COLUMBO GOES CRUELTY FREE

The ANIMALS' AGENDA
THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE OF ANIMAL RIGHTS & ECOLOGY • JUNE 1989

BRAVE NEW CHICKEN

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Unseen circumstances

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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 anyone else either. It has no sympathy. It is the species that can't sing. It is the victim that can't complain. Countless times I've noticed this sad irony. My own random survey has revealed a 90 percent chance that a grocery shopper will be scared stiff by a chicken. And if she gets frightened, she will also have a package of chicken meat in her or his 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 on a pile 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 animal? It's impossible to sum up the nature of any animal in a word or two. From this viewpoint, it is not at all a characteristic that renders any species unique. It is a set of qualities that makes one differ from another. Or perhaps it may be a refinement of traits shared by many related 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 and culture. It is the key to unlocking 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 mourn the loss of a very special person: Ronnie Lee Lally, being 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, after an aneurysm burst in her heart.

Ronnie was a supporter of many other organizations, too. Those groups headquartered in Connecticut—Friends of Animals, Fossil Fuel Action Teams, and others—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'll be remembered by many other activists who have recently departed this life—can never be replaced. We are left to pay tribute to 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 56 Union Turnpike, Monrovia, CT 04100 for a small contribution. (For a copy of our ad kit, see page 24.)

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 increase awareness about animal experimentation, and to the Elmore Patterson Baker Trust Fund for a grant to be used for general operating purposes.

PAGE TWO

Remembering Fay Brisk

Fay Brisk, who died on January 13th (see Network Notes, "Oscars" in the January issue), made an inedible 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—rt at the time a newspaper correspondent—with horrifying descriptions of research conditions with sera-sylvans dog dealer compounds. The legislative deadlock was broken in 1963 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.

Upon her untimely death, she was trying to improve the Act and make its shortcomings more obvious. 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 1991, she established a volunteer animal shelter at Washington's National Airport. Her Congress testifies and her death. Sick, dying, and dead animals arriving there from puppy mills, and all species of transport.

Fay wanted to protect animals from the effects of greed and neglect. She made this happen.

New Zealand Has Oppossums

In the April Dateline: International report aboard Canada's salmon fleet, a concern for the native species, known as "kangaroos," was expressed. It was said that there were bush-tail oppossums inhabiting the coastal native bush of New Zealand.

The opossum returned from a walk in a remote village on the South Island of New Zealand. 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 it. We did raise the tiny opossum, but not for very long. We named BobleblESCO, to him. He grew big, and I made him 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. Ronnie and I made a special point to see him in person.

It is very unfortunate that the opossum is viewed as a pest by the farmers and ranchers. They look no like the American opossum, having instead thick, wooly fur. There is a large fur trapping company in New Zealand which traps these shy, gentle creatures and sets out poisoned baits 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.

Wongs Don’t Add Up to Right

The arguments surrounding the use of dogs by the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) (see Network Notes, "Oscars" in the March 1988 issue) underscore all arguments used in defending the use of animals in vivisection, as justifying vivisection because animals are slaughtered for meat, and butchers justify what they do because hunting justifies it. In the context of animal abuse, the question is not so much of the use, but of the way in which the animals are treated.

Illegal drugs by themselves does not 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 gone through in our lives, it’s curious that some in the movement would cling so tenaciously to those instruments of death. If it’s for pro- tecting us, they’d better think again: many guns kept "for protection" end up killing the very ones we 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 understand how powerful for the animals’ rights movement to enhance its strength and cohesiveness by developing clear and gentle group processes. We all benefit tremendously from such articles.

- John Scott
Syracuse, NY

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 these same biases cannot seem to find that thought: "Therefore, keep guns out of the hands of the bad guy who wants to use them." We do not take responsibility for the possession of harmful drugs because it is known that harmful drugs plus irresponsible people equal a harmed society. When will society

Continued on next page
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" (Reinsch, March 1989). I preview all books before I let the students read them, and recently I came upon two books that are distinctly pro-animal and anti-hunting: A Fabulous Creation, by Zilpha Keatley Snyder (Day, 1981); and Incident at Hawk 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 Beverage Badger. The story also portrays hunting and trapping in a bad light.

—Jerry Tuckel
Crawford, NJ

The Wild Horse Pogrom

The obliteration of wild horses and horse 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 need of government agents to require their removal on behalf of Indians, or simply through clandestine operations. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has allowed appropriate Management Levels (AMLs) to secretly commit to 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 areas 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' Agriculture Committee on National Parks and Public Lands has just approved a whopping sum—this time $12,354,000—for the removal of 900 wild equids from the public range. The U.S. Senate must now approve.

Like Native Americans and buffalo 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 range, a number equivalent in grazing pressure to the livestock of only several ranchers.

Continued from previous page
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LETTERS

Continued from previous page

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. An additional 15,000 wild horses roam 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 3000 by the late 1960s, 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 closure began with government-approved roundups funded by Congress and spurred on by a variety of the public lands livestock industry, which resented encroachment of the public interest on its accustomed monopolization of the public lands.

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

—Craig C. Deemer, 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 roots 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 infections in her footpads, with nails distorted and overgrown. Elephants in the wild normally walk 10 to 15 miles a day, but we gave her an area only 100 by 200 feet. A surgically removed tooth resulted in poor nutrition, 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 in a cage in a dark, by the time Marlan was in the cage, in a box of hay. She slept less than 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

Continued on page 34

ORIGINAL PORTRAITS

by Ruth McCarty

A lasting memory of a beloved pet drawn professionally in colored pencil on 100% rag board.

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Ruth L. McCarty 629 Crestview Drive Corunna, MI 48817

JUNE 1993

THE ANIMALS’ AGENDA

PROFILES

Marian Probst

In the Shadow of the Curmudgeon

Eary 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 fact, for when it is time for Cleveland to take his cat on his first trip to the vet, there’s a character 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 man’s hatred, as in one in which he occasionally buys a new suit, “when the spirit, or rather Marian, moves one.” 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 of Saturday Review called to say that Cleveland Amory was looking for an editorial assistant. Marian’s response was unenthusiastic.

“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 la-la-la-dah and that I wouldn’t fit

But she decided to call nonetheless, and Marian, for a day, graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in speech in 1957, agreed over the phone to go to work for one of the dandiest speechcatchers of them all. Her duties included typing, copying, proofreading, and proofreading whatever columnas, TV scripts, critical reviews, books, or magazine pieces Cleveland wrote. Cleveland would leave a draft on the cage, and Marian would answer the telephone and compose to keep her boss on schedule if not actually there. But her duties, she made it clear, would not include taking any lip.

“One of the things I have always admired about Marian,” says Cleveland, “is getting absolutely furious when she loses something right after she’s had to work hard. 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 notion, by the time Marian went to work for Cleveland, he was more interested in reforming society, ordering its treatment of animals, than he was in describing it. Ultimately, he launched the Fund for Animals in 1969. 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, I could listen to the Cleveland Indians’ baseball game through the open window because everybody had it on the radio. That’s always been my

Continued on next page

The ANIMALS’ AGENDA

JUNE 1993

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

Continued from previous page 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 vengeful force that she believes "will become the movement of the 21st century." 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 crusade: "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, concurs. "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 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 goddam 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 stays, and doing things for everybody all day."

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

She's also often said about Marian Probst by those in the animal rights movement who know her. —Phil Maggitti

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 view, through his comic 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 provocateur 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.

PROFILES

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

A few critics sniffled 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 dinner 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 sets was the revelation that Falk had made when signed on to do the series last year. I'll now, and the star-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 others 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-unexplored source of pro-animal rights sentiment in the entertainment world. "People in this industry are not necessarily informed about what goes on in testing companies," says Dean. "But when they do become aware of the nature of testing and the irrational actions that involve, 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 and large they prefer to."

Dean who worked on Fatal Attraction, Deeply Devoted Seeks Soothing, and Cotton Club, among other films in his 12-year career, explains that there are three types of cosmetics: commercial products such as 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 companies "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-HEARC, 853 Old South Rd., Suite 402, W. Hollywood, CA 90406.
New Groups
Student Groups: For the Ethical Treatment of Animals has started a chapter at East Carolina University. Contact: Mark V. Davis, 200 Center Drive, Route 3, Box 202-C, Greenville, NC 27858.

Noteworthy
The American Society for Animal Law is holding a symposium on "Ethics and the Law in Animal Protection" at the University of California at Berkeley, October 19 and 20. For information, contact Professor David L. Hirsh, 220-14, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

The Animal Legal Defense Fund has announced that its annual conference, "The Animal Rights Movement: A Professional Perspective," will be held March 6-9, 1986, at the University of California, Berkeley. For information, contact the Fund at 1118-16, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

The organization of Veterinarians for Animal Rights has begun a Curriculum Modernization Project, to save some of the 17,000 animals killed each year at 17 veterinary schools. For details, write Women's Defense, VM, 220-38, Dade Dr., Old Bridge, NJ 08857.

Veterinary School Curriculum Changes
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Another Dissection Lesson
The American Civil Liberties Union has asked New Jersey high school teacher Stephen M. Cumes to stop the dissection of the frog in a biology class at the Woodbridge Regional High School, to provide student Maggic McCool with an alternative to dissection in class.

Vocations Helping Animals
Spent two days with the Acacia Animal Welfare Research Project (203-6222), observing and dissecting dolphins at the Bahamas (1933). For details, write AAWR, Box 202-C, Gretna, VA 23058.

Feast Franks
Pressed to quit hating humans, many luteinizers and welfareers will keep motorcycles, give animals beer, and read vegan books. Now, the most influential in making those changes: The Progressive Animal Welfare Society is fighting food abuse in Delta Upsilon initiations. (Contact: Delta Upsilon National Headquarters, Box 4101, Indianapolis, IN 46206.)

Protest Cruelty Products
Pointing the nation's eye on other animal-products-related products on the market are the Cruelty Criteria Committee of the Cruelty-Free Coalition. The Cruelty-Free Coalition was organized to bring attention to the use of animals in research and testing. The committee is planning to use the Cruelty Criteria Committee to bring attention to the use of animals in research and testing. The committee is planning to use the Cruelty-Free Coalition to bring attention to the use of animals in research and testing.

A nationwide gathering of animal rights activists is planned for June 10, 1982.
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 genitals.

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

Our conditioning dictates that hens—female chickens—are cawen, 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 to me that if an Australian aborigine drafted an IQ test, all of Western civilization would probably flunk. We have a very convenient and self-serving way of defining intelligence: 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 kind of intelligence.

One naturalist gave a chicken hen 21 guinea-fowl eggs she had found, just to see what would happen. These small, hard-shelled eggs were a far cry from 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.
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 chicks were friendlier and put on more weight for the amount of feed consumed than did the chicks 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 farmyard operation that comes to most of our minds when we imagine the lives of chickens. Fundamental changes have taken place in the last 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, 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 the birds are deprived of every expression of their natural urges. I wish I were exaggerating. I wish I

Continued from previous page

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 ant's 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.

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 Right: Supermarket chickens are now raised in warehouses on factory farms. Below: "Broiler" chickens reach market weight in seven weeks.
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 second 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 50 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 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-beaking” 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 matter. But if the matter does arise, and they are not able to euhemerize 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, Perdue, brags, “Our chickens are satisfied in life. They have all the good things a chicken could want.”

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.

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.

Continued on next page
BRAVE NEW CHICKEN

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.

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He pointed out that one class of substances are “nothing to worry about—they’re just growth permittants.” The medications he was referring 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 outfits, 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 major universities are hard at work today on developing another freak: a chicken without feathers. This marvelous advance in old-fashioned nature would save the industry the bother of plucking 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...

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 department 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 Interior 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!
The ANIMALS' AGENDA

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ribly distressed by confinement and made her even more aggressive. Not one to be dissuaded by a little setback like that, however, the industry has kept on putting to work, by fitting them with contact lenses, or spectacles called "polypeppers," that limit vision.

When I first saw chickens wearing glasses, I must admit a certain amount of the spectacle made me laugh. But the lengths the industry is willing to go in tampering with those 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 dampened 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 respite 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 banded 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 seemed to have only one mind about the time they would normally be [separated from] their mothers and off in the woods chasing grasshoppers on their own account. Yes, literally, 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 are not 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 eat the chickens, don't you?" I feel reasonably confident that most poultry producers know their stock 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 Bedichzik found four and even five hens squished into cages 12 inches by 12 inches. Under these conditions, the birds are unable to lift a single wing. In fact, they are squashed 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 5 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. If your mind causes any bother until you get to your food preparation. 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 to be others that 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 typical factory farms, what if some of the others trapped with you in the

SEND US TO CHINA NOW,

TO HELP SAVE THE RIVER DOLPHIN FROM EXTINCTION

Of all the Dolphin Project's special ventures, none is more urgent than the project to save the Chinese River Dolphin, the Baiji.

In the old days, this beautiful and exotic eight-foot dolphin abounded throughout the Yangtze River. With its long, slender body and sharp intelligence, the baiji dominated the mighty Yangtze and became legendary.

But now, with the Industrial Age in China, and all the people living along the Yangtze (a tenth of the world's population lives there), the marvelous baiji doesn't have a hope of survival. Chinese naturalists say his number has dwindled to an estimated 250 individuals.

We feel that if we don't get back to China this year, the Baiji is almost certainly doomed. We must get $100,000 to send a Dolphin Project Team to China this year! Because if we miss this chance, there won't be another.

Some Chinese don't give a damn about dolphins. But the ones that do have turned to us.

And now we must turn to you.

If you can help please contact us at The Dolphin Project, P.O.Box 224, Coconut Grove, Florida 33133.

JUNE 1990

The ANIMALS' AGENDA

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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, slicing along the hillsides at the southern 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 cowboys still hadn't finished bundling in the feed, and probably were making nightly visits to the kill sites.

"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 misty gold rush, helicopter time is valuable and the prospectors' agenda didn't include stopping for a forensic examination of a 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 roundup, which he considers a controversial enterprise, 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 them 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 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 horses began to surface. Kelly flew BLM investigators to the nearby Augusta Mountain in September, when another 73 carcasses were discovered. On October 1, they found 140, more near a resort called Wadsworth, about 30 miles west. The carcasses never were reported at all.

The slaughter continued within 20 to 40 yards of one another.

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 no sense to Kelly. "There were lots of them (gumshoe) 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 promises 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 54 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 $80,000 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 along the sage and yucca, it finally sinks in that in such a remote country, the most efficient way to kill horses would be from the air. Bryan and other investigators decline to discuss the various possibilities. But clearly, it's a 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 roundup numbers 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 crime, seem hard to explain. If shooting wild horses could ever be legal, 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, believe that ranchers who found there were sympathetic to the horses were killed.

With recent posts having appeared, offering cash for information leading to the capture of the "wild horse killers." Shooting a horse 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 investigators only shrug when asked, "Why now?" In past years, a few horses were killed. The BLM's Tim Reuswaat 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."

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

-Berry Nelsen

ANIMAL NEWSLINE

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

ANIMAL NEWSLINE

JUNE 1989

THE ANIMAL'S AGENDA
ANIMAL NEWSLINE

Humane Societies Track a Travelling Zoo

Dick Garden has a way with animals. And that, according to the Humane Society of the United States, is the problem.

The owner of a circus and a travelling 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 Gar- den’s Wonder Zoo and its caravan of injured and diseased 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 violators and he’s certainly not typical of the people we’ve caught.”

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 arrangement, he is still free to reapply for his state license.

Should he do that, the animal rights activities who met several times to protest with shouts will meet Garden with renewed opposition. “I hope that they shut down permanently,” said Carol Lavelle, head of Pet Helpers Inc., of Charleson, 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, levy 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 St. Augustine Herald-Tribune last September, after leaving his animals and wildlife, that he did everything he could to follow state and federal laws governing travelling zoos. “It was my dream to have as many animals as possible so people could see what I got to have a lot of exotic animals, and I loved them all,” But the Game and Fish Commission officials who attended the Garden showed his animals. Colonel Robert Brantley, executive director of the state agency, wrote Garden that he was revok- ing 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 com- pliance officer in the agency’s compliance and enforcement division. “The party’s always given the opportunity to make corrections. But when something says no to 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. Al- though 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 travel- ing shows 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 Bettigie Mackall, a court-appointed animal abuse investigator in Fairlawn, County, Virginia.

PACs and presidents of local human 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 move.

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 in- side two of the Wonder Zoo trucks, where Mackall said the animals had been kept for four days, reached 109 degrees. One young elephant, according to a USDA veterinarian, was thin and showed a misshapen and atrophied right rear leg. The ponies were underfed 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—who 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 be not 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 animal in his circus—should the USDA decide to permanently revoke his exhibitor’s license. “They [the complaints] have been documented,” Germaine said. “All these 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 permanent ban against Garden stems from his treatment of the animals at their winter quarters. For the USDA, its concerns about the owner came from the travelling operation’s trips around the country. Problems with the zoo were often noted by local enforcement officers and shoppers in- pagin 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 them],” Lavelle said. “They just move fast enough to stage a major [protest] Last May, as an exhausted Lavelle recuperated from her husband’s successful City Coun- cil campaign, her phone rang with news that, as tired as she was, she could not ignore. Often called to excuse injured dogs and cats, Lavelle 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 charges. Mackall said she would see a month later.

Lavelle learned that the rhinoceros liv- ing in a cage only slightly larger than his own body. The animal was given a few bottles of milk a day to drink. “He basically survives,” Lavelle 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 “Satan” Swannen, alleging six counts of animal cruelty.

Lavelle doubts Swannen knows any- thing about animals. “This man stood before [reporters] in Charleston and pro- claimed that he had millions of dollars in- vested 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.”

Swannen blamed Lavelle’s protest on animal rights activists trying to “drum up publicity for their own organization,” a Charleston newspaper reported. Lavelle had a God-given gift with animals, and I’m trying to make a sincere difference in sav- ing endangered species,” Swannen said.

“T’ve spent millions of dollars saving en- dangered species, but as soon as I try to give them [the activists] the facts, they scream in my face.” Swannen pleaded that a judge would clear him of the six animal cruelty charges. But the judge said he needed six hours of testimony before throwing out the charges. He ruled that a “pattern of neglect” wasn’t proven.

Unaunted, Lavelle has pledged to continue her fight. “We may have lost the battle,” she said, “but we’ll win the war.”

—L. Wayne Hicks

ANIMAL NEWSLINE

Dick Garden’s Wonder Zoo has racked up a near-record number of Animal Welfare Act violations. Like other in- mates of the travelling zoo, the tiger (above, left) and rhinoceros (above) live in cramped and uncomfortable cages.
NO MATTER WHAT THE EXCUSE, ANIMAL RESEARCH IS INEXCUSABLE.

Heards of videotape footage from a major university research lab show primates being beaten while their teeth are extracted. These cruel and useless head trauma experiments went on for 15 years until activists convinced the government to withdraw funding.

Violation is one of the worst cruelties to animals. Tens of millions die each year from induced diseases, psychological torture, toxic substances, burning, battering, and surgical experiments. Only a small fraction is related to the kinds of biomedical investigation cited by animal research advocates to excuse every instance of hideous experimentation.

Animal research is obsolete. Alternative methods are better and cheaper. The more we learn about animal research, the fewer excuses there are for it.

I can no longer excuse the inexcusable.

Please enroll me in your society.

- Individual Membership $100
- Family Membership $150
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Please use my contribution of $ to help the Society accomplish its goals.

National Anti-Vivisection Society
33 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois 60604

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, coat markings, and any other individual characteristics such as missing teeth.
- Pet-cats especially—sometimes hide in out-of-the-way spots such as attics, basements, and sheds. Be sure to completely search your premises.
- Contact local 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.
- Pet aware. If your animal has a collar no label may 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 owners may not do so when frightened or injured. Not everyone can recognize breeds, so don’t name the breed; draw or trace an outline profiling the breed as well. Post the flyers wherever you can and be sure to include mailing envelopes, cards, and postcards. Recheck every day to assure the flyers have not been removed.
- Search your neighborhood, going out of 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 radius, 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 after checking the “wanted” column. The extra money spent on display ads may be worthwhile, as those ads may not appear in the same section as the commonly found 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.

Reprinted from Animals magazine, published by the Massachusetts SPCA, 350 South Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02135.

ANIMAL NEWSLINE

Astrid Lindgren Receives Medal

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 fortnight but frail 82-year-old writer of the famous Tippi Longstocking children's books expressed disappointment over the Lord's shortcomings when she accepted the Animal Welfare Institute's medal from Rep. Charles E. Bennett, sponsor of the 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 decrease more natural housing and living conditions 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 "reactions.

"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

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You can help this independent animal rights magazine grow by distributing quantities of our subscription flyer pictured here. Drop us a note and we'll send you 50, 100, 500, or 1000, or how many ever you can handle.

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Please rush me info on National Veal Boycott demonstrations. (Contributions of any amount also receive The Dynamite of Factory Farming, plus Milk that Stained Meat from Sick Animals, and more.)

Antibiotics . . .

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June 23, 1989
Friday Evening

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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 light 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 Ely, Nevada. Owner John Casey was previously convicted for letting cattle starve in California and Oregon. The Elye 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 2,000-acre Investico 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—where callers refer 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 “Coward-Up at the San Diego Zoo” Dec. 1988), California state senator Dan McConnaugle introduced a bill, SB-892, to bar disciplining elephants by electricity, deprivation of food or rest, insertion of objects into intestines, 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 Amsberg argues, “Elephants are so brow-beaten in the process of training for rides that by the time it’s over, they’re not elephants any more, they’re just marionettes.” The bill is meeting vehement opposition from California’s powerful zoo lobby. The San Diego Zoological Society, whose staff beat Dunda, netted $866,000 from elephant rides in 1988.

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Captive elephants are not pets, never been used by a research organization.
A tragedy that many activists were too blind to see…

A serious attempt at understanding…

Many activists are blinded by…

The Animals Agenda correspondents:

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

by David Patrice Greenaville

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

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

by Synnove Lindemose

Bullfighting is raising eyebrows all over the Hispanic world. Poverty makes it harder to protect animals.

by Synnove Lindemose

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 (Alternative 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 accommodations. Write to ALA (airmail) at Apartado 816, 28080 Madrid, Spain. (call: 2470-4777)

Philippines—Protecting Endangered Species

The Philippines is the only country in Asia without an endangered species problem. The government has recently launched a series of measures to combat the menace.

by Criselda Sila Sol, Palaw

The government of this vast archipelago has recently launched a series of measures to combat the menace.

The program has started by...
Without outside support, animals in the Philippines may have little chance of survival.

INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

By D.P. Greenvale and Merritt Clifton

Japanese researchers have developed a mushroom that tastes like steak.

In their biggest gain yet, environmentalists have formed a coalition of city governments 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 35 percent in parts of Bavaria.

The trend toward stricter cruelty sentences is spreading into Canada, where humane enforcement has long been lax. In Manitoba, Dale Cogal 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.

The American SPCA and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service rescued 22 Costa Rican monkeys at New York's Kennedy Airport on March 1, filming 90 cruelly treated monkeys per day at a stretch. Many die of dehydration. Responding to criticism from Fight Against Animal Cruelty in Europe, a Spanish government spokesman said, "We believe that once a person has committed an act of cruelty it is a matter for conscience."

The newly formed China Snake Protection Assn. is marking its third 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 USFWS reports that 80,000 black-tailed deer have been fed plastic by their parents, who mistake various objects for their normal prey.

Nemadic reindeer herders called Nenets are protecting the loss of millions of acres of grazing land to Soviet oilfield development.

Do animals have souls? The real question is: Do the people who consider that they might not, have any real spiritual understanding?

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--- Tom Regan

Some articles recently featured in Clarion Call:

Animal Rights, Human Wrongs—Tom Regan
Agricole—Michael Fox
Sacred Cow—Robin Winter
Animal Rights—a human perspective—Thomas Beauch

Niven, a chemical used to kill sea lice at Scottish fish farms, is rated one of the 25 most dangerous water pollutants by the New York government; yet is still being applied virtually without restriction.

As the battle to save African elephants escalates into something increasingly reminiscent of guer- rilla warfare, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) is seeking to protect poachers by creating a substitute in the form of "for- ced hunting," theoretically safe from poachers' attacks. The prob- lem is that the WWF hopes to pro- tect 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 140,000 humans bought moose tags last year, reporting 11,200 kills.
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. These advances are most heartening! But the animals still need more help than they’re getting. There are big problems with some of the old ways of thinking as well as with many present practices and schemes for future exploitation.

The mission of The ANIMALS’ AGENDA is clear; we must keep educating and activating those people who care about all animals and their habitats. But to help them, we have to survive. 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.

It will take a united effort to create a more humane and just world. By helping us, you will be a part of it.

Contributions are tax-deductible. For further information, please contact The ANIMALS’ AGENDA, 450 Monroe Turnpike, Monroe, CT 06468, or call (203) 452-0446.

Now Is The Time To Put Your Money Where Your Heart Is.

NEWS SHORTS

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 being fed contaminated by the pesticide heptachlor.

Someone poisoned over 130 herding gulls on Long Island recently, the worst such incident in New York in 20 years.

The Port of Los Angeles claims that protecting only tern nesting habitat costs $78,000 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 1994 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, Deborah Broughton, resigned in protest and made the details public.

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Former Senator from Connecticut Lowell Weicker, a leading foe of lab reform bills, now heads ResearchAmerica, 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.

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 stricter 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 1995. Baskerville now faces seven more charges filed last summer. In Boston, a man convicted of animal cruelty recently got 40 hours of community service and a "seek counselling" 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 given notice of potential legal action by those who own certificates of deposit.

The Marine Mammal Commission has abolished the Navy of abominable dolphins. (See "Root Camp for Sea Mammals," January 1989.)

Offstage: Leftist's cats in solitary confinement.

Sidewalk circus trainer Dominique Leftoff, 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 left 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 33040.

More SHORTS on next page.
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Compression for Animals!

At Somers prison in northern Connecticut, a German Shepherd drag-sniffing dog flushed out a mother cat and her litter of two-day-old kittens during a routine search of prisoners' cells on March 6th. The cats were being "harmed" 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 delusion crafted against the unidentified inmate who was keeping 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.

Fishing in the Everglades are suddenly showing an increase in 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.

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

Gulf Island, 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 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 Iving with other horses in natural light, Cornell University veterinarians have discovered. This conclusion formed a study on domestic violence against the unidentified inmate who was keeping 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.

After denying any part in selling furs for Barbie dolls, Mattel introduced an "animal lover Barbie" whom others look like animal skins. Write Mattel again at 3100 Rosecrans Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250.

There are 546 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.

Schorer, parent firm of Maybelline and Schell, recently put 150 animals through painful tests without anesthesia, then asked the USDA to erase Animal Welfare Act violations because "the inspection reports with these conditions were 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.

Explaining 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 AHBA contends the rules bypass the intent of the Horse Protection Act.

Shelters are scrambling to dispose of euthanized animals. Paws, which won't take care of cases, some 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 animal breeders, 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.

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

The Bureau of Land Management wants to cut wild horse numbers to less than 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 F-100, Washington, D.C. 20007.

Leash shot can poison birds.

Ingested lead shot killed 34 trumpet swans last winter, eating from 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.

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

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

Evading laws banning 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.

Sociable Patricia Rose Kugler 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 $3,000 cost of setting up the plastic bone lab. The bones are cast in molds made from real bones by Pacific Research of Vaccon, Washington.
Think What Might Happen to Your Animals...

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 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.

FROM THE FURBEAVERS, 2235 COMMERCIAL DR., VANCOUVER, BC V5N 4G6, CANADA.

Reprinted from The Furbearers, 2235 Commercial Dr., Vancouver, BC V5N 4G6, Canada.

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

By Deborah Gibbons

Confession of a Closet Vegetarian

The ANIMALS’ AGENDA

JUNE 1989

COMMENT

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

S

o began Tim 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 helpless. Yet there was a sound. A weak, monosyllabic sound like the mew 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 oiled 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 rescue, according to Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation executive director Lynn Curry, "because that’s when all the baby animals come out. Most of them don’t need to be rescued at all, but people find them and bring them in anyway." Baby rabbits appear helpless when they “freeze” and are easily caught, can be self-sufficient when only four inches long. Turtles may look abandoned while the mother forages—but unless you know a

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 running 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 Los Angeles Wildlife Rehabilitations 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 exhibited 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 begin 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 water to their young. 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 flys 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 brush 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 feed it a pet. Wild animals are generally not happy in captivity. Confinement goes against the very instincts of their wildiness.” In many states and provinces, keeping wildlife without a permit is illegal.

D

espite increasing institutional involvement, most wildlife rescue and rehab work is still done through private initiative. Martine Colette put $25,000 into founding the nation’s biggest wildlife rehab center in 1976. Her Wildlife Waystation, a 360-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 massacring 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 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 sympathetic Ray Carlisle, president of AARK Construction. Throughout the job, Lewis appealed for “concrete” aid.

New York State Police investigator Sue McDoonough 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 poised 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 Ulubackler founded the Birds of Contra. Continued on next page
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 director Paul Hummel has run a 23-acre rehab center devoted to predator species for the past decade. Recent guests included four gray 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 mauled by hunters, some of whom don’t quit. When four of his wolves escaped in 1983, three were shot dead.

Dorothy Sporzo pioneered marine rescue and rehab at her West Quoddy Biological Research Station, near Lubec, Maine. She set up in 1959. Ecological research was Sporzo’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 birds 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-baked, mismanaged animals unable to cope on their own, Connecticut requires would-be rehabilitators to show they can train animals to return to their natural habitat.

Bunny 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, show him how to sit up, the woods, put him in a cage, and say he’s a wild raccoon,” Ruth Hummel explains. Racing coons readily forage in gardens and cornfields, but learning to survive all year is tougher. “I can’t teach them to turn over rocks to find beetles,” Hummel continues. “You’ve got to put crayfish in their tank. When they’re a little bigger, put them to a reservoir or a little marsh area, they are going to know there’s crayfish in that habitat.”

In 1987 Anita Perlo founded The Nature Connection in Menlo Park, Calif., a project combining rehab of troubled youths and injured animals. Animals are used as a tool to teach kids about the value of a mix of 11 to 12, and youths suffering from acute name (female) disabilities, who have been referred by guidance counselors. A second branch was started last year in Westburywhere. While rehab work occupies the summers, Nature Connection groups remain together to do humane education each winter. The Nature Connection gets grants from endangered species and local and federal wildlife and free veterinary care, but Perlo admits, “We are always operating in a deficit,” because “we need money to pay for administrative things.”

Donna and Kevin Haynes brought wildlife rehab back to Kentucky last year after five years in Texas, where a 1983 flash flood, but the big cats took to birds, flew, and most of the animals survived. On March 1, 1986, Curry opened a new 23-acre refuge at a safer site. By May 1986, the refuge held over 200 animals, including raccoons, jays, mountain lions, and opossums. The year-round average is about 110. In 10 years, the facility has assisted as many as 35,000 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 200 volunteers were

Siegfried Ubelacker 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 95 percent 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 at a 50-acre site near Morrow, mostly housing animals confiscated from smugglers. From quarantine, the animals go to a 505-acre site at the Sapo National Park, an international wildlife sanctuary, where they are freed when ready.

For anyone empathetic 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 mother. I should have known better. If parents swoop down, push him out, and tear his head off. Next I fixed a squirrel that had been plucked to get hot asphat by a car that crushed only her forepaws. She died anyway of shock and stress. We found a young rabbit I took from a cat who carried it like a kitten.

The dooms 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 part of nature. In that respect, rehab work is only helps restore the balance, just a little.

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

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Dr. Barnard is chairman of the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, P.O. Box 5232, Washington, D.C. 20016; (202) 883-1312.

JUNE 1989

The ANIMALS' AGENDA
A Trip to the World's Largest Exotic Animal Auction

BY JIM MASON

While I pull up, they have to be 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 semi-professional 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 went next door 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 sports, the weather, and all the other extraneous matters.

Preparations made, mini-personality tuned, I walked over to Hal's 5-H Ranch, five miles down Cape Girardeau on Route W, on a blazing Friday morning in October. It was a great day for some outdoor work, and I joined "Root" in hoisting down some empty cages. Straight off, I got lucky. A woman in her fifties, whom I’ll call "Kat," dropped by for some cages, and we began to talk about the auction. Katie, it turned out, makes her living tending 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 here, I wondered, make a living in zoos, circuses, fairs, and other such places? How quickly would she be cast from that life among animals if she raised a voice or moved 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 interspersed with little alleys and runs. Everything was laid out to make it easy to get animals from the tracks to the holding pens, to the auction area, and back to the pens or the new owners’ trucks. As we walked among giraffes, zebras, Watusi cattle, buffalo, elk, and four-horned goats, we talked about the exotic animal business. Katie told me that yes, the zoo dump some animals here, but "they don't like to be associated with us." The zoo, it seems, has lefty ideas, and a prestige that would be sold by any direct involvement with private profiteers. So they use go-betweens—brokers—to take surplus animals of their hands and to the auctions.

I suppose we can dispense here with some of the obvious details of the business “lover,” albeit one who had taken to working within an exploitative trade in order to have a life among animals. How many here, I wondered, make a living in zoos, circuses, fairs, and other such places? How quickly would she be cast from that life among animals if she raised a voice or moved against it?

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Some of the consumers are simply rural folk who have enough land for a few buf-falo 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 petindustry trade. The word goes out that such-and-such species is a pet, like a certain variety of boa constrictor 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 species is a "pet," like a certain variety of boa constrictor 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.

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Prisoners of Love

Behind the Dolphin Smile
By Richard O'Barry with Keith Caldwell
Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 1988
252 pages, $16.95, hardcover
(Available from the Dolphin Project, Box 224, Coconut Grove, FL 33133)

"A animals or aliens?" has become the question of the day about dolphins and whales. Both films have both species in perfect con-
movement with beings from other worlds. In Cocoon, dolphins serve as playmates to the outer-space visitors they recognize from a previous voyage on Earth. As a result, the ethereal animals have been captured and brought to our planet. In Cocoon 2, the dolphins have been brought back to Earth and are now living in harmony with the humans. The dolphins, however, have not forgotten their past lives as sea creatures and continue to communicate with each other through a series of high-pitched sounds.

In the aftermath of the exploit, O'Barry created a new role for himself, that of dolphin trainer. 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. He would become independent of humans and fit for resettolution into a dolphin pod.

O'Barry's book was an instant bestseller, and his efforts to establish a halfway house for dolphins undergoing rehabilitation and settling successfully were hailed as a triumph by marine biologists and dolphin enthusiasts. In 1989, O'Barry was awarded the Society for the Study of Marine Mammals' annual award for his efforts.

In conclusion, this book is a must-read for anyone interested in marine mammals and their conservation. O'Barry's story is a testament to the power of love and the importance of following one's dreams.
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, $39.90

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 in human life. For instance, the Pythagoreans in the 6th century B.C. and the Neoplatonists dating from the first century B.C. were both inspired by their Orphic religious notion that humans and animals embody at different times, each other's 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 18th century American process philosopher Charles Hartshorne, whom Dombrowski now treats at length. He hopes by exploring the relationship between Hartshorne's philosophy and his writings on animals to place them in the "vegetarian tradition...travelled along the Pythagorean-Pacifist-Democratic axis." He hopes also to use Hartshorne to defend philosophic vegetarianism. While he has made "veteran" to vegetarianism in some of his writings, Hartshorne is not a vegetarian, in any philosophic or otherwise. However, Dombrowski's point is that Hartshorne's metaphysical position strongly supports philosophic vegetarianism and by extension animal rights.

Quoting generously from Hartshorne, Dombrowski carries this claim through several chapters. Hartshorne, it seems, would accept Hartshorne's theology, which is in basic opposition to other worldviews: that of Newtonian physics, for instance, "impenetrable, dead particles as ultimate"; that of classical thermodynamics, which identifies God "with the story immobility of the absolute"; and that of pantheism, which identifies God exclusively with the world. By contrast, Hartshorne proffers that doctrine he calls "pantheism," 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 Platonic analogies of the world as a kind of "superrealism." He emphasizes the domination of feeling, fragments, or organisms, similar to the way an animal's body constitutes microscopic sentient cells or, for Hartshorne, every created object has some portion of feeling within itself. Dombrowski points out the ethical relevance of this perception: "If there is such a thing as more libidinous, sentient 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 so troubling matter.

Instead of viewing the world, including animals, as mere fodders to treat however we please, humanity would do better to emulate Hartshorne's God, for "it God...cares for all sentient beings, even for the fall of a sparrow, then to be cruel to animals...these reflections are fitting for Hegelian divine suffering." Dombrowski's case for philosophic vegetarianism based upon Hartshorne's view rests largely on the premise that God surely must suffer over the "preponderant model of life" en- durued by animals raised for food, especially on factory farms.

While the book's purpose entails sympathy with animals and appreciation of their valid rights does not hold animals equal to humans, Hartshorne's philosophy of nature is hierarchical rather than lateral. Animals belong to the "subhuman" region of the 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 part. Human transcendence of animality is comparable to God's transcendency of the created cosmos. For while animals, according to Hartshorne, are able to feel, God, they cannot, without 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 subscribes. In their estimation, 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 birds, and this is in line with his belief that Hartshorne's aesthetic thought on the subject of birds of Hartshorne's. His 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 his literature. By viewing Hartshorne's view along with his own, Dombrowski writes that "in selecting for behavior, evoking pleasurable and rewarding modes of feeling that promote such behaviors" Modern science has overlooked the prime reason birds sing to be detected ter- ritorial patterns, but the human need to be heard, the only, or even the main, reason for the incredible versatility and beauty of bird songs.

By the same token, Hartshorne and Dombrowski in some ways are "weak" Darwinians. Hartshorne is another word for "natural selection." Hartshorne, it is used here, is in "natural selection," not "survival of the fittest" but "survival of the fit.

The book is an impressive one as it is informative. It provides a long list of the most prevalent pesticide residues found in vegetables. The authors warn, however, that the pesticides often become part of the fruit or vegetable's flesh and are then ingested by humans.

The book is excellent in another respect. It describes the headaches of the bureaucrats charged with regulation and enforcement of pesticide use in food. Not only are the government standards for allowable residues egregiously below the times, the food and Drug Administration's current methods for detecting residues in produc- ers is not only much less expensive than half the chemicals in current use.

Short Takes

Friend or Frog by Marjorie Priceman; Houghton Mifflin, Boston, 1988; $13.95, hardcover, 30 pages

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

Pesticide Alert: A Guide to Pesticides in Fruits and Vegetables
By Laurie Mott and Karen Snyder; Sierra Club Books, San Francisco, 1988; 74 pages, $4.95 paper back.

(Pesticide Alert is eye-opening and empow- ering. It makes clear the facts that what is needed to protect ourselves 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.)
Continued from previous page
terries, all the while lending insight into animal behavior. Boggs’s life is not with- out 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 ob- servation. Despite this puzzling aspect of his work, Boggs’s dedication to wildlife must be acknowledged and admired.

Faithful Elephants: A True Story of Animals, People and War by Yoko Tsuchida; Haughton Mifflin, Boston, 1989: $13.95, hardcover, 29 pages

This exquisitely illustrated children’s book tells a heart-wrenching tale of war and its ef- fect 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 could be starved to death. The zookeepers were tormented by watching them slowly die, and the animals—physically pain was made more intense by their conviction 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 recom- mended by the publisher for ages 6 and up.

Influencing Horse Behavior: A Natural Approach to Training by Dr. Jim McCall; Alpine Publishing, Inc. (1461 E. 8th St., Grand Island, NE 68803), 1989: $12.95, hardback, 77 pages

Jim McCall, who holds a Ph.D. in horse production, attempts to teach horse train- ing through the reward system, and points out the undesirable effects of negative reinforcement. 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.

Prisoners of Love

Continued from page 49

tracking them into a small side-crench, where they waited anxiously for the tide to come 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 hap- py about it. But I didn’t. I was up all night."

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 his dolphins—in this case, his three dolphins: Frankie, Guppy and Ray. For example, he was a part of the group of dolphins that made the jump to join him in the afterlife.

Behind the Dolphin Smile is a treasure of dolphin legend, lore, and scientific fact, though the relatively unchoked O’Barry has not finished school in the Navy doesn’t consider himself a scientist. It’s a story he doesn’t hold back in the preface.

Over the years I have worked with many scientists and have been struck by one thing: how blinding they are to the world around them. Dr. Lilly’s main contribution to understanding dolphins was to map their brains, driving elec- trodes through the skull and watching for electro- magnetic rhythms when various stimuli were applied. We assume that a scientist will make the breakthrough in communicating with a mammal, to the human himself. Maybe an artist will do it all. Maybe a child. O’Barry has already helped to make dolphins!

It’s uncertain whether O’Barry’s sense of kinship with dolphins extends to other animals. References to roast-beef sand- wiches and turkey dinners and incidents of “regular activities” like feeding dolphins occasionally break the spell of this otherwise- absorbing and entertaining book. One hopes the National Geographic, 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 profes- sional 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

The ANIMALS’ ALGENDA

JUNE 1990

JUNE 1990

COMPASSIONATE LIVING

BY VICTORIA MORAN

The Envir- onment by

Tom Regan participated and later wrote, “Each of us has proven our willingness to suffer for those who had no choice in the matter. We believe that the call of our duty as humans is clear: to care for the world that the animal rights movement means business: . . . Our civil war was for- malized . . . our civil law: . . . True declaration does not equal victory. But it stands to reason that with violence, the strong win; with nonviolence, the righteous win.”

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 raise 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 unnecessary possessions and meaningless activities. Self-vill, at- tachments, negativness, and a feeling of isolation are obstructed as the hindrances to a peaceful life.

We are familiar with the phrase “Out of the jungle, a classic publication of the American Vegan Society, in which Jay Tarshish interprets the Gandhi im- perative by creating an acronym from the Sanskrit word ahimsa, which means nonkilling, noninjuring, or harmless. These “pillars of ahimsa” are Abstinence from animal products, Harmlessness with reverence for life; Integrity of thought, word, and deed; Mastery over oneself. Self-discipline to have their nature, and crea- tion; and Advancement of understanding and truth. With such qualities, a person has developed the maturity for success- ful, nonviolent action. That is the beauty of ahimsa,” Gandhi wrote. “It comes up to oneself; one has not to go out in search of it.” But will it work? With Indian inde- pendence and the American civil rights movement as precedents, historically the answers that question affirmative. Our job is not to condemn or even to put the task. It’s simple, but it’s easy. Gandhi told his followers, “It is nonviolence only where we love those that hate us. I know how difficult it is to follow this grand law of love. But are not all good and good things difficult to do?”
There's No Feline AIDS

The concluding paragraph of "AIDS Panic Hits Cat Owners" (January 89) implied that there are two forms of the feline leukemia virus and further muddied 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 lymphosarcoma virus (FLV). 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 oncovirus subfamily of retroviruses, because it causes 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, FeLV interferes with a cat's disease-fighting immune system. Like HIV, FeLV 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.

Cruelty-Free Symbols Problematic

In theory, a standard symbol denoting products free of animal exploitation is an excellent idea. But, in practice, a cat can suffer 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, FeLV interferes with a cat's disease-fighting immune system. Like HIV, FeLV 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.

But 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, we made a fortune riding the back of our work. However, they donated nothing to WRC.

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 almost impossible. Thus, our logo and all for it, instead of generating 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, Newcomb, 7725
Republic of South Africa

Bullbards 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 bullbards—bullbards, if you will—are urgently needed in Mexico and in the New World. The spectacles are 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 tour operators should be approached by animal defenders with information about bullfighting. I found many fellow Americans just "going along with the show" without any real enthusiasm for the corrida.

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

For nine years, Beauty Without Cruelty South Africa had such a logo, which was awarded to the 50selected 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, we made a fortune riding the back of our work. However, they donated nothing to WRC.

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Brave New Chicken

Continued from page 17... elevate 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 lives' existence. Such a system of food production clearly has 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 make 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 degenera
tive 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 (ARM) 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 realizing the interdependence of all living things. Increasing numbers of people follow a dream of a simple life 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 ex
tremely 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 with respect and an open spirit we might give us back something of our own humanity? Is it too farfetched to wonder whether our children, 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 and 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 vun
erable amidst the ruins of a past to which he will never return.

Is this not our situation as a species? Are we not also driven by an evolu
tionary imperative, by the call of our own growth and potential for expan
sion? Clearly, we are. Are we not standing now amidst the slime and debris of our primeval past, not knowing what will become of us, yet already dream
ing of a sane, healthy, and loving world?

John Robbins is author of Diet for a New America, a book that has recently 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 PO. Box 949, Kelton, CA 95039-0949.
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