalities could wait) and The Dolphin Project was born. The initial dream—which remains unrealized—was to establish a halfway house for dolphins undergoing rehabilitation. Sadly, the necessary funding has eluded the organization. But in 1987, after years of trials and tribulations, The Dolphin Project was successful in readapting two dolphins, Joe and Rosie, who had been used for language experiments by world famous delphinologist Dr. John Lilly.

In what might have been a moment of elation, the big day arrived: Joe and Rosie were to be set free off the coast of Georgia after months of preparation. But O'Barry didn't want to see them go:

Then we got in the water and untied the gate. It fell and Joe and Rosie zoomed out and up the creek toward the interior of the island. We waited, all of us, watching as for the first time in years Joe and Rosie swam without constraint for twenty minutes. They meandered around, then came back to the pen, swam in one last time and left again, this time in the other direction toward the sea. Abigail and Gigi followed at a distance in a fourteen-foot inflatable with a thirty horsepower kicker,

Continued on page 52

The Nature of Divinity

Hartshorne and the Metaphysics of Animal Rights

By Daniel A. Dombrowski

State University of New York Press, 1988

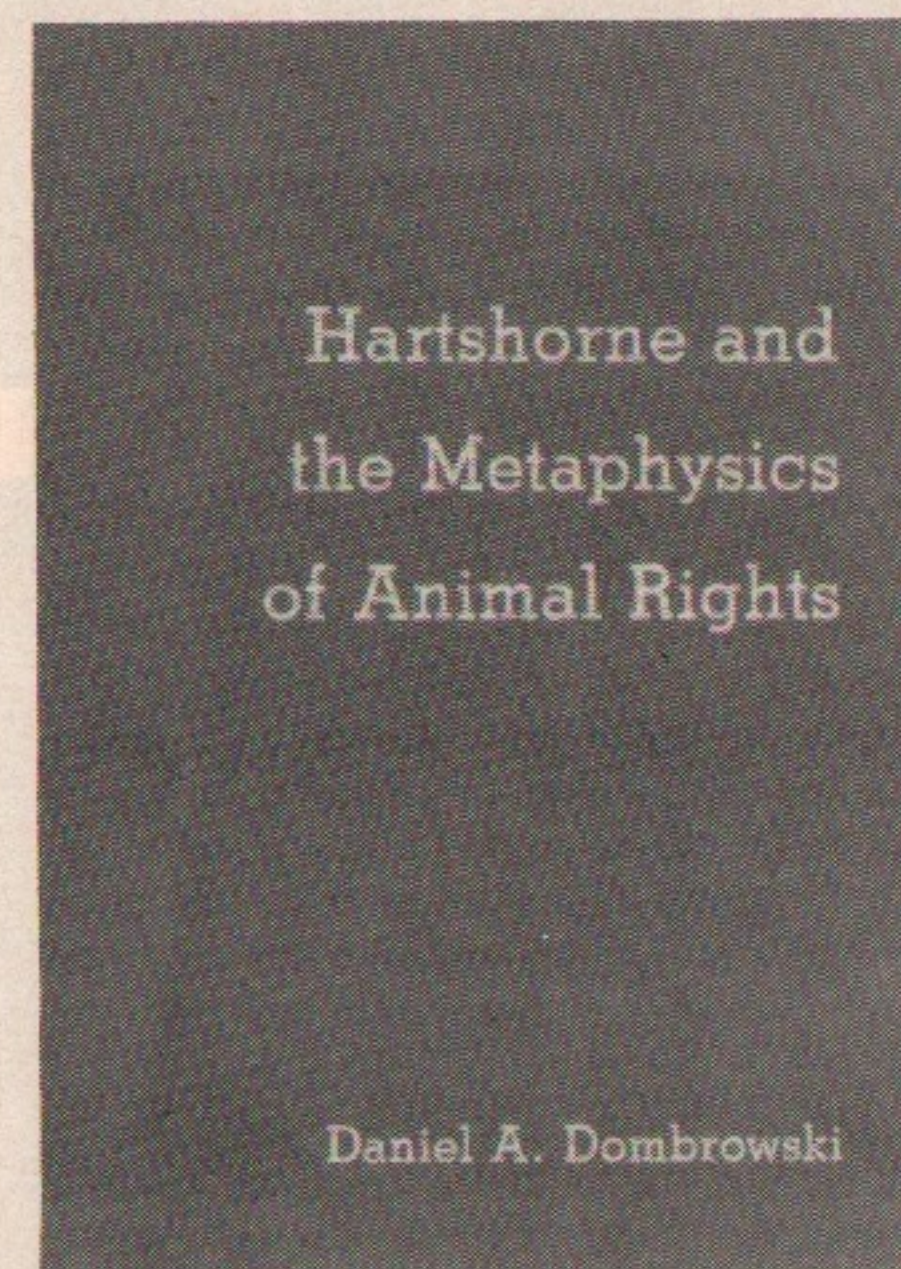
224 pages; paperback, \$12.95; hardcover, \$39.50

In his earlier and praiseworthy book, *The Philosophy of Vegetarianism* (1984), Daniel A. Dombrowski presents a survey of vegetarian thought in ancient Greek philosophy. He shows that for nearly a thousand years, from the 6th century B.C. until the middle of the 6th century A.D., a philosophic tradition existed that condemned killing animals for food and upheld the ethical superiority of a meatless diet.

One of Dombrowski's purposes in that book was to place the contemporary debate over animal rights, which many people consider new, in its true historical context of ideas concerning the role of animals in the cosmos and hence in human life. For instance, the Pythagoreans in the 6th century B.C. and the Neoplatonists dating from the first century A.D. were both inspired by the Orphic religious notion that humans and animals embody, at different times, each others' souls, so that to harm an animal was, for them, to harm a kindred spirit.

The present volume is continuous with the previous one, which closes with a chapter on the world-renowned 20th-century American process philosopher Charles Hartshorne, whom Dombrowski now treats at length. His purpose is twofold. He hopes by exploring the relationship between Hartshorne's theology and his writings on animals to place him in the "vegetarian tradition...travelled along the Pythagorean-Platonic-Neoplatonic axis." He hopes also to use Hartshorne to defend philosophic vegetarianism. While he has made "overtures" to vegetarianism in some of his writings, Hartshorne is not a vegetarian—philosophic or otherwise. However, Dombrowski's point is that Hartshorne's metaphysical position logically supports philosophic vegetarianism and by extension animal rights.

Quoting generously from Hartshorne, Dombrowski carries this claim through several chapters summarizing Hartshorne's theology, which is in basic opposition to three other worldviews: that of Newtonian physics, which assumes "impenetrable, dead particles as ultimate"; that of classical theism, which identifies God "with the stony immobility



of the absolute"; and that of pantheism, which identifies God exclusively with the world. By contrast, Hartshorne proffers that doctrine he calls "panentheism," meaning "all in God." In it, God lovingly and creatively participates in the world process, sharing the suffering and joy of all his creatures. At the same time he is transcendent, greater than any other being because of his synoptic nature and surpassing love.

Hartshorne adapts Plato's analogy of the world as a kind of "superanimal" composed of feeling fragments, or organisms, similar to the way an animal's body comprises microscopic sentiences, or cells. For Hartshorne, every created object has some portion of feeling within itself. Dombrowski points up the ethical relevance of this perception: "If there is such a thing as mere lifeless, insentient matter or process, then most of the world is devoid of intrinsic value and is therefore amenable to human manipulation. This is why feelings in nature are no trifling matter."

Instead of viewing the world, including animals, as mere fodder to treat however we please, humanity would do better to emulate Hartshorne's God, for "if

God...cares for all sentient beings, even for the fall of a sparrow, then to be cruel to animals is to contribute to vicarious divine suffering." Dombrowski's case for philosophic vegetarianism based upon Hartshorne rests largely on the premise that God surely must suffer over the "premature or ugly modes of dying" endured by animals raised for food, especially on factory farms.

While Hartshorne's theism entails sympathy with animals and appreciation of their value, it does not hold animals equal to humans. Hartshorne's philosophy of nature is hierarchical rather than lateral. Animals belong to the "subhuman world," but differ from other objects in that world—plants, rivers, rocks, winds, artifacts, etc.—in being able, like ourselves, to feel as whole individuals and not merely in their microscopic parts. Human transcendence of animality is comparable to God's transcendence of the created cosmos. For while animals, according to Hartshorne, are able to feel God, they cannot worship him, meaning they cannot realize their cosmic position, form general principles, or approximate God's universal love the way humans can.

Hartshorne accordingly advocates what he calls a "cautiously positive form of anthropomorphism," to which Dombrowski also seems to subscribe. In their estimate, God cares for the fall of every sparrow, but more than for many sparrows, he cares for a single human life.

Hartshorne is considered an expert on bird song, having studied birds since he was a boy in Pennsylvania as well as written about them. Dombrowski devotes a chapter to this side of him, focusing on Hartshorne's aesthetic thought on the songs of birds. One of Hartshorne's most interesting theories is his view that aesthetic feeling is likely to be an integral part of the behavioral repertoire of birds and other animals and may even inspire much of it. Summarizing Hartshorne's view along with his own, Dombrowski writes that "in selecting for behavior, evolution may be indirectly selecting for modes of feeling that promote such behavior." Modern science has overlooked this possibility, believing that the prime reason birds sing is to declare territory. Yet why should we assume this to be the only, or even the main, reason for the incredible versatility and beauty of bird song?

By the same token, Hartshorne and Dombrowski both have at times an irksome penchant for stating reductionist claims as if they were unquestionable facts (e.g., "birds do not know what nests are for"; the poet Wordsworth errs in im-

aging that twigs can somehow enjoy a breeze). Dombrowski has a good chapter on Hartshorne and Wordsworth and one on Hartshorne and Plato. Chapter One offers a brief history of how the world's major religions have regarded animals, with a view to putting Hartshorne's theory of God and animals in a favorable light.

Those people searching for theological reasons for being concerned about animals and animal rights, and for paying more than cursory attention to the

natural world, should find this book helpful. Though written by one philosopher about another, its style is suited to a wide range of readers. Best of all, despite his sometimes too circumspect way of speaking, on the matter of vegetarianism, Dombrowski is firm: "Vegetarianism is a duty." As he says, "Not all of our food turns to dung...Eating is the process by which we can 'transubstantiate' vegetal matter into spirit...into life, good humor, and, in at least some instances, thought about

—Karen Davis

Food Poisoning

Pesticide Alert: A Guide to Pesticides in Fruits and Vegetables

By Lawrie Mott and Karen Snyder

Sierra Club Books, San Francisco, 1988.

179 pages, \$6.95 paperback

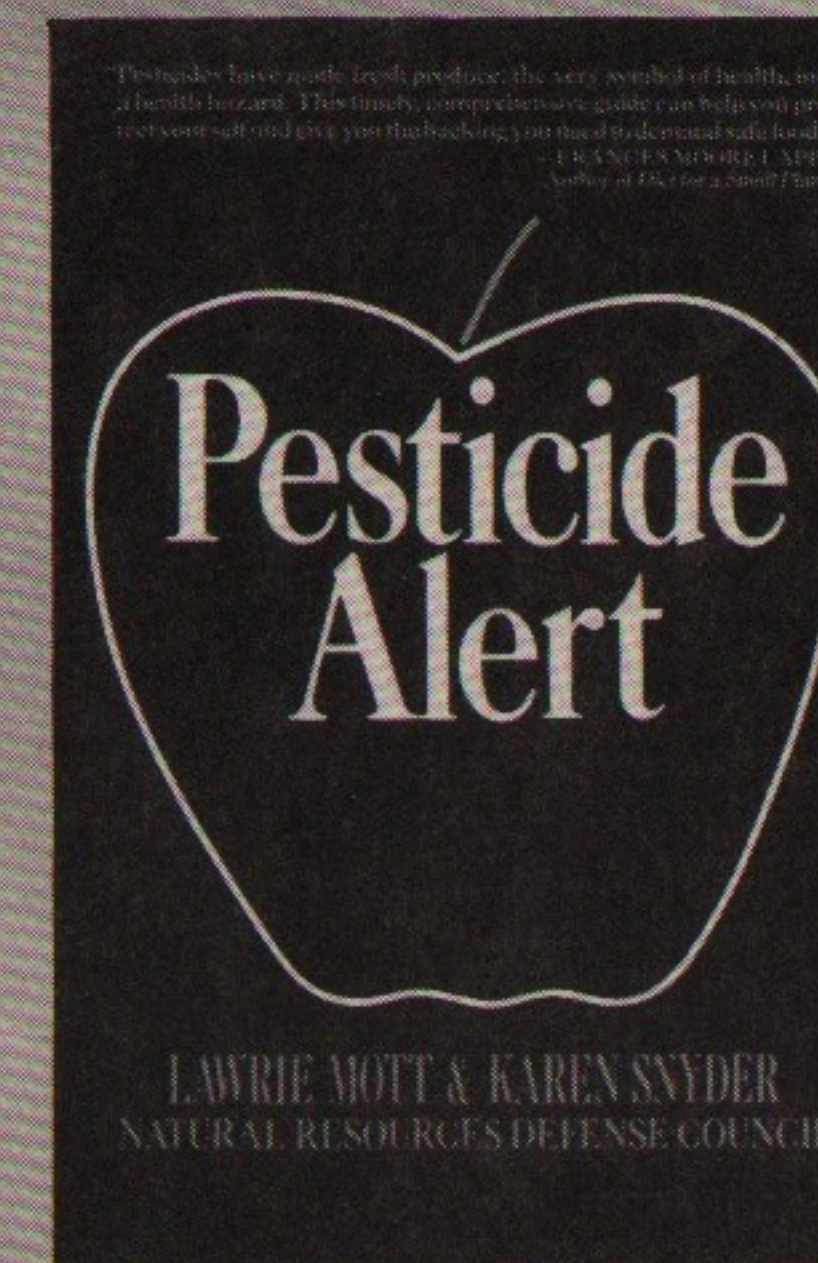
(Can be ordered from the Sierra Club Store, 730 Polk St., San Francisco, CA 94109; (415) 923-5600. Add \$3.00 for postage and handling.)

Finally there's a book that doesn't say we need more animal tests to discover how dangerous the high levels of pesticides in our fruits and vegetables really are!

Lawrie Mott and Karen Snyder of the Natural Resources Defense Council have a better solution: we should buy organic produce. By asserting our power as consumers, we can send a message to industry and provide incentives to farmers to grow their crops without toxic chemicals.

This book is as compelling as it is informative. It provides a long list of the most prevalent pesticide residues found in produce, and gives tips on how to wash or peel these chemicals away. The authors warn, however, that the pesticides often become part of the fruit or vegetable's flesh and are then impossible to get rid of.

The book is excellent in another respect: it delineates the ineptitude of the bureaucracies charged with regulation and enforcement of pesticide levels in food. Not only are the government standards for allowable residues egregiously behind the times, the Food and Drug Administration's current methods for detecting residues in produce samples are capable of detecting less than half the chemicals in current use.



Pesticide Alert is eye-opening and empowering. It makes clear the fact that what is needed to protect consumers is not more animal tests but an end to the use of dangerous substances in and on our food. Once again, we see that what is best for human health is also best for animals and for the well-being of the earth.

—Betsy Swart

and commiseration with the sufferings of others, including the sufferings of animals." These reflections are fit food for the hungry spirit to digest.

SHORT TAKES



Friend or Frog by Marjorie Priceman; Houghton Mifflin, Boston, 1989; \$13.95, hardcover, 30 pages.

Friendship between girl and frog is the subject of this charming children's book. Kate and Hilton played, danced, and went to movies together until Hilton interrupted Kate's mother's party and was ordered out of the house. While searching for a new home for her frog, Kate encounters a chef, a vivisector, and a woman looking for her "prince." Kate doubts that any of them have Hilton's best interest at heart. In the end, Kate discovers that "you can't own a frog, but if you're lucky enough, maybe you can know one." This book can be enjoyed by all ages, but is probably most appropriate for ages three to nine.

It's a Wild Life by Gary Bogue; Lester Communications Inc. (P.O. Box 5088, Walnut Creek, CA 94596), 1989; \$13.79, soft cover, 123 pages.

Gary Bogue shares some of the funniest and most heartwarming stories of his career as an animal rehabilitator. The book is a collection of his favorite columns which originally appeared in the *Contra Costa Times*. Bogue covers bobcats to but-

Continued on next page

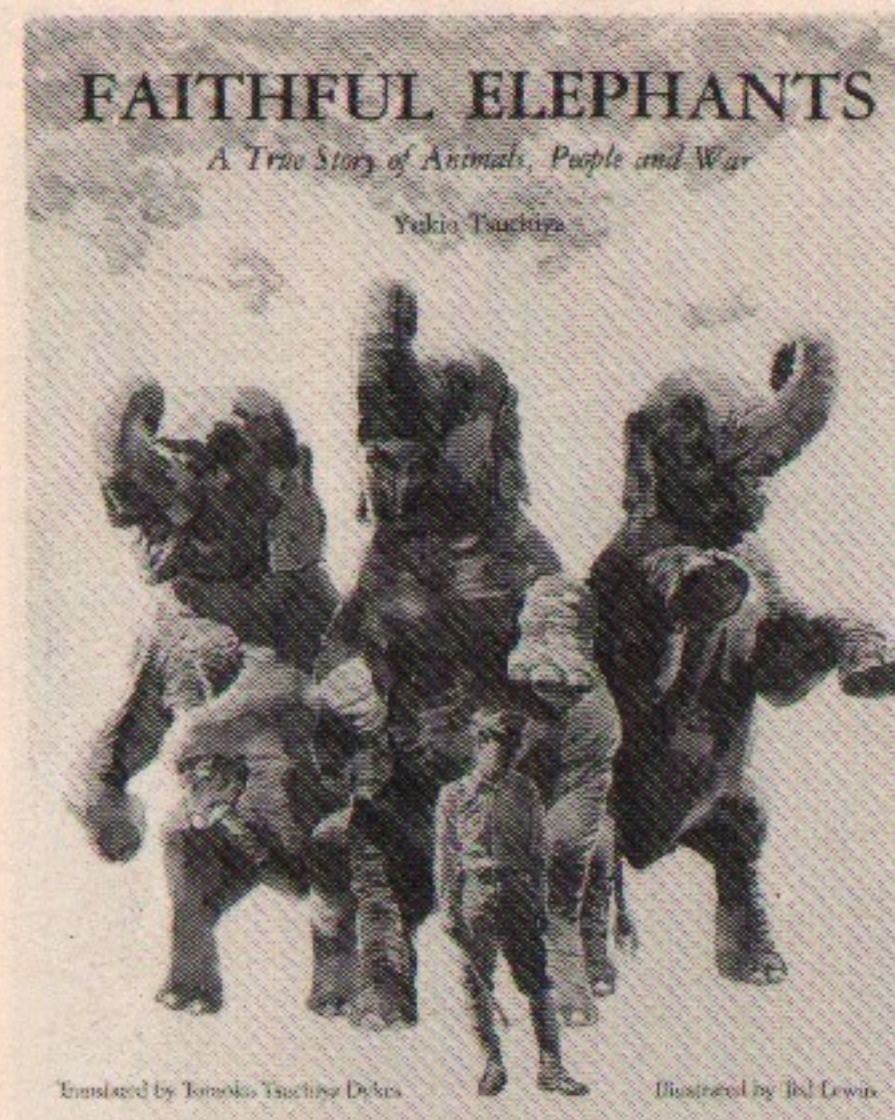
REVIEWS

Continued from previous page

terflies, all the while lending insight into animal behavior. Bogue's life is not without some contradiction, however: he works to rehabilitate animals for release back into their natural environments, yet he is employed by a museum that keeps healthy animals in cages for human observation. Despite this puzzling aspect of his work, Bogue's dedication to wildlife must be acknowledged and admired.

Faithful Elephants: A True Story of Animals, People and War by Yukio Tsuchiya; Houghton Mifflin, Boston, 1988; \$13.95, hardcover, 29 pages.

This exquisitely illustrated children's book tells a heart-rending tale of war and its effect on people and animals. During World War II, when Tokyo was being bombed, people feared that bombs might hit the city zoo and destroy the animals' cages. A decision was made to kill all the animals who might be dangerous if they were to escape. The large animals were poisoned, except for three trained elephants who refused to eat poisoned



food and whose skin was too tough to permit a lethal injection. It was decided that they would be starved to death. The zookeepers were tormented by watching them slowly die, and the animals' physical pain was made more intense by their confusion over being abandoned by those who once cared for them. Throughout their ordeal, the elephants tried to earn food—as they had before—by performing tricks for their handlers, who were forbidden to feed them. The book carries a serious message, but it is recommended by the publisher for ages 6 and up.

Influencing Horse Behavior: A Natural Approach to Training by Dr. Jim McCall; Alpine Publications, Inc. (2456 E. 9th St., Loveland, CO 80537), 1988; \$12.95, hardback, 77 pages.

Jim McCall, who holds a Ph.D. in horse production, attempts to teach horse training through the reward system, and points out the undesirable effects of negative reinforcement (i.e., punishment). Though the goal of the book is to achieve an obedient horse through an understanding of horse behavior and psychological strategy, a horse destined to be subdued by a human master would benefit from this gentle form of training which works *with* rather than *against* the horse.

—Jennifer Kupinse

Prisoners of Love

Continued from page 49

tracking them into a small side-creek, where they waited apparently for the tide to come back in.

Everybody left except me. I stayed at my tent, thinking perhaps they would return. But they didn't. I thought that I should feel happy about it. But I didn't. I was up all night, watching.

O'Barry, it seems, is trapped at the center of what he calls "Lilly's Paradox." He wants dolphins freed, but, "If all dolphins were free, we would never get to know them." Like a true dolphin groupie, O'Barry wants to stay close to them—to swim with them, play with them, touch them, feed them, relate to them in an intensely personal way.

Behind the Dolphin Smile is a treasure of dolphin legend, lore, and scientific fact, though the relatively unschooled O'Barry (he finished high school in the Navy) doesn't consider himself a scientist. It's a profession he doesn't hold in the greatest esteem:

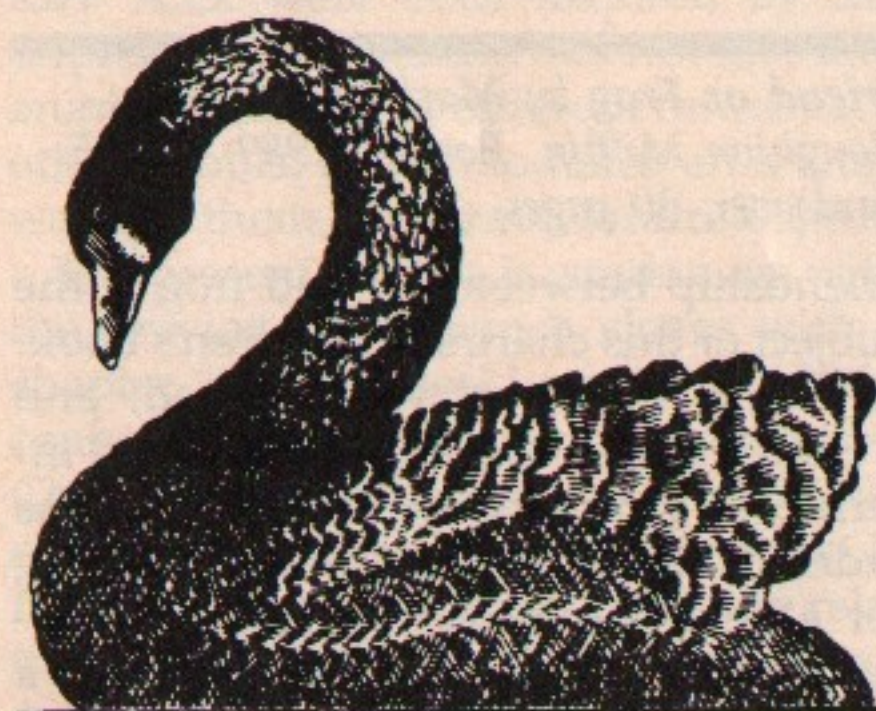
Over the years I have worked with many scientists and have been struck by one thing: how blind they are to the world around them. Dr. Lilly's main contribution to understanding

dolphins was to map their brains, driving electrodes through the skull and watching for electromagnetic reactions when various stimuli were applied. We assume that a scientist will make the breakthrough in communicating with a nonhuman species. But maybe not. Maybe an artist will do it first. Maybe a child. Maybe a child has already talked with dolphins!

It's uncertain whether O'Barry's sense of kinship with dolphins extends to other animals. References to roast-beef sandwiches and turkey dinners and incidents of what might be considered "fish abuse" occasionally break the spell of this otherwise entrancing tale. One hopes that O'Barry's finely tuned instincts will lead him into a broader ethic.

Behind the Dolphin Smile is, nonetheless, a terrific book in spite of the flaw from an animal rights perspective. Much of the credit for its sleek style and tempo is surely due to the writing skill of professional journalist Keith Coulbourn. But the adventures belonged to O'Barry, and grand adventures they were, too. I can't wait for the sequel.

—Kim Bartlett



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COMPASSIONATE LIVING

BY VICTORIA MORAN

The Nonviolent Way

Some years back in a struggle for justice that predated the animal rights movement, I saw two young Quakers physically assaulted by several men who disagreed with their position. The two stood, resolute, their arms at their sides. After a minute, the leader of the attackers stopped abruptly, looking as if he'd seen a ghost. "Let's get out of here!" he shouted. They ran, carrying with them an unforgettable message. And as I watched—17 years old, impressionable and amazed—I knew my life would never be the same.

The power of nonviolent resistance is staggering. We tap it every time we boycott a cruel product, write a letter of protest, or take part in a peaceful demonstration. And when the potent tool of civil disobedience is called for, activists show a dedication that makes a mighty statement to sway public opinion.

The vast majority of animal rights proponents believe deeply in nonviolence, and it's no coincidence that many movement personalities—Tom Regan and Billy Ray Boyd, for example—are enthusiastically Gandhian. Rooted as it is in the essence of virtually every spiritual tradition, nonviolence did not start with Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhi, however, made it a science. "If humanity is to progress," proclaimed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "Gandhi is inescapable... We may ignore him at our own risk."

Gandhi understood that nonviolence does not simply denounce the use of force: it is a force in itself—*satyagraha*, he called it, "truth force." And just as a marksman must be trained to use a gun, or a martial artist to use his body, nonviolence demands study, skill, commitment, and courage. The words of Gandhi make an excellent text. As a vegetarian and anti-vivisectionist, the man who devoted 30 years to bringing about Indian independence can be held in special esteem by animal advocates. Peter Gardiner of Laramie, Wyoming, is one activist who has extensively researched Gandhian philosophy. "For him," says Gardiner, "nonviolence was exemplified not solely by deeds but more importantly in participants' very thoughts and words. It was a synthesis of love, compassion, and kindness on the inner spiritual

level, with external social and political action effective because it tried to *convert* the 'adversary' rather than force him into capitulation."

Gardiner relates an incident in which some 20 policemen were killed by Indian demonstrators. Gandhi's response was to call off the entire movement for independence and start fasting. "Nehru was appalled that Gandhi would halt the whole struggle 'just because a few policemen were killed.' That illustrates the real difference between nonviolence as a principled action and nonviolence as unprincipled tactic for which actual violence could be substituted when circumstances seemed to require it."

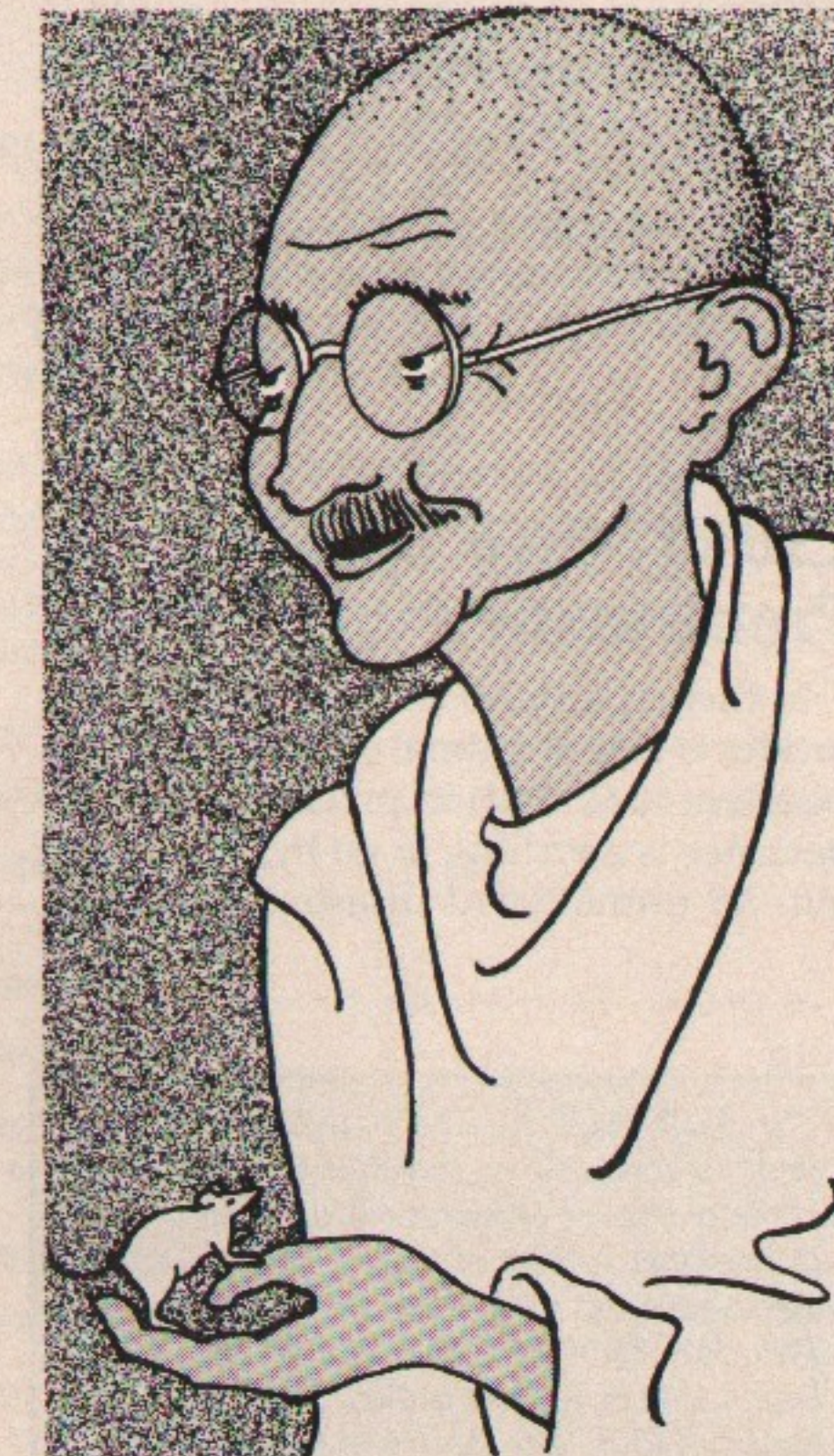
Development of that sense of "principled action" starts, according to those who have achieved it, in our own lives. Some groups within our movement are actively encouraging this approach. EarthSave, the organization founded by Diet for a New America author John Robbins, included in its premier mailing

a booklet that distills the thought of the late "Peace Pilgrim," a woman who taught the necessity of preceding outer change with inner peace. A vegan, she said that we need to assume right attitudes toward life by facing it squarely and looking for its deeper meaning. She suggested that we search for our place in the overall scheme of things and simplify our lives by releasing unneeded possessions and meaningless activities. Self-will, attachments, negativity, and a feeling of separateness she targeted as the primary hindrances to a peaceful life.

A similar theme comes through in *Out of the Jungle*, a classic publication of the American Vegan Society, in which Jay Dinshah interprets the Gandhian imperative by creating an acronym from the Sanskrit word *ahimsa*, which means nonkilling, noninjuring, or harmlessness. These "pillars of *ahimsa*" are Abstinence from animal products; Harmlessness with reverence for life; Integrity of thought, word, and deed; Mastery over oneself; Service to humankind, nature, and creation; and Advancement of understanding and truth. With such qualities, a person has developed the maturity for successful, nonviolent action. "That is the beauty of *satyagraha*," Gandhi wrote. "It comes up to oneself; one has not to go out in search for it."

But will it work? With Indian independence and the American civil rights movement as precedents, history itself answers that question affirmatively. Our job as individuals is to be up to the task. It's simple, but it's not easy. Gandhi told his followers, "It is nonviolence only when we love those that hate us. I know how difficult it is to follow this grand law of love. But are not all great and good things difficult to do?"

An hour of real greatness and goodness in our own movement was the National Institutes of Health (NIH) sit-in in 1985. Tom Regan participated and later wrote, "Each of us had proven our willingness to suffer for those who had no choice in the matter... On that day we showed the world that the animal rights movement means business... Our civil war was formally declared. In a civil way." True, declaration does not equal victory. But it stands to reason that with violence, the strong win; with nonviolence, the righteous win.



—Lainé Roundy

LETTERS

Continued from page 6

enter the barn and be with her body, sniffing and gently caressing her before she was taken away from them. In their complex, close-knit social structure, Lucki was the dominant elephant—their matriarch. She was only 51 when she died. In the wild, when they are unmolested by humans, elephants can live well into their sixties.

I suggest that some of the millions of dollars spent on zoo publicity and research be used instead for the conservation and preservation of these magnificent vanishing giants in their homeland. In captivity, we do not or cannot meet their basic needs, or offer the quality of life they deserve.

Perhaps someday we will learn that humans are not the only creatures on earth with a will to live and be free. Goodbye, dear Lucki, at last you are free to sleep without chains.

—Florence Lambert
Zoo Animal Protection Society
6265 Cardeno Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037

There's No Feline AIDS

The concluding paragraph of "AIDS Panic Hits Cat Owners" (*Dateline: International*, March 1989) implied that there are two forms of the feline leukemia virus, and further muddled already murky waters by stating that "neither strain is...connected in any way to the human AIDS virus..."

There is only *one* feline leukemia virus (FeLV). In the past, FeLV has been erroneously called "feline AIDS," but that misleading title has now largely fallen to the feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV), formerly called feline T-lymphotrophic lentivirus (FTLV). This is probably the second "strain" of virus referred to in the article. It is not a "strain" of FeLV at all, but a very separate entity. FeLV is in the oncornavirus subfamily of retroviruses, because it causes cancer in cats. FIV differs in shape and action (it does *not* cause cancer in cats, for example) and has been placed in the lentivirus subfamily of retroviruses.

In this same lentivirus subfamily is the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), which produces AIDS in our species. Like HIV, FIV interferes with a cat's disease-fighting immune system. Like HIV, FIV itself does not cause disease or death—the victim, unable to fight off even the most common invaders from the environment, eventually succumbs to secondary infections.



So FIV is similar in shape and action to HIV. But that's where the similarities end. FIV is antigenically distinct from HIV (antibodies to one virus don't bind to the other, meaning they are significantly different), and FIV *does not cause disease in humans*. Not only is the extreme reaction to FIV unwarranted when one considers the facts, it also comes belatedly. FIV is not a new disease. Although it was only recently identified, recent checks of feline serum banks have turned up positive samples dating back to the 1970s.

Your article pointed out the tragic and unnecessary results of distorted information on nonhuman diseases. "Feline AIDS" is a gross misnomer. Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) and related conditions are *human* diseases.

—David Kay, Education Director
Tree House Animal Foundation
1212 W. Carmen Ave.
Chicago, IL 60640

Cruelty-Free Symbols Problematic

In theory, a standard symbol denoting products free of animal exploitation is an excellent idea. But, in practice, if our experience is anything to go by, it can turn into an unmitigated disaster.

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

For nine years, Beauty Without Cruelty/South Africa had such a logo, which was available to the 50-odd cosmetic companies we publicize as being cruelty-free. What we never envisaged was that it would be exploited and abused by a handful of businesses who actively marketed the logo in a manner that closely associated the charity with their product. As we are an extremely active and visible organization, they made a fortune riding on the back of our work. However, they donated nothing to BWC.

We also had problems with companies we had never heard of incorporating the logo into their packaging. And checking up on the logo users, in order to ensure that they continued to comply with our requirements, proved to be the ultimate headache. Getting information out of them after they received the logo was well nigh impossible. Thus, our logo and all it stood for generated into a cheap marketing gimmick, and we withdrew it a year ago. Concerned consumers still have our cosmetic guide to refer to which lists the cruelty-free brands available in this country.

—Christine Berry, Administrator
Beauty Without Cruelty
P.O. Box 97, Newland 7725
Republic of South Africa

Bullboards Needed

A recent trip to Mexico bore out what I had heard: Tourists support the bullfight. Without tourist dollars, bullfighting—a sadistic spectacle on a level all its own—would die out as a cruel cultural anachronism.

It occurred to me that billboards—bullboards, if you will—urging tourists to boycott the bullring could be placed in or near the airports in tourist areas of Mexico, Spain, and the few countries of South America where bullfighting is allowed, or at departure points for these areas in North America, Europe, and Japan. Major animal protection organizations could share this opportunity and the costs involved, which might be minimal. Additionally, travel agents and touring businesses should be approached by animal defenders with information about bullfighting. I found many fellow Americans just "going along with the tour" without any real enthusiasm for the corrida.

—Dorothy McLean
Animal Welfare Associates
P.O. Box 10752
Stamford, CT 06904

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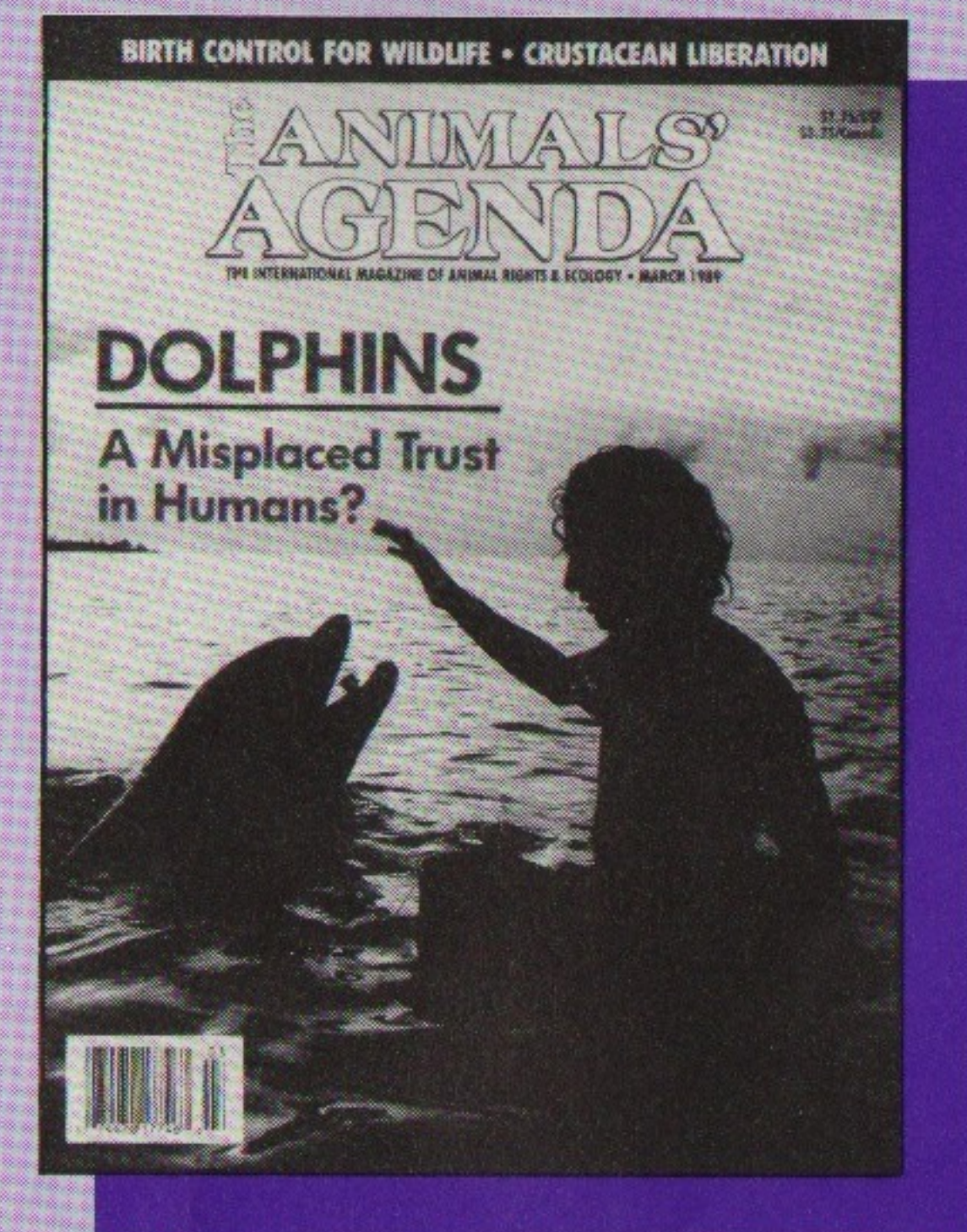
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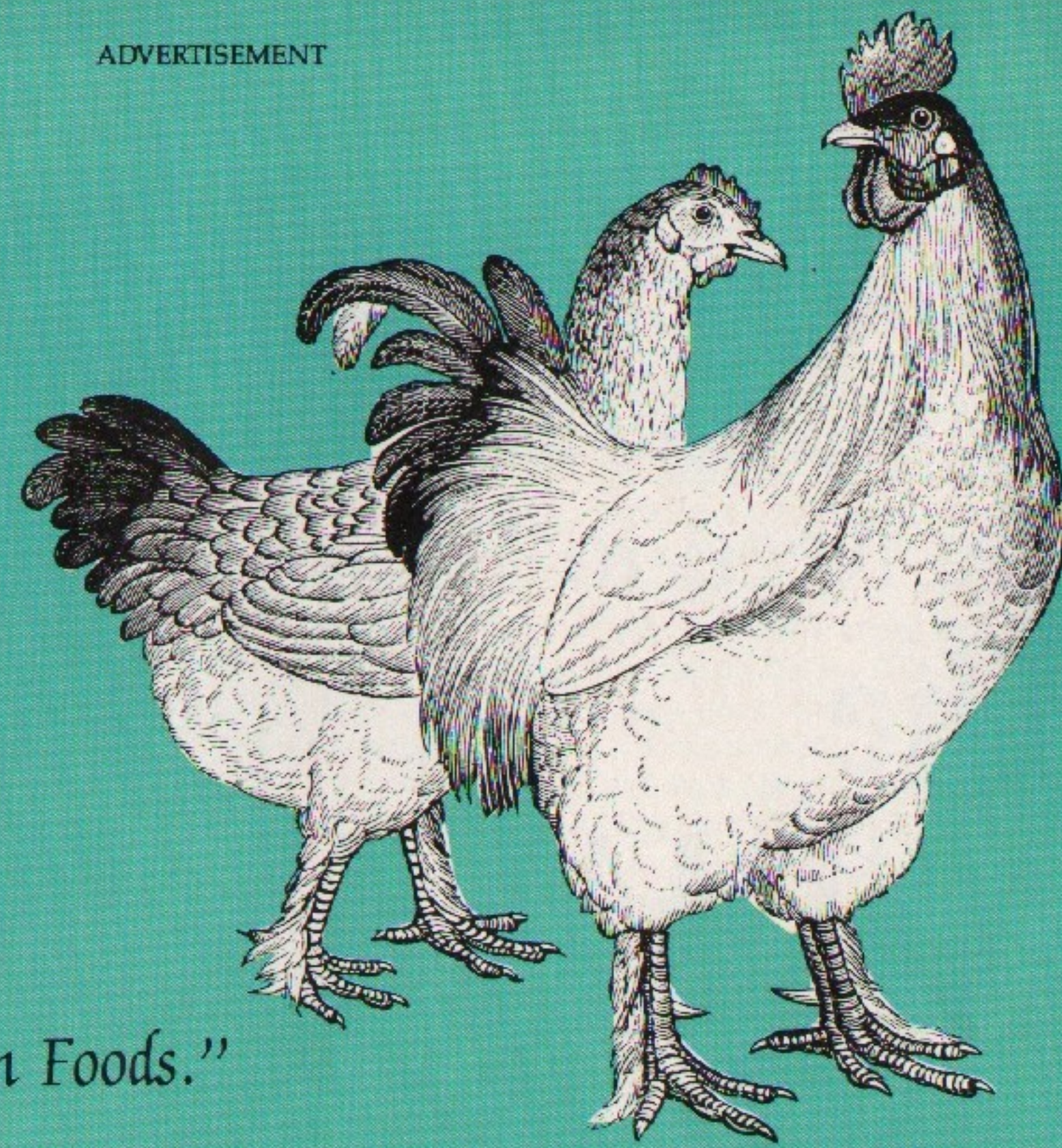
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Brave New Chicken

Continued from page 21

elevator have, in their madness, become cannibalistic?

This is the actual living situation of the chickens whose eggs Americans eat.

What are we doing?

Implicit in this cruelty is an utter lack of respect for life and the mystery of other beings' existence. Such a system of food production could only have developed in a culture profoundly alienated from the web of life.

What we are doing is torturing these high-spirited birds who mean us no harm in order to have cheap food that isn't really good for us. Many people believe the increased consumption of eggs and poultry is a boon to our health. But a woman who eats three or more eggs a week has three times the risk of fatal ovarian cancer than a woman who eats eggs less than once a week. A woman who eats an egg a day has three times the risk of fatal breast cancer than a woman who eats none. And the high saturated fat and cholesterol content of poultry products makes them guilty of contributing substantially to the epidemic of heart disease, strokes, and other degenerative diseases of our time. They do supply protein, but the Western world's dietary problem is that we get *too much* protein, not too little, and this is one of the reasons our cancer, osteoporosis, and kidney disease rates are so high.

There are, however, a few promising signs. Groups like the Center for Science in the Public Interest, the American Heart Association, the American Medical Association, the

National Research Council, and even the Surgeon General are beginning to alert the public to the dangers of high fat, high cholesterol products. Meanwhile, many in the animal rights movement are working tirelessly to educate people to the appalling abuse chickens are forced to experience. Groups such as the Farm Animals Concerns Trust (FACT) are actively promoting humanely produced eggs. Organizations such as the Humane Farming Association (HFA) and Farm Animal Reform Movement (FARM) are working pointedly toward enacting legislation to curb the abuse. More and more people are demanding free range eggs or organic chickens, or giving them up altogether. For the last few years, all Swedish egg cartons have been marked, telling consumers whether their contents came from confined or freely raised hens. Now, Sweden has outlawed the worst excesses of all types of factory farming, setting a precedent for other governments to follow.

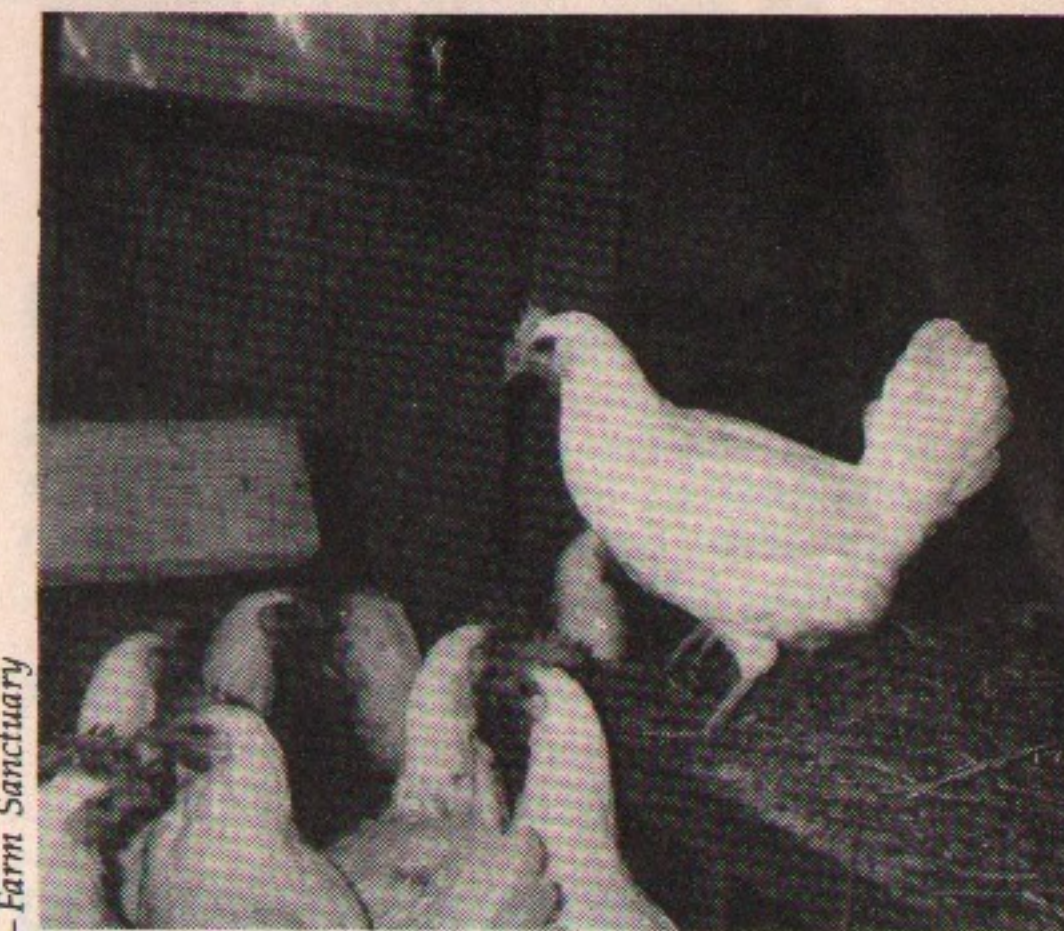
As far as we have strayed from an ethical relationship to life, there are indications that a new bonding to the earth is emerging in the hearts of many people. More and more of us are sensing the interdependence of all living things. Increasing numbers of people follow a dream of a society at peace with its conscience—a dream of people living in accord with the laws of creation, cherishing and caring for the environment, preserving nature rather than destroying it.

Obviously, our treatment of chickens today could hardly be less in keeping with the realization of this dream.

Learning from nature

No human tradition has more fully developed the spiritual relationship of our species to the rest of nature than that of some Native Americans. Many tribes were sustained by an ageless and intimate kinship with the living world around them. In times of crisis, they would meditate on animals—focusing on something in the animal's spirit, growing thereby in understanding, health, and power. Today, we stand in great need of such healing.

What would happen if, at this extraordinary moment in the evolutionary cycle, we were to consider the possibility that all the species on this planet might have something of value to teach us about ourselves? Is it possible that if we looked at them



In any kind of natural setting—be it farmyard or the wild—chickens develop a social hierarchy, often known as a "pecking order."

with respect and an open spirit they might give us back something of our own humanity? Is it too farfetched to wonder whether even chickens, if we looked at them without cultural blinders, could be teachers for us? What would be strengthened in us if we dared to see these passionate feathered creatures as members of our earth family?

To many of us, the sight of newly hatched chicks is a picture of innocence and adorability. As I watch a baby chick peck his way out of an egg, I am reminded of the deeply human need to grow—the spiritual need to break out of old limitations, to push against and expand beyond boundaries that once served a needed purpose but which now must be left behind. In this, the hatching chick represents the very opposite of the cowardice we have been conditioned to think of as "chicken." He stands for courage. He embodies growth. He pecks his way out, not knowing what will await him, yet bold for the task. When he emerges, he stands vulnerable amidst the ruins of a past to which he can never return.

Is this not our situation as a species? Are we not also driven by an evolutionary imperative, by the call of our own growth and potential for expansion? Are we not, as a race, standing now amidst the slime and debris of our primeval past, not knowing what will become of us, yet already dreaming of a sane, healthy, and loving world?

John Robbins is author of Diet for a New America, which has been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, and is president of the EarthSave Foundation, an organization working for an ecologically sustainable future. EarthSave's address is P.O. Box 949, Felton, CA 95018-0949.



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—Jim Mason/J.A. Keller from Animal Factories

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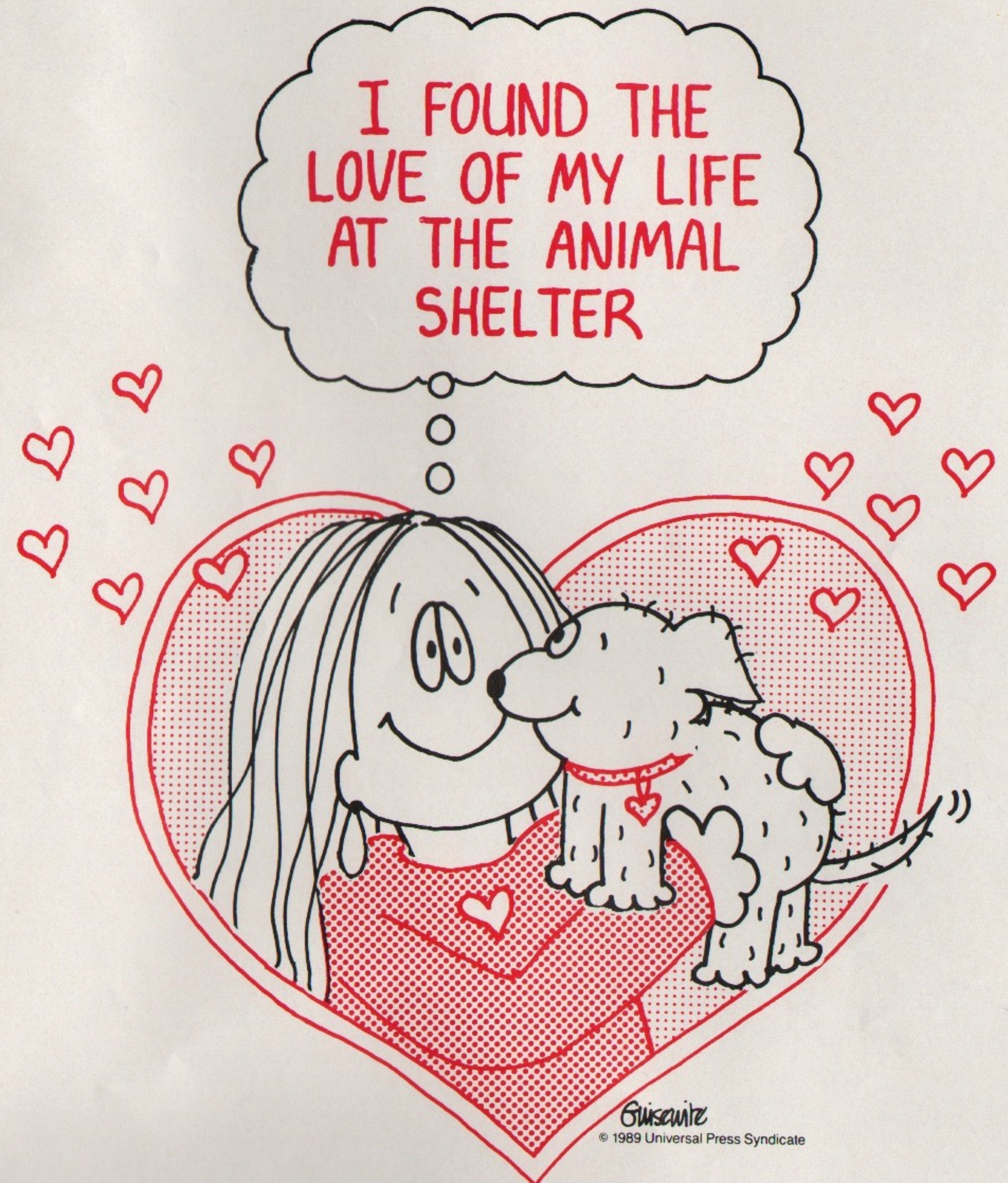
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