

A SCIENTIST SPEAKS OUT ON FRAUDULENT ANIMAL RESEARCH

the ANIMALS' AGENDA

THE ANIMAL RIGHTS MAGAZINE • MARCH 1987 • \$2.00

**Marvel or
Madness?**

**THE
BRAVE
NEW
WORLD
OF GENETIC
ENGINEERING**



**THE CASE FOR NEUTERING DOGS AND CATS
STAR TREK IV: BEAMING DOWN ANIMAL RIGHTS
AN INTERVIEW WITH JEREMY RIFKIN**

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March 1987
Vol. VII, No. 2

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

THE ANIMALS' AGENDA (ISSN 0741-5044) is published monthly (except for combined issues January/February and July/August) with offices at 49 Richmondville Avenue, Westport, Ct. Send all mail to Box 5234, Westport, CT 06881. Subscriptions are \$18 per year in the U.S.; \$25 per year in all other countries. Application to mail at second-class rates is pending at Westport, CT 06881 and at additional mailing offices. Copyright ©1987 by Animal Rights Network, Inc.

Postmaster, send address changes to The ANIMALS' AGENDA, P.O. Box 5234, Westport, CT 06881

Typography by Alphabet Soup
Fairfield, CT

Making Connections

Can the rights of non-human animals be guaranteed in a world where humans persecute one another on the basis of superficial differences? Not a chance. Stories of ugly racial incidents are again making headlines in America, jarring us out of the complacency of the post-civil rights era and reminding us of the reality of the racism/speciesism connection. The same perverse desire to exploit and dominate others is at the root of most prejudice. Racism and speciesism are just slightly different manifestations of the same disorder, and only by instilling positive values into the now negatively-charged psyche of the human species will we eliminate it and begin to move in the direction of reasoning justice.

Working for a world in which no sentient creatures suffer at the hands of humans will undoubtedly benefit human and non-human beings alike. So, is the animal rights advocate called upon to aggressively fight racism with his or her already over-taxed resources? Battling on two fronts—even in the same war—may be more than most of us can do, and it can be confidently asserted that the degree of suffering experienced in the non-human animal world is of a greater magnitude than that now felt within the human realm. However, we can at the very least lend moral support (and a helping hand on occasion) to members of our human family who are yet to receive their freedom and dignity. In so doing, we'll demonstrate that compassion is indeed the ultimate, unlimited ethic.

A question of money

Often it's best to ignore unfounded criticism, but sometimes it must be addressed. The ANIMALS' AGENDA is being criticised by some people in the movement for soliciting financial assistance from humane organizations considered too conservative in philosophy or action. We, too, would like to see more vigorous activity in the way the major groups pursue their goals. However, we find it difficult to understand the logic behind objections to those organizations funding the work of The ANIMALS' AGENDA, since our critics also lend their voices to the chorus of complaints about groups hoarding money intended for animal work instead of spending it on worthwhile projects.

We would like to explain to our readers the need for raising funds. Your \$18 annual subscription fee simply doesn't pay publishing costs! About 45 per cent of our operating budget comes from subscriptions, and about 40 per cent is made up of donations from contributors and sustainers—some of them individuals, but many are foundations and animal welfare organizations. Without their help, The ANIMALS' AGENDA could not be published. While such financial assistance is accepted gratefully, editorial content of the magazine is not influenced by fund raising considerations. Funds are granted by humane societies whose directors understand that the publication of an independent magazine is an important movement "program". Monetary gifts are offered and received with no strings attached.

Moreover, in most magazines, advertising provides the bulk of revenue—the price per issue merely pays for printing. As a non-profit endeavor, The ANIMALS' AGENDA does not exist to sell ads; however, ads do provide supplemental income. And while we do endeavor to screen them for content, it is virtually impossible to censor out everything that may offend the most ideologically pure segment of the movement (who charge us with commercialism).

The staff and board of directors of The ANIMALS' AGENDA are committed to maintaining the integrity of this magazine, and we ask for your trust and support. And while we're on the subject of money, we'd like to express our thanks to those of you who responded generously to our holiday appeal with contributions and purchases of gift subscriptions. Please keep in mind that gift subscriptions can be ordered at any time of the year for birthday presents or as special remembrances.

—The Editors

Deserved Criticism

Despite my initial delight in seeing that the October issue of The ANIMALS' AGENDA featured a discussion of the forthcoming elections from the standpoint of animal rights issues, I was gravely disappointed by the article itself and concerned for the detrimental effect it might have on pro-animal legislation in the future.

The author of the article, "Votes that Work for Animals", is unquestionably a dedicated advocate of animal rights. Unfortunately, he lives and works at a philosophical distance from Capitol Hill that is far greater than the physical miles.

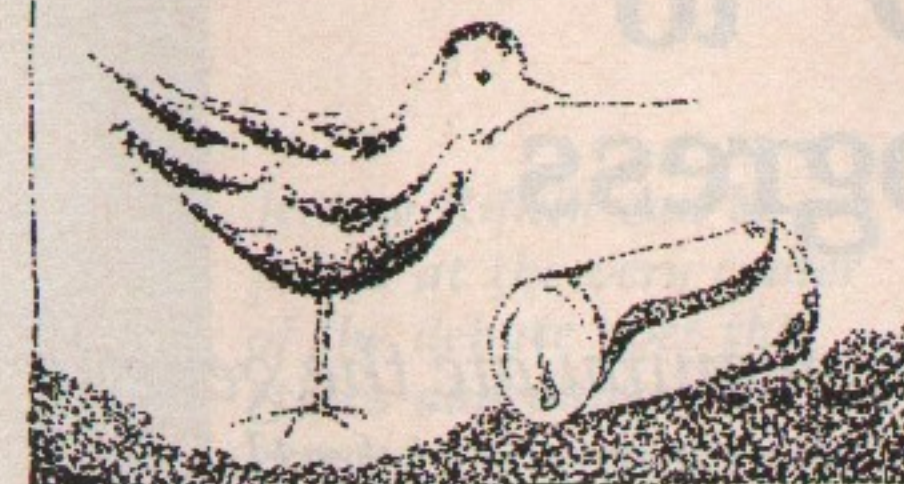
The article reduced what has become known as "single-issue politics" to a dangerous extreme, rating particular legislators not merely on their support of animal rights, but on their sponsorship of single bills. Its summaries of certain Congressperson's records were simplistic and even sophomoric. For example, it stated that Alaskan Republican Senator Frank Murkowski has pushed for renewal of the North Pacific Fur Seal Treaty because of "his eagerness to see thousands of baby seals clubbed to death." This needlessly melodramatic accusation—disguised as responsible appraisal—not only ignored the central issues of Murkowski's constituent needs and autonomy, but overshadowed his co-sponsorship of other animal protection legislation.

Such sweeping indictments by animal activists and publications are likely to push Senator Murkowski away from future animal rights bills—which raises another flaw in the article. Animal rights representatives on the Hill are poorly served indeed by the blanket assertions of those not familiar with the legislative process. Lobbying Congress, promoting and opposing particular bills, and negotiating specific language are all slow and complex procedures which require development of sources and supporters among Congressional staff.

Furthermore, as any thinking person must realize, members of Congress exist in a sphere of mutual accommodations, exchanging favorable votes and often juggling the special interests of constituents and supporters. To divide legislators into "good and bad" members so casually is to demonstrate a painful naivete, and one not useful in such a long-term campaign.

Even those legislators who have not been active in animal issues have almost certainly responded to the problem in some fashion at the local level. And many who have not been active yet may merely

More letters Page 36



be reflecting a lack of organized activity among their constituents. Congressional lobbying cannot replace grassroots organizing.

The question of endorsing challengers over incumbents is more complicated than the article reflects. Certainly the checking off of both Senator Alan Cranston and his opponent must have given readers pause. While it may be true that incumbent's records are a better measure than campaign promises, the well-timed endorsement of any special interest group (including the animal rights movement) is apt to be remembered by successful candidates. This does not mean that we should indulge in negative campaigning of sure-bet incumbents who might eventually be turned to our viewpoint. Political negativism has long con-

sequences, as those who work on the Hill through one election after another know very well.

In speaking of the D'Amato/Green race in New York, the article fell back on a Democratic-Republican dichotomy. In fact, Congressional action and special interest lobbying are bipartisan activities, and it is highly undesirable to alienate potential supporters on either side of the aisle.

In the future, I hope that The ANIMALS' AGENDA's eagerness to further the cause of animal rights will not lead it, or its readers, to rely on such quick-stop analyses before exercising the right to vote. A cheap shot often produces an expensive bruise.

—Jeff Diner
Washington, D.C.

Giving Proper Credit

In your October '86 issue, you printed an article we wrote ("Liberate Your Language"). We ask you to provide a correction in your next issue stating that it was written by The Blacker Family with editing by Noreen Mola.

—The Blacker Family
New York, NY

Editor's Note: We apologize for incorrectly assigning credit for authorship of your article.

Alaskan Wolves

This is in response to Wayne Johnson's letter in the October '86 issue. There is no question that "land-and-shoot" trapping of wolves in Alaska is biologically, ethically, and possibly legally indefensible, and that it should be completely stopped. Many, many organizations and individuals throughout the world are concerned and outraged by this practice, and it will take the work of us all to stop it.

A tourist boycott is certainly one tactic which might pressure Alaskans into changing their wolf killing practices. Litigation is another. Defenders of Wildlife has initiated seven different lawsuits on behalf of wolves in Alaska since 1976. Letter-writing campaigns and petition drives have also been successful and certainly must be carried on.

Two winters ago, Defenders and the Animal Protection Institute succeeded in getting the Federal Communications Commission to block the state's use of research radio collars to locate and kill collared wolves and other members of their packs. And last year I carried 22,000 petition signatures to Alaska protesting

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SUSTAINERS 1987

Hope Rafferty, Carol Michael-Wade, Natalie Helms, Murry Cohen, Pari Vahdat, Charles W. Saunders, Ellen Curtis Griffing, Wallace Danielson, Gloria Bronte Lane, Anna Thomas, Sheri Beck, Linda Buyukmihci Bey, Catherine and Britt Leach, Faria Clark, Dorothy Chmela, Eileen Spring, Kim Sturla and Ned Buyukmihci, Diane Benedict, Bob Barker, Priscilla Cohn, Betsy Lewis, and Mark Lerman, Gil Michaels, Sam Perry, Emma Elizabeth Barnsley, Michael Sargent, George Carrano, Leon Spiegel, Howard McGaw, Dora Saylor, Mark Jamison, Alexander Associates, Elsie Mitchell, Ann Barasch, Rob Chapman, Yvonne Nelson, DVM, Marlana Grunewald.

Humane Society of the United States, National Anti-Vivisection Society, New England Anti-Vivisection Society, American Anti-Vivisection Society, Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Fund for Animals, Animal Protection Institute of America, Michigan Humane Society, Peninsula Humane Society, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Animal Rights Coalition (MN), Progressive Animal Welfare Society (WA), The Humane Society of New York, Compassion for Animals, Rocky Mountain Humane Society.

Why Jeremy Rifkin Is Saying "NO" to the Age of Progress

Humanity's growing ability to manipulate the genetic code is ushering in a new age that may test to the hilt our capacity to make the right decisions with regard to ethics, medicine, the environment and even the kind of political systems we live under.

INTERVIEWED BY DAVE MACAULEY

In 1977, Jeremy Rifkin created a stir at a National Academy of Sciences conference of prominent gene splicers by rushing on stage and unfurling a banner that read: "Don't Tread on My Genes." Ten years later, Rifkin, a 41-year old native of Chicago and President of the Foundation on Economic Trends in Washington, D.C., is at the epicenter of a national battle to define the ethical and scientific issues in the emerging age of biotechnology, including the genetic manipulation of animals for agribusiness and research purposes.

He has effectively challenged federal and corporate policies on genetic engineering, forced regulatory agencies to reassess rules designed to protect the environment and public health, and won major victories in the courts against the Department of Agriculture, National Institutes of Health, Environmental Protection Agency, and Department of Defense. His lawsuits have, for example, prevented the first proposed experimental release of genetically engineered microbes into the environment and halted the construction of a biowarfare facility in Utah. David Kingsbury, the leading biologist at the National Science Foundation, remarks that biotechnology companies are "scared to death" because "as soon as they propose an experiment, Jeremy Rifkin takes them to court, and ... they don't want the negative publicity." "He's a factor in almost every facet of biotechnology right now," notes Stanley H. Abramson, associate general counsel at the Environmental Protection Agency.

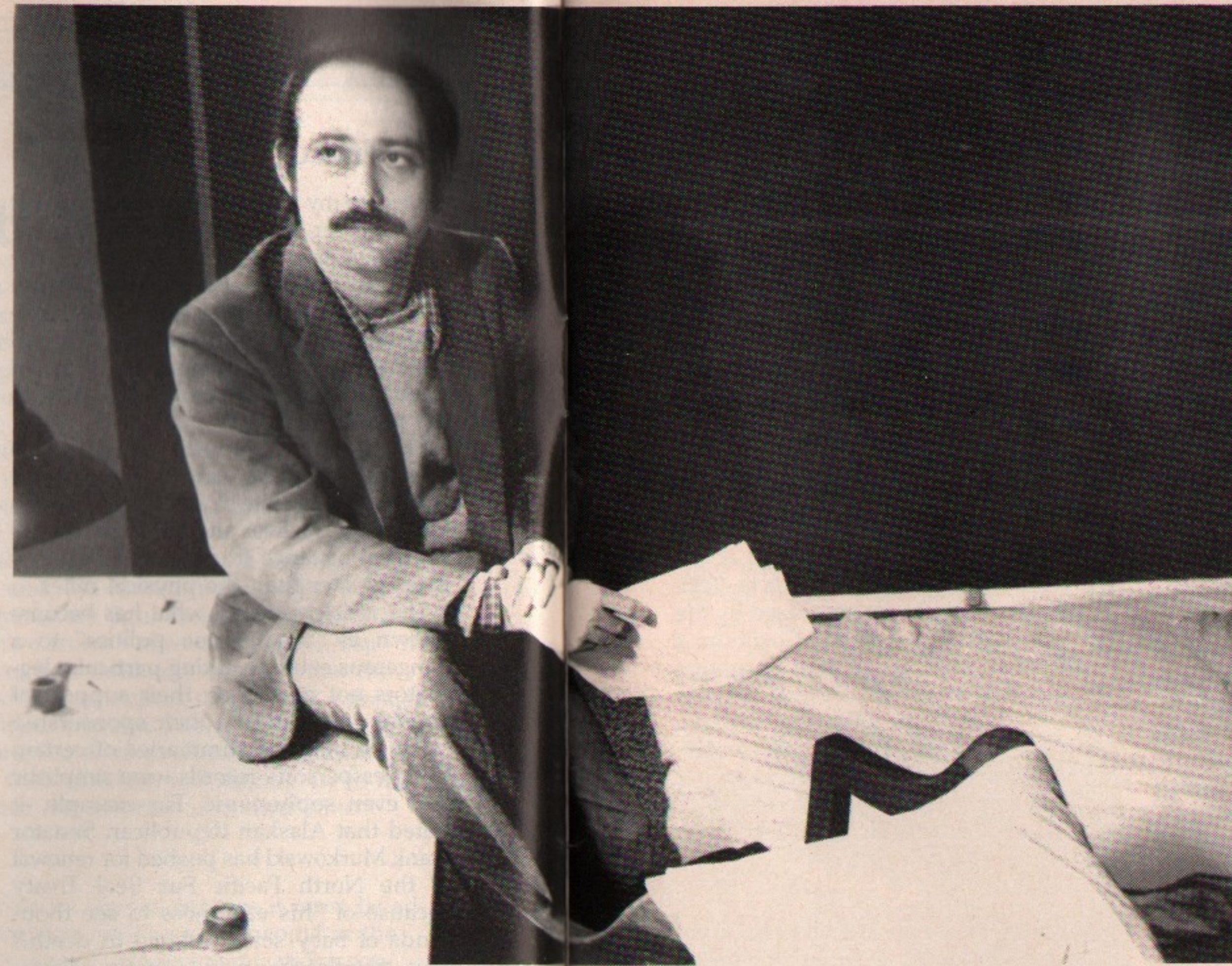
Rifkin, who shuns meat as "unesthetic, unhealthy and inhumane," consistently stands up for the integrity of both animals and humans, and calls for a new, more empathetic relationship with the natural world. The eight books which he has written or co-authored attest to this philosophy and include *Entropy*,

Algeny—a critique of Darwinism, genetic engineering, and our relationship with nature—and the recent Declaration of a Heretic. Writing in *Mother Jones* magazine, Keith Schneider has suggested that "Rifkin has done with genetic engineering what nobody did with the two other primary 20th-century technological developments: petrochemicals and nuclear engineering. He has seized the debate from the scientific community, shaped it for a wider audience, and hauled it to the top of the national agenda." With these thoughts in mind, it appears wise for the animal rights community to turn an attentive ear toward the ominous implications of genetic engineering for all species, and to a man who is fighting the approaching age of biotechnology.

Essentially, what is biotechnology or genetic engineering?

When we talk about genetic engineering, we're talking primarily about the use of recombinant DNA technology. We now have a technology at our disposal that allows us to splice genes, insert genes, delete genes and combine genes across naturally restrictive biological barriers so we can now, in theory at least, take a gene from one species and place it into the permanent genetic code of another. We can take unrelated genetic material from two totally different species and literally stitch or zip them together, creating new combinations. Genetic engineering is about engineering the genetic traits of living things: microbes, plants, animals and humans.

And why do you see genetic engineering as threatening?



Jeremy Rifkin can be found at the very center of the debate over the ethics and dangers of genetic engineering technology. He consistently stands up for the integrity of both animals and humans, insisting on a new, more empathetic relationship with the natural world.

—AP/Wide World Photos

We have to realize that the only thing comparable to gene-splicing technology is fire technology, which enabled us to burn, solder, forge, melt and heat inert materials, combining them to create things like steel, glass, cement and synthetics. With genetic engineering and gene-splicing we can stitch, edit, recombine and program living materials across biological boundaries, creating novel forms of life. Nature has clearly prescribed limits with what we can do. With genetic technology those limits become irrelevant. The whole idea of a species as a separate, unique, identifiable creature becomes increasingly anachronistic because with gene-splicing there are no boundaries, no borders, no walls that have to be respected in theory. And in practice we can cross some of those borders now.

Genetic engineering obviously represents another potential form of exploitation of animals on farms. What are some of the implications of this technology for agribusiness? And what might farming look like ten years down the road?

The Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) recently released a report on the future of American agriculture, and they concluded that the biotechnical revolution will mean the end of the family farm in

the U.S. The report projected that within 14 years from now, 50,000 farms will be producing up to 75% of all the agricultural output. Over a million farmers will probably be out of business in that time. OTA paints a picture of the future where a handful of chemical, pharmaceutical and energy companies work in tandem with a few giant agri-farms to produce our food and fiber. This has ominous implications not only for agriculture but for rural life as we know it. The biotechnical revolution is the ultimate threat to the idea of rural community and family farms. It also poses tremendous environmental and animal welfare questions. With biotechnology in agriculture we lose more genetic diversity, we increase monoculturing, and we deplete the soil nutrients more quickly in order to meet production quotas. All of this will increase the environmental debt that future generations will have to pay.

In your opinion, is there something inherently wrong with violating species borders? What is the criterion we are to use in assessing the ethics of the use of animals in genetic engineering experiments?

I think we need to be concerned with the violation of species integrity. Let me demonstrate by way of analogy. If some civilization were to descend onto this

planet with superior genetic engineering technology and the ability to colonize the human race, and they were to inject an alien growth hormone gene into our genetic code so that all of our children would grow to sexual maturity at six years of age and grow twice as tall from here until eternity, what would our response to that be as a species? We would obviously think that it was a violation of our species integrity. We would say that this alien civilization had no right to engineer the genetic code of the human race and undermine our integrity as a species. We would resist and say that this was an ethical question and not just a physiological one. I don't see why we don't apply this same logic to our relationship with other animals.

This technology seems to be tied in with a larger worldview which is emerging. Is that an accurate perception?

Yes, a new form of desacralization and reductionism is developing and it's important to point that out. We're starting to reduce life to information metaphors. We're replacing the mechanistic reductionism of the clockwork universe with the cybernetic reductionism of the information universe. Instead of projecting mechanistic terminology onto animals as scientists and philosophers did for years, we're now projecting computer-like ter-

minology. We're starting to see animals as pure information codes made up of cybernetic feedback loops and self-organizing programs that can be manipulated for whatever utilitarian purposes we have in mind. Some scientists, for example, think of a horse as a set of programs or instructions that operates through a negative feedback to maintain homeostasis. We say no, a horse is much more than a system of information. A horse has an *eidos* and *telos*, an essential nature and a creature identity that is worth preserving. When we desacralize that horse and turn him into pure information to be manipulated, we do a disservice not only to the idea of a horse but to life itself. Genetic engineering represents the final desacralization of life.

Is there anything positive that you can foresee as coming from a new age of bioengineering, given that it may not be stopped, only controlled in various ways? Might not genetic engineering also lead to drought-resistant crops, new vaccines for humans and animals, alternative fuel sources and so on?

There are benefits to the biotechnology revolution. The question is whether the short-term gains will exceed the long-term harms. There is no such thing as a free lunch. I wrote a book a few years ago called *Entropy*, which deals with, among other things, non-equilibrium thermodynamics and the fact that we can't get a free lunch. Biotechnology is designed to increase our production and improve our efficiency. We can't do that without paying a price, whether it's depletion of soil, undermining of genetic diversity, or the accumulation of long-term health problems. There are parts of this technology that will be less dangerous than others. I think what we really need to ask ourselves is, "Is this the way we want to organize the age of biology?"

So, would you then distinguish between different kinds of biotechnology according to certain ethical principles?

When I say biotechnology, I have a broad sense of it in mind. One form of biotechnology is what I would call exploitive technology such as genetic engineering and gene-splicing. Another form of biotechnology is the ecological approach: organic agriculture, preventive health and solar technologies. These are more ecologically sound and more prudent. They steward resources and resacralize life at every level.

How does animal rights fit in with all

Continued on page 41

♦ NETWORK NOTES ♦

HOSPITAL REGULATIONS PREVENTING PATIENTS from receiving visits from their companion animals were recently challenged by 72-year-old **Maurice Gimbel** of Jamaica, New York. Gimbel faced abdominal surgery recently at Booth Memorial Hospital in Flushing, N.Y., and was frustrated in his attempts to persuade the hospital to allow his ten-year-old German Shepherd, Heidi, to visit him during his extended hospital stay. He had been advised that a long separation from Heidi could lead the dog to depression and possibly death. But the hospital denied his repeated requests, and Gimbel vowed that he would refuse surgery rather than be separated from the dog. Finally, after trying for months to persuade numerous hospitals and government officials to help, Gimbel called the Medical Director of the Borough of Queens, Dr. Charles Robbins. Robbins then called Booth, persuading the hospital to allow Gimbel to receive Heidi's visits. When completely recovered, Gimbel plans to start campaigning to have the Health Code in the state of New York changed to allow visits by companion animals to hospital patients. Individuals working in companion animal-assisted therapy programs have long recognized the improved health and vitality enjoyed by patients who are allowed to spend time with dogs and cats—it's time for the medical community at large to do the same.

NEW ANIMAL RIGHTS GROUPS include two in the Detroit area and one in Seattle. Defenders of Animal Rights is a Michigan organization which seeks to increase public awareness of animal abuses through protest and education. They can be reached at: P.O. Box 223, New Baltimore, MI 48047; (303) 527-6212. People for Animal Rights is another Detroit group, concentrating on educational events as ways to inform the public. Write them at: P.O. Box 9, Warren, MI 48009; or call (303) 828-4179. Northwest Animal Rights Network was formed to address all kinds of animal exploitation and to serve as a link for animal rights groups in the Northwestern U.S. Write to: 1205 East Pike, Seattle, WA 98122; or call (206) 323-7301.

Correction:

In our November 1986 Network Notes section, we mistakenly announced that readers could rent Lifeforce's video "Broken Promises" from another organization. We have since learned that the video is not available for rental, and is available for sale only through Lifeforce, Box 3117, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 3X6, Canada.

EDITED BY LESLIE PARDUE



Bark Busters "teach" dogs not to bark by administering electric shocks to their throats.

COLLARS WHICH DELIVER ELECTRIC SHOCKS to barking dogs are being promoted as fundraising items for animal shelters. Kennel Kare Inc., manufacturer of the "Bark Buster" collars, says in its literature: "...judges every year order thousands of dogs disposed of or their vocal cords surgically severed because of their excessive, nuisance barking. Now your pet can be retrained to be silent. Bark Buster uses classic conditioning in the form of mild electrical stimulation to retrain your dog not to bark. Bark Buster works automatically and continuously to change your dog's behavior patterns, even when you are away and the dog is alone." In the fine print the manufacturer notes that the device "should only be used when all other means have failed...a second dog barking, excessive noise and howling may set off the unit causing the dog in training unwarranted correction..." Should animal shelters be encouraging people to electrically shock their dogs into submission? Wouldn't a little patience and one-on-one training go a lot further toward eliminating the problem and building trust between dog and human? There's too much potential for neglectful people to use this device as a substitute for responsible care and supervision of companion dogs. We encourage all animal shelters to refrain from being tempted by the financial incentives offered by Kennel Kare and other manufacturers of similar devices. Concerned readers may write to Kennel Kare at: 8200 E. Pacific Pl., Suite 108, Denver, CO 80231.

A DEMONSTRATION AGAINST GILLETTE will take place on April 25 at the company's plant in Rockville, Maryland. Philosopher **Peter Singer** will be a featured speaker. For more information, contact ARK II, P.O. Box 11049, Washington, DC 20008; (301) 897-5429.

UNDER THREAT OF LAWSUIT, California Attorney General **John Van De Kamp** apologized to animal rights activists, admitting he made inaccurate statements in his office's "Annual Report to the California Legislature", which referred to the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) as one of the three most active "terrorist" organizations in the state. Van De Kamp extended the term "terrorist" to include activists who organize and participate in peaceful demonstrations on behalf of animals. Claiming that the ALF was responsible for bomb scares in San Diego, the report also credited the clandestine liberationists with the organization of a protest at the University of California at Davis in 1985. In fact, the protest was organized by the Animal Rights Direct Action Coalition, a Northern California coalition of groups and individual activists. Several activists threatened lawsuits following remarks made by Van De Kamp at press conferences concerning the report, prompting the Attorney General to write letters of apology to the activists.

PETS ARE INN is a nationwide network of alternative boarding services for companion animals. Animals are matched with "caretakers", who board and care for them in the caretakers' homes, thus providing a more loving and less stressful environment at a lower cost than the traditional boarding kennel. Caretakers are screened ahead of time to make sure that they have the knowledge and experience necessary to provide quality care. The company already has caretakers in many areas of the country, but is seeking additional individuals interested in supplementing their incomes by providing in-home caretaking services for animals. Write to: Pets Are Inn, P.O. Box 11304, Minneapolis, MN 55411.

A ONE-DAY SEMINAR ON ANIMAL RIGHTS, jointly sponsored by the National Alliance for Animals' Educational Fund and the Virginia-based Alliance for Animals, will be held on Saturday, April 18 in Portsmouth, Virginia. Individuals concerned with animals will have an opportunity to explore the philosophy of animal rights while learning to translate their own political power into legislative reform. For information on accommodations, speakers, workshops and displays, contact: **Doreen Dykes**, P.O. Box 68065, Virginia Beach, VA 23455; (804) 464-5284.

♦ NETWORK NOTES ♦

MANY COMPANIES HAVE TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE numbers for consumers to call with questions and comments. Numbers for research animal breeders and animal lab equipment dealers include: 1-800-LABRATS (Charles River Breeding Labs); 1-800-345-4114 (Hazleton Research Animals); and 1-800-272-2775 (Harvard Apparatus). Toll-free lines for trappers' supplies and furriers include: 1-800-TRAPPER (Trappers' Specialty Products); 1-800-423-9526 (Hoosier Trapper Supply Inc.); 1-800-FINEFUR (Parabe Furs); and 1-800-543-9147 (Necina Fur Co.). Numbers for farm animal breeders and intensive farming equipment companies include: 1-800-447-2264 (Rohn Agri Products); 1-800-843-1962 (Inman Hatcherries); 1-800-FARMTEK (FarmTek); and 1-800-222-9101 (Western Cattle Co.).



His body almost completely stuck to a glue trap, a doomed mouse struggles painfully to escape.

ACTIVISTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY are reporting success in persuading retailers to remove glue traps from store shelves. If you notice rodent glue traps (also called glueboards) on sale anywhere, please ask the store manager to take them out of stock. While the glueboards' packaging literature suggests that the victims die swiftly, more often the animal's ordeal lasts for days. Mired in the glue, hair and flesh are torn from the animal's body, and nasal passages, mouth, eyes and ears become glued shut. Live traps, used in conjunction with mouse-proofing your home (by plugging rodent entrances with steel wool and keeping food in glass or metal containers), are very effective in catching mice and rats. And, you have the added thrill of releasing the animals to live out their lives in peace.

A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH on animals is being initiated by the California-based group In Defense of Animals (IDA). The campaign's current focus is the multi-million dollar lab animal facility proposed for the University of California's Berkeley campus. A full third of this underground facility is slated for use in psychology experiments on animals. U.C. Berkeley has a history of abuse and neglect of lab animals, and has been fined by the government for its many violations of animal welfare statutes. The California legislature will be voting on funding for the facility in the third week of March. California activists should write their legislators immediately; non-Californians may write the Governor of California. All may be written c/o State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814. For more information on the campaign, write IDA at 21 Tamal Vista Blvd., Corte Madera, CA 94925, or call (415) 924-4454. Also, IDA is coordinating the April 24th actions against university and corporate research labs again this year. The actions will take a variety of forms, some including civil disobedience and others concentrating on leafletting or picketing. Contact numbers are: (415) 924-4454 (West Coast); (612) 822-6161 (Central U.S.); and (315) 471-1633 (East Coast).

VEGETARIANS WILL BE HAPPY to learn that a major rift is occurring in the meat industry between the Beef Industry Council and the veal producers. The fuss started when the new beef check-off program began in October of last year. The program assesses a \$1 per head fee to livestock producers in order to finance a major advertising blitz beginning early this year which the industry hopes will increase consumer demand for beef. Vealers are upset because no special commercials or ads are being planned to promote veal specifically. In a recent issue of *The Vealer*, a veal industry trade magazine, the magazine's publisher refers to the check-off program as "a rip-off for vealers", and says, "The beef people are not our allies, they are our competition!". The situation really heated up at the annual American Meat Institute convention in Florida when vealers were asked their views concerning a proposed survey on consumers' attitudes toward veal. Vealers balked when they learned that the survey was to broach the subject of animal rights, and insisted that all questions related to veal calf raising practices be deleted.

STUDENT ACTION CORPS FOR ANIMALS (SACA) is a group made up of high school and college students nationwide who oppose the use of living and dead animals in the classroom. The group is also concerned with animal rights issues in general, and publishes a newsletter, *SACA News*, to keep members updated on student activism for animals around the nation. For more information, write SACA at P.O. Box 15588, Washington, D.C. 20003-0588.

AN INSIDE REPORT ON MILITARY-SPONSORED animal research entitled "Military Madness" has been published by The National Anti-Vivisection Society (NAVS). Written and edited by **Jeff Diner**, the 28-page report documents the scientific use and abuse of animals in Defense Department-sponsored research. In a sampling of 43 case studies from Armed Services and university labs nationwide, the report offers a look at military research in the areas of weapons testing, radiation, poisoning, temperature extremes, and chemical weaponry. Copies of the report may be obtained by writing NAVS at 100 E. Ohio St., Chicago, IL 60611, or by calling (312) 787-4486.

RESUSCI-CAT AND RESUSCI-DOG are lifelike animal models designed for use in teaching CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) to veterinary students, animal health technicians, and animal shelter staff. The models include indicator lights which provide students with immediate visual feedback on their CPR techniques. A computer software program is also being developed which will simulate a variety of blood pressure levels and cardiopulmonary rates, providing lifelike imitations of various emergencies requiring the use of CPR. Unlike live animals, the models may be used over and over, causing no suffering. For information on purchasing a resusci-cat or resusci-dog, write: Nasco, 901 Janesville Ave., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538.



The Resusci-Cat



IN DEFENSE OF ANIMALS

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Corte Madera CA 94925

Dear Friend,

April 20th to 24th, 1987 could be the most important days of your new year. That's when thousands of us will take part in educational campaigns, demonstrations, vigils and civil disobedience actions at American universities and commercial laboratories, protesting the animal cruelty and abuse that goes on behind those locked laboratory doors. These demonstrations promise to be some of the most dramatic statements yet to be made by a community of people determined to end the senseless institutionalized mutilation and torture of defenseless animals.

Last year, coast to coast, more than 3,000 people representing over 20 organizations joined together under the umbrella of the April 24th Coalition. This year, with your participation and cooperation, we will, at the very least, double last year's numbers and the resulting impact.

Last year's actions were a success. Because of them, changes are happening. But these changes will only continue if our momentum and numbers keep building, and the pressure on our university and research communities becomes greater and greater.

You and your organization's participation is essential. We are ready to send you Direct Action Information Packets, Strategy Guides, Report Animal Abuse flyers, Participation Forms, educational materials and any other specific information you may need to help plan your activities.

You can join us or get more information by writing to the address above or calling one of these numbers NOW:

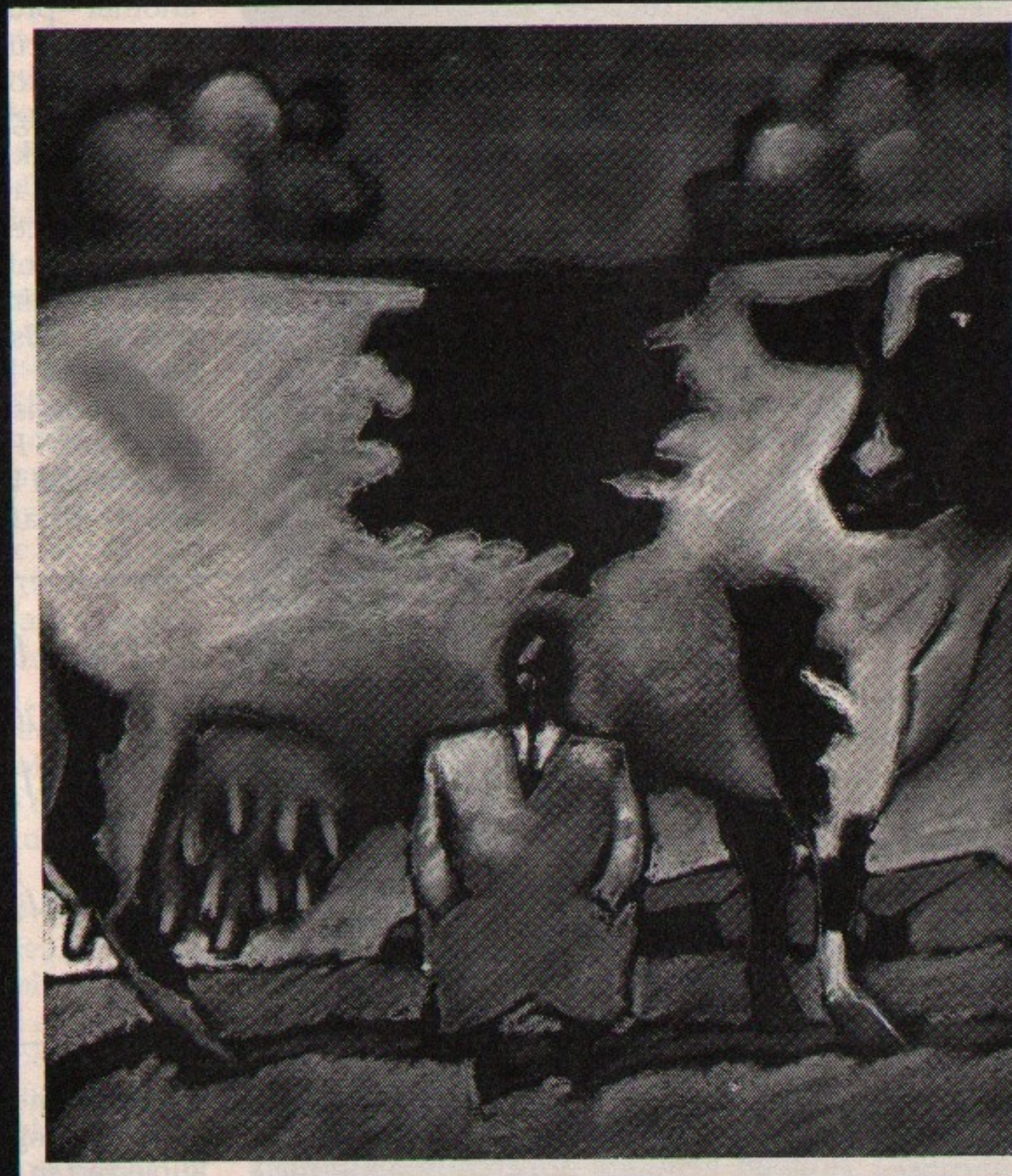
On the East Coast : Betsy Swart (315) 471-1633
In the Midwest : Vonnice Thomasberg (612) 822-6161
On the West Coast : Dr. Elliot Katz (415) 924-4454

This April, when caring people all over the country once again make their presence and wishes known, make sure that you and your organization are there. It's time for all of us to stand up to greed and institutionalized animal cruelty and demand an end to the laboratory mutilation and torture of gentle, defenseless animals.

For the animals,

Betsy Swart
IDA Direct Action Coordinator

GENETIC ENGINEERING



Nature's Cornucopia or Pandora's Box?

BY MICHAEL W. FOX

The new technology of genetic engineering, through which humankind has the power to control and re-direct the entire evolutionary process, raises some fundamental ethical and moral questions. One central question concerns the morality of disrupting the inherent nature of animals—their "telos"—for purely human ends. Transgenic manipulation between species can potentially produce far more profound changes in a species' telos than has been possible through selective breeding within species. Is this a violation of the sanctity and dignity of non-human animal life? What of the long-term consequences to the animal kingdom, to the environment, and to the creative process?

When the National Institutes of Health were challenged by Jeremy Rifkin of the Foundation on Economic Trends and myself to address these concerns, and to suspend temporarily government-funded trans-genic research until the ethics and consequences of developing new industries out of this biotechnology had been fully explored and publicly aired, we were met with united opposition.

I have never felt more alienated from my own kind when, in the spring of 1985, I confronted the National Institutes of Health Genetic Engineering Committee. I experienced a sense of vertigo and unreality as the chairman in the committee's large conference room read statements from scientists supporting transgenic (gene transfer between species) research. One statement implied that this was a perfectly natural development in human evolution: to play God. Another insisted that animals have no inherent nature (i.e., intrinsic worth) because *telos* (from Aristotle) meant final purpose or end. It was reasoned that since an animal's *telos* ends in death or extinction, there was nothing wrong with directing their final purpose to satisfying purely human ends. That none of the academically-esteemed scientists and bioethicists on the committee questioned these technocratically imperialistic assumptions and the wholly instrumental and self-serving attitude toward life displayed, was the most shocking experience I have had in my career as a scientist and spokesperson for animal protection and rights.

The issue of the morality of turning animals into biological machines has been highlighted by a number of other recent developments in genetic engineering. It may be ethically acceptable, for example, to turn bacteria into machines for the manufacture of various hormones and other biological chemicals, and to enhance the utility of various plant species (negative environmental consequences notwithstanding), because these living things are not *sentient*. They lack the capacity to suffer, to experience pain and emotional distress. If they were sentient, suffering could well result from the effects of various genetic manipulations on their body structure and physiology. But is it ethically acceptable to turn animals, such as mice, pigs and sheep, who are sentient, into biomachines for the manufacture of protein (meat) and other biological materials? Especially since, as

a consequence of such fundamental change in their nature, there can be no guarantee that they will not suffer. Prior to the perfection of gene-insertion and deletion techniques and the development of the desired animal machines, there will be accidents—deformed and defective creatures born—their psyches imprisoned in alien bodies. Already giant mice have been created by inserting the growth-regulating genes of rats and humans into them while they are embryos.

And this is just the beginning. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has used public funds to apply this same technique of inserting human

change of genes from one species to another—probably for good reason. This is one of nature's laws that may be imprudent for us to ignore. Furthermore, selective breeding of farm animals to enhance egg and milk production and growth has contributed to widespread suffering, increased susceptibility to infection, and the new and complex diseases in "factory farmed" animals. These so-called "production diseases", which are well recognized by animal scientists and veterinarians, have been documented in my book *Farm Animals: Husbandry, Behavior and Veterinary Practice*. In order to offset financial losses from pro-

The technocrat does not question the human right to control nature. When nature was desacralized by modern science, the value limits to human intrusions on nature were removed. The technocrat looks forward to the day when humans will have complete control over the earth.

genes into animals to create giant pigs and sheep. Some of the pigs carrying the human gene are apparently abnormal, lethargic, and prone to arthritis, and none have grown bigger or faster as was hoped. Researcher J. Mintz (who has successfully inserted rabbit growth genes into mouse embryos to create mice who grew two and a half times larger than normal) has predicted the development of cattle weighing over 10,000 pounds, pigs twelve feet long and five feet high. Such monstrosities of utility are within the realm of possibility within the next ten to twenty years.

These "super animals" will *not* feed the hungry world—meat is a luxury, no matter how efficiently the animals are redesigned and managed to turn their feed into protein for human consumption. A de-emphasis on meat production is consonant with an economically and ecologically sound and regenerative agriculture.

Proponents of genetic engineering argue that humans have, through selective breeding, already modified farm animals to boost productivity, and that there is nothing fundamentally different in these new techniques of gene transfer between species and the old method of selective breeding. This rationalization ignores the fact that there are genetic *barriers* between animal species that prevent interbreeding and the ex-

duction-related diseases and the stress and suffering to which farm animals are subjected in over-crowded "super-farm" factories, antibiotics and other drugs are needed. This is now a recognized and serious hazard to consumer health.

Given, then, that genetic manipulation of farm animals by "natural" means (selective breeding is, in a sense, more natural than transgenic manipulation) to enhance productivity and efficiency has resulted in widespread animal suffering and sickness primarily for reasons of expedience and profit, genetic engineering of farm animals for the same reasons is not likely to contribute to their health or well-being. Today their health and well-being are sacrificed for overall productive efficiency and profitability. Tomorrow will be no different, for as non-renewable resources (topsoil, water, and fossil fuels) become even more scarce and costly, the price of animal feedstuffs will increase, and farmers will experience even greater economic pressures that will force them to further sacrifice animals' health and well-being in order to turn a profit. Those who have "super" animals—animals who grow twice as big twice as fast, or produce even more milk, eggs, or offspring—will have an economic edge over other farmers who do not have such stock. Another competitive economic treadmill will thus arise, and a new market will be created for these animals, as happened

in the 1930s with the advent of pesticides.

There is also interest in putting genetically engineered bacteria into the digestive systems of farm animals so they can be used to break down indigestible materials that the animals could not otherwise assimilate and convert into meat, eggs, or milk. But like spraying new bacterial pesticides onto crops, such changes in the internal ecology of the animals' digestive systems can open Pandora's box further, increasing the probability of new disease problems and further animal suffering.

Animal rights philosophy holds that animals have inherent value, needs, and interests quite independent of their value and usefulness to us. If we are to exploit animals to satisfy our own needs (even if we have "created", bred, and raised these animals ourselves), then we should give them equal and fair consideration. It is morally wrong to violate the right and entitlement of animals to humane treatment. This ethic is written into law, as witness the federal Animal Welfare Act and state anti-cruelty statutes. Since the genetic engineering of animals may cause them to suffer from physical and physiological changes that have been deliberately, accidentally, or coincidentally induced by genetic manipulation, it is surely unethical and a violation of humane ethics and legal statutes to subject animals to such manipulation, and to expose them to potential harm.

Introducing the genes of one species into another, regardless of potential animal suffering, also raises the ethical issues of humans' violation of the sanc-

Continued on next page



Nature



Experiments at Cambridge University in England resulted in this half-goat, half-sheep creature (above). A human gene implanted into a mouse embryo produces a rodent two-and-a-half times larger than normal (left). As the years go by, demonstrations of scientific manipulation of species will become ever more awesome.

Science

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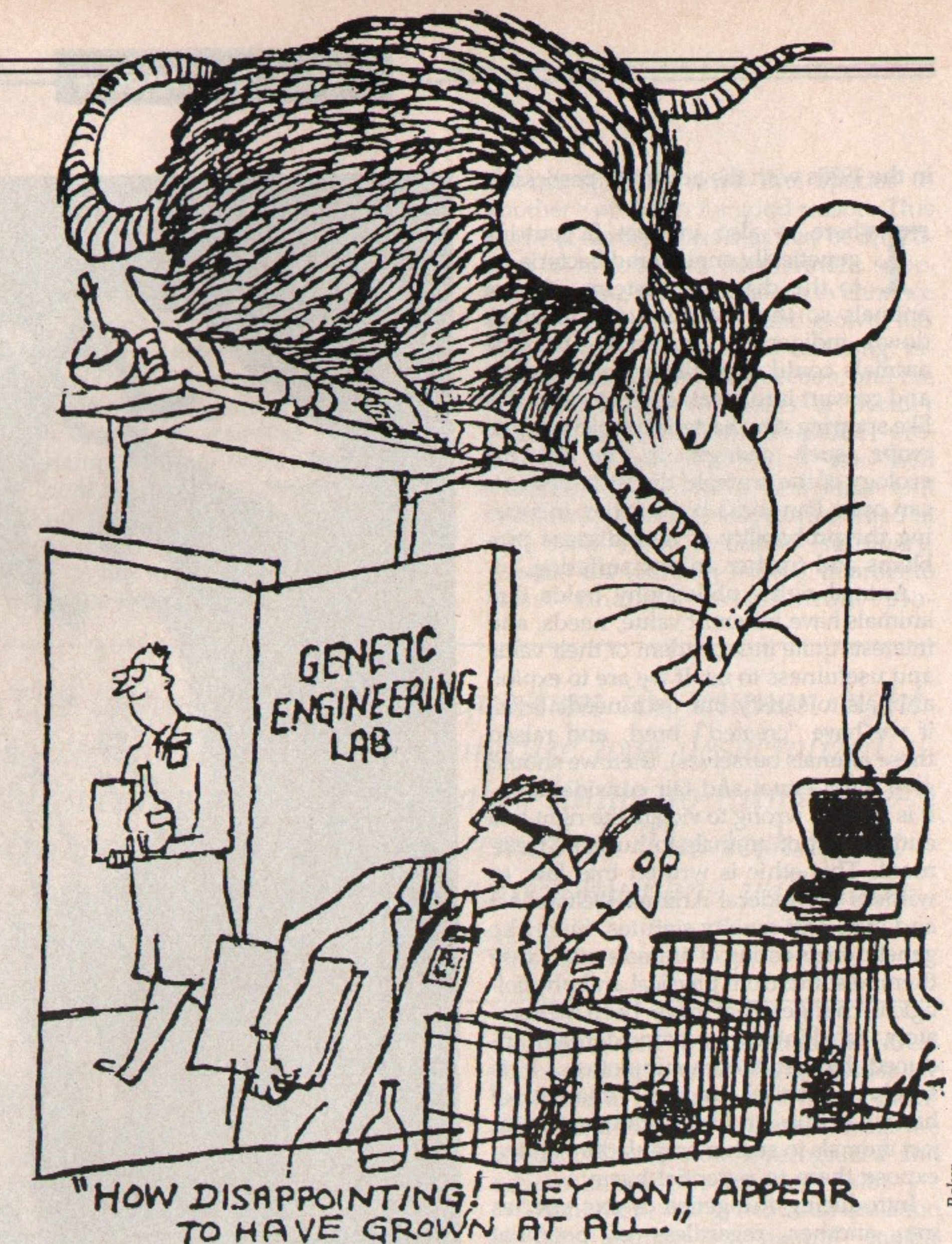
tity and dignity of the life of the individual animal, and of the integrity and continuation of the species. Consider the sheep at the British agricultural research station in Cambridge who have had the heads of goats—goats' minds attached to sheep bodies—a feat not of genetic engineering, but of embryonic microsurgery. And for what purpose?

Many people are horrified by such demonstrations of scientific manipulation—giant mice and goat-headed sheep are just the beginnings of a new age of biotechnology in which human dominion as scientific imperialism over the rest of creation will be absolute. Is it not hubris—and biological fascism—to regard and treat animals and other living beings as though they have been created primarily for our own exclusive use?

Regulation

The blossoming biotechnology industry is now being ineffectively regulated by existing governmental regulatory agencies. But how effective can these agencies be? The Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee of the National Institutes of Health has established guidelines for research. Some of the committee members believe the existing guidelines should be abolished, as there have been no accidents or catastrophes involving genetically engineered bacteria and public health in the ten years since the committee's inception. What is more disturbing is that this same committee ignored its own guidelines by permitting University of California agriculturalists to release genetically-engineered bacteria into the environment.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will regulate the agricultural applications of biotechnology as it does the crop-spraying with bacterial pesticides. Manufacturers of such pesticides now conveniently claim them to be safer than regular chemical pesticides after downplaying for decades their risks to the environment and public health. Knowing the public's distrust of pesticides and other agrichemicals (including those sprayed on forests), toxic waste dumps, nuclear reactors, and lack of faith in the EPA's ability to monitor and regulate these industries effectively, the EPA will have to collaborate with the biotechnological industries in a massive public relations campaign. Since EPA exercises no control over non-approved and prohibited pesticides and other agrichemicals manufactured in the United States (but exported abroad and re-imported through the food we eat), similar lack of concern and control over bacterial "pesticides" and other



genetically engineered products could have serious worldwide environmental and public health consequences.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will regulate new drugs and vaccines developed from this new technology. Again, its existing regulations and test protocols may be inadequate and inappropriate. For example, growth hormone manufactured from genetically-engineered bacteria passed all the routine assays and toxicology tests, but was found to have some unanticipated and significant clinical side effects which were subsequently found to have been caused by unidentified contaminants. The public has not forgotten the thalidomide tragedy in which the existing regulatory animal tests prior to approval for human use proved, retrospectively, to be quite inappropriate and invalid.

The FDA is also in charge of monitoring our food for contamination with agrichemicals, drugs, and bacteria, along with the USDA's meat inspectorate. Data

indicating high levels of agrichemical residues in imported and domestic foods cast doubt on the FDA's ability to effectively regulate the agribusiness food industry if and when biotechnology, as well as food irradiation, becomes an integral component.

The USDA will regulate genetic engineering of plants and animal drugs and vaccines. A recent report by the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (a select panel of agri-industrialists and academicians) has shown that the genetic diversity of plant and animal stocks is becoming dangerously reduced. The lack of foresight by the USDA in this matter, along with its slow responsiveness to other critical issues, makes one doubt its ability to regulate animal and plant genetic engineering effectively.

A major obstacle to public and scientific involvement in the regulation is corporate interest and trade secrets. These corporations will not want to divulge the nature of their research and development until patent protection is secured. In ad-

dition, there is the analogous veil of the industrial-military complex called "national security". The Pentagon is planning to use genetic engineering technology to develop even more lethal germ weapons, which could lead to a biotechnological arms race between superpowers.

Trade secrets and other proprietary and vested interests notwithstanding, private industry does have an obligation to be publicly responsible and responsive, since the public has underwritten most of the basic research done in universities

Is it not hubris—and biological fascism—to regard and treat animals and other living beings as though they have been created primarily for our own exclusive use?

and government laboratories which has led to the industrial development and application of genetic engineering. But now, private industry and state and private universities from Harvard to Ohio State are drawing up collaborative research contracts which could lead to unprecedented restrictions on academic freedom. These restrictions would, in essence, act as trade secrets prohibiting the exchange of scientific inquiry and advancement of knowledge. Thus, in spite of the short-term benefits of financial infusions from private industry and academia, the public interest may be short-changed. Furthermore, land-grant colleges engaging in collaborative projects with private industry may be in violation of federal law since they were established with public funds to research, develop, and implement advances in agricultural communities. Giant pigs and bacterial pesticides are hardly the kind of advances that will help beleaguered farming communities today.

Implications for agriculture and society

Genetic engineering has many potentially ominous implications for both agriculture and society. We must recognize that we are now engaged in an international biotechnological and military bio-warfare arms race with Japan and the

GENETIC ENGINEERING

USSR, respectively. This race is nowhere more conspicuous than in the headlong rush by agribusiness to increase productivity of animals and crops, and to stop the diseases that other production-boosting manipulations cause. Here there is nothing new. This is a *misapplication* of biotechnology. The paradigm itself needs to be changed from an industrial one to a biologically healthy and regenerative one. The new biotechnology paradigm fits the old one of trying to make farm animals and plants ever more productive through selective breeding, special feed and fertilizer, hormones, etc., and then "correcting" the production-related diseases that arise—notably increased susceptibility to infectious microorganisms, pests, and parasites. This circular approach necessitates more research and technological "fixes", such as drugs, vaccines, and poisonous pesticides. Often, additional problems are created, requiring even more governmental oversight and the proliferation of additional costly regulatory bureaucracies to protect consumers and the environment.

Biotechnocrats dream of creating animals and crops that are highly fertile, productive, and disease resistant. The reality of the agricultural system as it now exists is that productivity and health are inversely correlated. If genetic engineering can change this so that animal and plant health are not jeopardized by transgenic and other manipulations, will we then have a cornucopia? Will a highly controlled technosphere be as productive in the long-term as a less intensively controlled biosphere? Predictably not. Increased production through genetic engineering will also more rapidly exhaust non-renewable resources and fail to feed a larger and more dependent human population. This we know already

by the almost total failure of the "green revolution" in which agribusiness' "colonial" technology (exported experts, super breeds of crops, irrigation dams, chemical fertilizers, agri-industrial poisons, etc.) produced great short-term profits, but destroyed already existing regenerative native farming practices, ultimately destroying local communities as well as the fragile land.

Genetically engineering drought and salt resistance into crops may be a more prudent and appropriate application of biotechnology than for companies to develop bacterial pesticides, high-protein grains, and seeds resistant to their own herbicides. But since drought and salination are mainly human-made, it would seem more prudent to correct these problems than to use genetic engineering as a new technological fix. It is unlikely that genetic engineering technology will be appropriately and reliably applied so long as it remains within the narrow "agricidal" paradigm of multinational agribusiness.

In his book *The Altered Harvest*, Jack Doyle details the historical development of biotechnology as it relates to agribusiness. Spurred by legislation that permits the patenting of seeds, and the Supreme Court decision declaring that genetically-engineered organisms can be patented, multinational corporations (notably petrochemical and pharmaceutical businesses) have purchased several large seed companies and have invested heavily in biotechnology research. Since a major focus of their research is to develop herbicide and pesticide resistant seeds, this, along with the race to control world seed stocks (germ plasm), could lead to a global monopoly and to the perpetuation of chemical-dependent monoculture farming methods harmful to

Continued on next page

COMING SOON

- ◆ **MARSUPIAL WARS: AUSTRALIA'S SHAME.** The largest land-based wildlife slaughter in the world today is taking place in the "land down under," and the victim is none other than Australia's national symbol, the kangaroo.
- ◆ **CRUELTY AMERICAN-STYLE.** Are rodeos celebrations of the traditions of the Old West or spectacles of animal suffering? We'll take a hard look at this so-called sport.
- ◆ **THE DEBATE OVER THE USE OF MOVEMENT RESOURCES CONTINUES.** Animal rights leaders from across the nation offer their opinions and suggestions.

Continued from previous page

human and non-human animal life alike.

This trend will benefit only the large super-farms and the Third World plantations of American agribusinesses. It can only hasten the demise of small and mid-sized independent family farms in the United States and of peasant farms abroad—as well as culture and community structure worldwide. *The brave new genetic engineers of agribusiness need to consider the long-term social, economic, and environmental consequences of their innovations.*

One of the most poignant and tragic consequences of the technocratic ideology that places the values of efficiency and productivity over all else has been the demise of the family farm and of rural life. Cultural values—implicit in the concept of agriculture—have been superseded by those of high-tech agribusiness, in which human interests (specifically, concern for the viability of the family farm structure and of rural communities) have been sacrificed.

There has been virtually no public or intragovernmental debate on the impact of biotechnology on the public interest. Meanwhile, large petrochemical companies, such as Ciba-Geigy, Atlantic Richfield, Monsanto, and Shell, have acquired some 80 seed and plant science firms and have made significant progress in developing seeds resistant to herbicides. These chemical giants are now pushing to have their new plant varieties patented. Some fear that this could lead to a global monopoly of seed stocks which could be highly detrimental, eliminating alternative varieties of seed stock and alternative agricultural practices.

Recently the EPA classified bacteria that have been genetically altered to boost agricultural productivity as "new pesticides", and has expressed confidence that the safety and environmental impact of the bacteria can be adequately determined and regulated. Notwithstanding EPA's documented inability to protect the environment and the public's health from the wholesale misapplication of petrochemical-based agripesticides (pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides), it is surely twisted logic to regard organisms that can reproduce, and thus rapidly multiply, as new chemical pesticides. At least the old agrichemicals did not have the capacity to multiply—even though they now contaminate our food, water, and body tissues.

It was also believed that these agripesticides would rapidly disintegrate and so lose their toxicity. We have learned other-

wise. Likewise, it is believed that the new bacterial "pesticides" will die quickly after they have done their work (such as killing root worms and inhibiting frost formation on potato crops). While this may or may not be wishful thinking, it is extremely narrow thinking because nothing in nature acts in isolation from everything else. These bacteria could cause long-term ecological problems because of their influence on other species of bacteria and other living organisms in the environment.

These catastrophic probabilities aside, we should ask whether we need these



— I have done it Smith, I created a new biochemical weapon!!!

new living "pesticides" in the first place? Is this the right direction for agriculture to take? Many experts insist that it is not, since it is a continuation of capital-intensive farming. What is needed is ecologically sound regenerative agriculture that works in harmony with nature's laws. The application of genetically-engineered bacteria as pesticides is simply a misuse of power over the gene and over life itself. But this is not to imply that genetic engineering *per se* has no applicability to agriculture. The technique can be used to enhance plants' resistance to drought and disease, and to improve crop yields and nutrient value.

Genetically engineering certain crops (such as soybeans) to resist some potent herbicide that kills everything else in the fields, is another example of misuse of our power over the gene. While such a package of herbicide resistant seed could be highly profitable to the manufacturers, this is surely the wrong direction to take as drug-dependent farming is hazardous to all life.

The unselective killing of insect "pests"

and "weeds" (which may harbor many beneficial insects) is similarly imprudent. Some will develop resistance and new pest and weed problems will arise, which should be recognized as symptoms of bad agricultural practices. Already, resistance to *Bacillus thuringiensis*, which has been widely used as a bacterial "pesticide," has been demonstrated in the Indian meal moth, a major pest of stored grain. That insects and other organisms will not develop resistance to new genetically altered bacterial "pesticides" is wishful thinking. A profitable industry will, accordingly, arise, necessitating more research to combat resistant strains—much like the poisonous pesticide-herbicide treadmill of the agrichemical industry of today. According to a report published in 1984 by Michael Dover of the World Resources Institute and Brian Croft of Oregon State University, the number of insects who have become resistant to pesticides between 1970 and 1980 almost doubled from 224 to 428 species.

Technocratic imperialism

Canadian philosopher Alan R. Dregson has observed: "The technocrat does not question the human right to control nature. When nature was desacralized by modern science, the value limits to human intrusions on nature were removed. The technocrat look(s) forward to the day when humans will have complete control over the earth."

For the technocrat, problems arising from the abuse of power are seen as arising from a lack of scientific knowledge rather than a lack of ethics—finding the solutions then "justifies" more research and technological fixes. Ethical sensibility is supplanted by economic determinism and by the erroneous belief that what is good is that which profits humanity regardless of the negative impact on nature and the animal kingdom. The destruction of nature, extinction of species, and the suffering of individual animals which are inevitable consequences of industrialized exploitation by the chemical, biomedical, and agribusiness industries, are thus justified on the grounds of unavoidable necessity and as the price of progress.

Even the public's health and the rights of consumers to wholesome food, clean air, and clean water are sacrificed. New medical and legislative fixes are found to correct these residual problems, rather than changing values and practices, in order to preserve the status quo of economic determinism. For example, applying poisonous pesticides and other agrichemicals is profitable, as are the

medical procedures necessary to treat cancer, birth defects, sterility, and other diseases linked with these poisons. Preventive medicine is as unprofitable to the medical industry as organic farming is to agribusiness—but certainly not to the populace. It is disturbing to contemplate the irony of applying genetic engineering technology to correct a host of human health problems that are in part due to the misapplication of chemical and medical technologies in agriculture and farm animal production. Genetic engineering in human medicine is not progressive and preventive—it is yet another profitable interventionist technological fix, the primary beneficiaries of which will be the investors, manufacturers, hospitals, and medical administrators, but *not the public*. While the blossoming medical and agricultural genetic engineering industries *may* help us (and our food plants and animals) adapt to increasingly pathogenic environmental conditions, it would surely be more prudent to clean up the environment. This is well recognized as a fundamental principle of preventive "holistic" ecological medicine, but in our technocracy it is ignored—for economic and political reasons—by organized medicine, and relegated at great public expense to ineffectual government regulatory agencies, such as the FDA, EPA, and USDA, whose primary task (particularly under the Reagan administration) is to serve the private interests of industry before those of the people. The difference between democracy and technocracy is that the latter sacrifices public interest for private interest under the guise of progress and the greater good of society. As such, technocracy is a type of imperialism that claims to be altruistic, but is actually self-serving and self-perpetuating, and lacks any structure outside of Congress to permit public involvement in the decision-making processes whereby new technologies could be safely developed or prohibited. The public has been marginalized and propagandized to trust that science—the instrumental religion of materialism—and its technocrats know best. But, at best, their world-view is distorted and potentially harmful to society and to the fragile planetary ecology which is being transformed into an industrialized wasteland under the self-serving and ultimately destructive dominion of an expanding world technocracy.

What is needed are not new technological "solutions" and medical miracles, but rather a fundamental change in perspective—a radical paradigm shift toward an awareness that without a resacralization of nature (and compassion and humility

toward all living beings), we will lack the needed ethical/moral constraints to use our power over life (over the atom and the gene) non-destructively and in harmony with nature and the creative process of which we are an integral part.

The future

To criticize genetic engineering, especially as it is applied to agriculture, is to appear anti-science and against technology and progress. But we should ask who will be the primary beneficiaries of this new technology, and what will be the long-term social, ecological, and animal health and welfare consequences of releasing genetically-engineered bacteria and plants into the environment, and of creating transgenic plants and animals.

Genetic engineers have successfully turned bacteria into biochemical "factories" for the commercial production of vaccines and hormones (such as insulin and growth hormone). Such innovations are certainly a significant contribution to the advancement of medicine. Probably the most promising and, as yet, virtually unexplored area of genetic engineering in agriculture entails the propagation of single cell organisms, such as algae, which have been genetically engineered to produce amino acids and other essential nutrients. This technology will enable us to synthesize all the essential nutrients we need. And we already have the technology to create from such nutrients of plant origin highly palatable, texturized, and flavored substitutes for meat and other animal products.

Like any other product of human ingenuity, genetic engineering has great potential risks as well as benefits to society. And those who invest in this new industry will make fortunes. But without Congressional and state oversight, and international coordination to minimize risks to the environment—and to the very fabric of life itself—we could be on the threshold, not of some biological utopia, but of our own demise. If genetic engineering is applied according to the same narrow paradigm or world-view utilized for modern agriculture and medicine, then chances are high that the promise of nature's cornucopia will become a terrifying Pandora's box. 🐾

This article was condensed by Dave Macauley from material to be included in Dr. Fox's forthcoming book The Broken Circle: Technocracy and the Death of Nature. Fox is Scientific Director of The Humane Society of the United States.

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ANIMAL MODELS: FIGHTING CANCER WITH A FAILED TECHNOLOGY

BY IRWIN BROSS, Ph.D.



What would happen if a leading scientist stood up at an international meeting on clinical cancer research and reported that the animal models supported by the National Cancer Institute are either bad science or outright fraud? What would happen if he charged that the NCI's reliance on animal models in chemotherapy and in carcinogenesis studies had resulted in many thousands of unnecessary deaths of human cancer patients?

When Dr. Bross agreed to speak on the ethics panel at an international conference on cancer held in Kos (Greece) in May of 1986, he didn't know how the physicians would react. He was surprised by the generally positive reaction of the audience. The following article summarizes his remarks and experiences at this meeting, as well as his suggestions on how to achieve reforms in this area.

When I first read the Greek myths I was troubled by a paradox. On one hand, there was evidence of a high degree of artistic and linguistic sophistication. On the other, the ritual slaughter of animals seemed very primitive to me.

I am troubled by a similar paradox in cancer research today. On one hand, we have sophisticated scientific instruments, computers, and the elegant languages of modern mathematics available for biomedical research. On the other hand, the ritual slaughter of animals continues unabated.

This slaughter can serve little or no scientific purpose for mutagenic diseases such as cancer. Hence serious ethical questions can be raised about the motives of agencies that grant funds for performing this ritual, and of the physicians and scientists who accept money for fraudulent research.

The killing of animals disturbs me, but I am even more concerned about the un-

necessary suffering of cancer patients that has resulted from the unjustifiable extrapolation from mouse to man. Quantitative extrapolation from animal models to humans is little more than the implementation of primitive superstitions. What is even worse, the superstitions used to justify the slaughter of animals have also resulted in "heroic chemotherapy," excessive exposure to ionizing radiation, and other forms of injurious practice in the treatment of cancer.

But why are these superstitions—so much at variance with scientific facts—so difficult to uproot? Why are such misleading models so eagerly employed by medical schools and graduate-level biomedical courses? The answer is simple: As long as some superstitions remain useful to an establishment, the establishment will preserve and protect them.

Furthermore, many clinicians—the doctors who routinely treat patients—believe in good faith that most drugs used today in cancer chemotherapy have come from

animal studies, despite the fact that *all or almost all of the therapeutically effective anti-cancer drugs were first detected in clinical studies.* This is fully documented in a recent book by Brandon Reines called *Cancer Research on Animals: Impact and Alternatives.* (See *Reviews*, July-August 86). In it, Reines shows conclusively that animal models have produced nothing but confusion and delays in the area of cancer chemotherapy.

Animal models: a failed technology for mutagenic diseases

To understand why animal models are a failure in cancer research, one needs to know two facts. First, cancer is what is called a "mutagenic" disease—a disease caused by genetic damage. This has been well known for at least 20 years, but it is only recently that the medical profession has realized that muscular dystrophy, heart disease and many other chronic diseases are caused by specific defective genes.

The second fact is that for at least 15 years a major new theory called "the mutagenic theory of chronic diseases" has been accepted by competent epidemiologists (although it is still not understood by most physicians). It is important to realize that there is a great difference between the infectious diseases (chiefly caused by germs) and the chronic diseases (which are the main public health problem today and which are caused by mutagens). Chronic and infectious diseases are very different, and must be studied by very different methods.

Clinicians are generally impressed with animal models because of their long historical record of success with infectious diseases. *What they fail to realize is that there is also a long historical record of failure with the mutagenic disorders.* Thus, there is an enormous difference between the impressive victories of antibiotic chemotherapy and the equally striking failures of anti-cancer chemotherapy.

The mutagenic theory of the chronic diseases is a highly complex theory that has been evolving since about 1970 and has reached now a useful, but not final, stage. Basically, its insights into cancer and other chronic diseases has been clear since the biochemical nature of the genes was structurally characterized by the double-helix model of DNA. Mutagens are physical, chemical, or biological agents capable of producing "break-points" or chemical lesions in this complicated structure. Although some claim that this genetic damage doesn't matter because there is a natural repair mechanism, in fact, it is generally the *misrepair* of the lesions that produces the permanent genetic damage in the DNA.

Since one cell has little effect on the

body economy, genetic damage to a single cell is only the beginning—not the end—of a very involved story. Before clinically detectable health effects can occur, the damaged cell must be cloned. For solid cancers, it takes about 32 "doubling-times" (i.e., a cell population of 2 to the 32nd power) to produce palpable cancer. For doubling-times that roughly average about 6 months, this means a "latent period" of over 15 years.

The specific doubling-time will depend on the type of cell where the mutation occurred, the gene that was damaged, the host-defense systems that control the growth and spread of mutated cells, and various other factors. The modern mutagenic theory of chronic diseases explicitly considers the host defenses as a key component of this complex system. It also considers the very complicated interactions between the mutagen, the mutated cell, and the host defense system that determine the fate of a cancer patient. Anyone familiar with the degree of diversity in genetic adaptation to the environment and evolution found in different species would expect the human "host defense system" to be very different from those of laboratory animals and, of course, that is exactly the case.

The complex human host defense systems are unique to our species. And because of the high genetic variability within our non-inbred species, the biochemistry of some of the host defense systems is also often unique to individuals or to small groups of humans with specific genetic patterns, all of which makes quantitative extrapolation from animal models an exceedingly chancy proposition. The over-dependency on animal models by Federal agencies—especially the Environmental Protection

Agency (EPA), charged with controlling and ridding the environment of carcinogens and other mutagens, and the National Cancer Institute—has resulted in a total catastrophe in terms of public health.

Indeed, the data in a recent article by John Bailar in the *New England Journal of Medicine* shows that the total failure of the NCI "Conquest of Cancer" program resulted in more than 30,000 additional deaths from cancer last year!

Can new technologies help?

One of the favorite ploys of those in academia, government and the drug industry is to proclaim that they wish to avoid using animals, but that there is no other way to protect human health. Yet, with modern computer technologies there are ways to try out new drugs on people with relative safety. The reliance on invalid animal tests is much more dangerous to humans in actual practice. As the Thalidomide scandal demonstrated, some humans may experience horrible side effects not anticipated by the animal tests.

With today's powerful desktop computers, it is feasible to set up networks for the surveillance of new drugs' side effects. This networking can use new biostatistical technology based on very fast, continuous monitoring of the patients during controlled clinical trials. If we really want to protect human health, any new drug for human use should be required to go through an automated "clinical entry system" of this type. It would cost more than animal testing (though not a great deal more) but it would provide real protection instead of the false assurance that comes from animal tests.

Continued on next page



Cancer is artificially induced in animals for unproductive and costly laboratory studies. Useful data can be obtained through clinical studies and treatment of human cancer victims.

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Summary and conclusion

To summarize, the main points developed here are: (1) Animal model systems are a failed technology for the mutagenic diseases because there is no valid way to extrapolate to humans. Animal research is a multibillion dollar fraud. (2) The government and the biomedical establishment are, however, completely committed to spending billions of dollars on this fraudulent research. (3) By using the technological alternatives already available, most animal research could immediately be eliminated and this would result in substantial benefit to human health.

In view of the above, there is no excuse

whatsoever—scientific, medical, ethical, or otherwise—for U.S. government agencies to continue funding animal research or for universities, medical colleges, or research institutions to accept money for the ritual slaughter of animals.

However, as long as there is money in it, this reprehensible practice will go on. The practices won't stop until the money stops. What, then, can be done? In fighting bureaucracies most pro-animal groups simply do not understand what they are up against. The real enemy is what I would call "Official Science." This is the government-supported research which, in turn, automatically supports the policies of those agencies.

The difference between Official Science

and what I would call, for contrast, Normal Science, lies in their guiding principles. The guiding principle of normal science is the Galilean Rule: A theory must fit the facts. For Official Science the rule is: A theory must fit the official policy of the funding agency. Animal model systems are ideal for Official Science because, as any competent biomedical researcher knows, one can "prove" anything an agency wants simply by selecting a model which will produce the desired results. This is why animal "findings" have so little credibility in Normal Science.

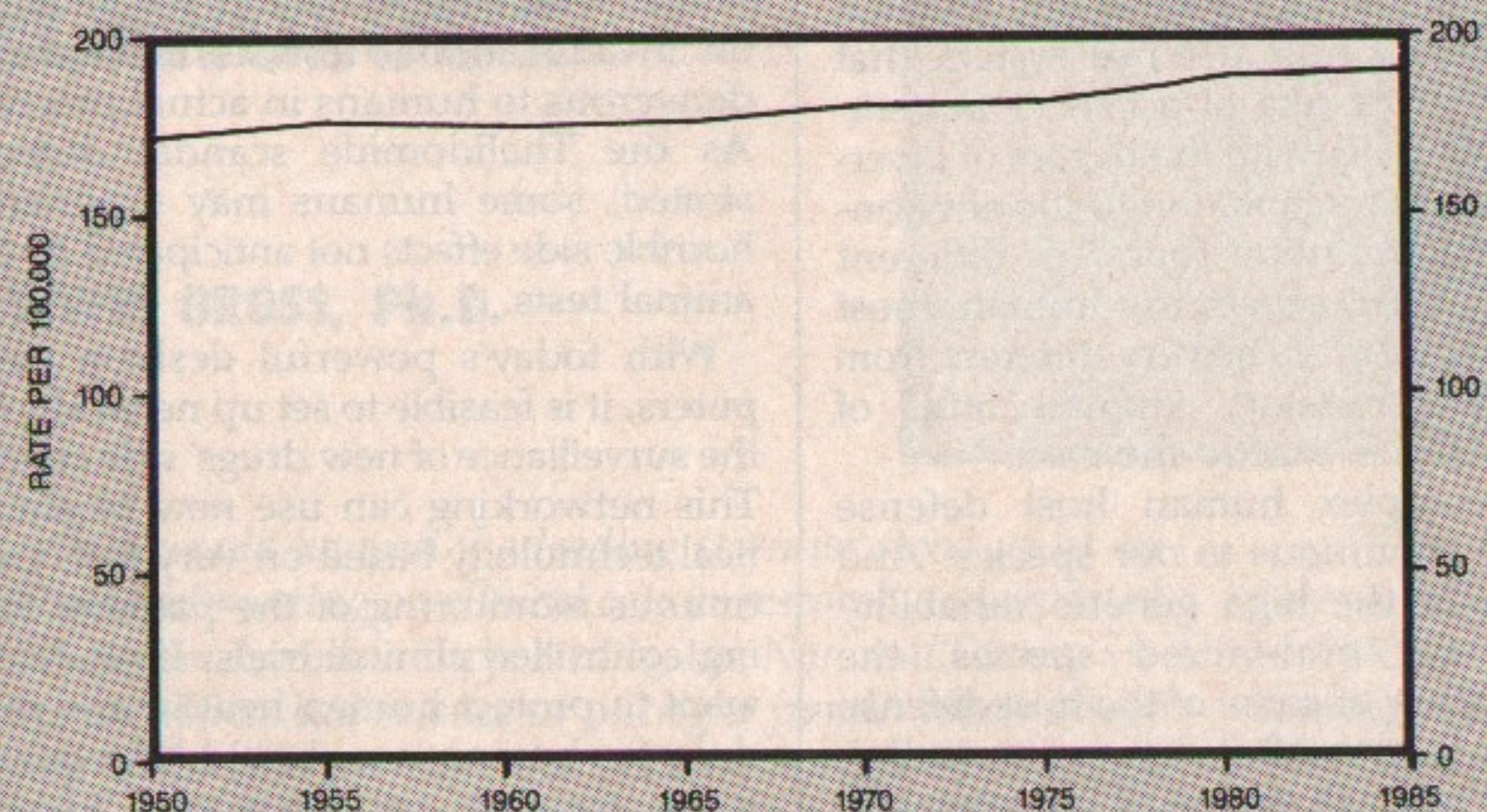
In dealing with Official Science, it's pointless, then, to come to government agencies with facts. Official Science does not listen to facts that contravene official policies. The only thing it will listen carefully to is money. And that's the reason why if we want to stop the killing and mutilation of animals we must stop the flow of taxpayer dollars currently supporting this fraud. Drastic, extreme, and disrespectful as it may sound to some in the animal defense community, I'm afraid there's really no other way.

In implementing this strategy, however, animal activists must keep an eye on the awesome capacity of the system to reassert itself and coopt its attackers. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) may make a great show of cutting off funding for the most notorious animal research programs, but then it simply waits until the furor dies down and restores the funding. Those who suppose they have influenced NIH to take humane action are simply deluding themselves.

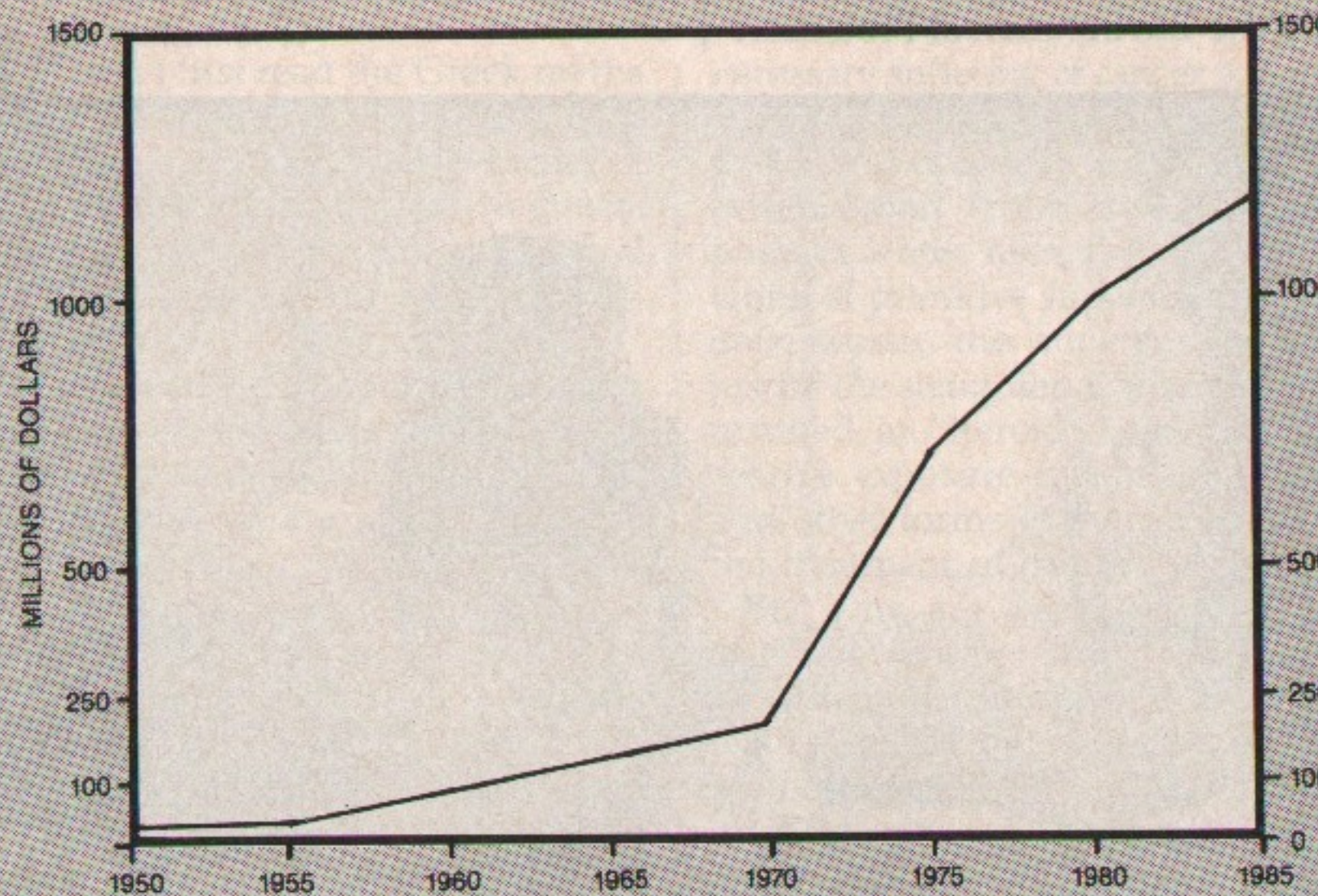
Moreover, to be effective, the funding cutoff has to be complete and permanent. This is in itself an excellent platform to start any negotiations with officialdom. Thus, if it is claimed that some funding is necessary or worthwhile, let the burden of proof be on Official Science instead of on the animal welfare groups.

Facing down Official Science and its powerful allies in the medical and scientific communities will not be easy. However, if animal welfare groups can agree to demand an end to all funding of animals in bioresearch, if they can join with the other citizen groups concerned with the fraud and malpractice promoted by the National Cancer Institute and other agencies, and if they can hang in there for what is bound to be a long, hard fight, then I think they have a fair chance of ending the ritual sacrifice of animals by the end of the twentieth century. It's about time.

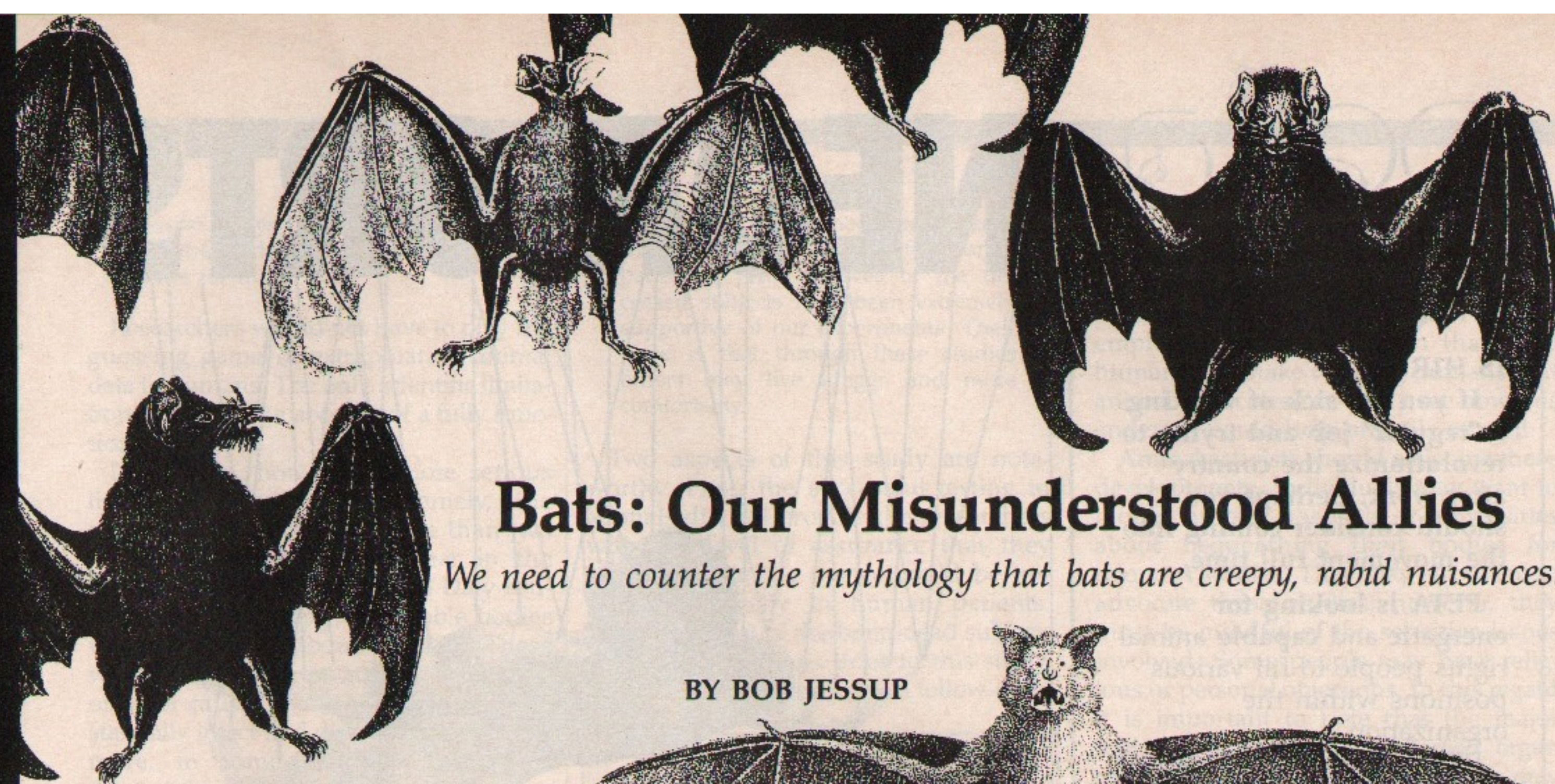
Dr. Bross, president of Biomedical Metatechnology, Inc., served previously as Director of Biostatistics at Roswell Park Memorial Institute, in Buffalo, New York.



Mortality from all malignant neoplasms (deaths from cancer), 1950 through 1982, in the United States (age adjusted to the U.S. population of 1980). Source: New England Journal of Medicine, May 8, 1986.



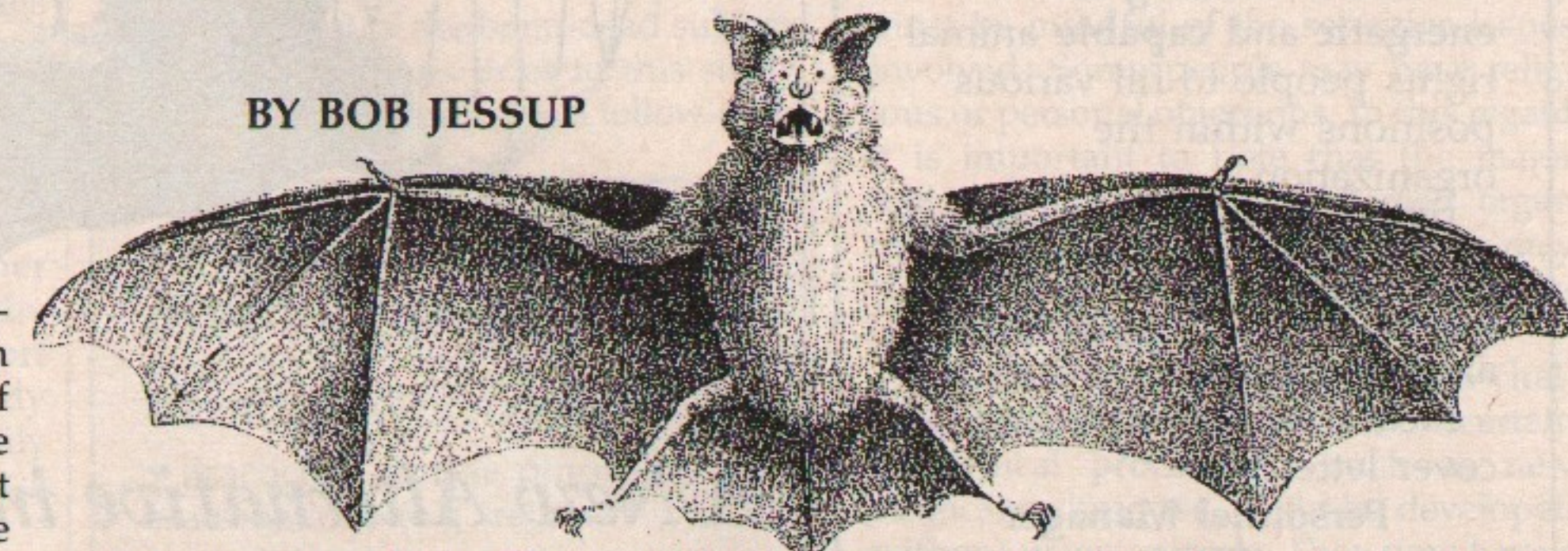
Expenditures by the National Cancer Institute (the administering agency of National Institutes of Health research grants), 1950 through 1985. The National Cancer Act was passed in 1971.



Bats: Our Misunderstood Allies

We need to counter the mythology that bats are creepy, rabid nuisances.

BY BOB JESSUP



For the past four years I've been conducting field studies on bats in DuPage County, Ill. The purpose of the research has been to identify both the kinds and numbers of bat species present in the area. As the president and wildlife biologist of an animal rights organization, I've been surprised by the depth of prejudice that persists against this animal, not only among the general public but in our movement as well.

Much of the bad image surrounding these animals stems from hundreds of years of belief in vampires, witches, and fear of the unknown. The multi-billion dollar "pest" control industry, uninformed public health officials, and the sensationalist media help keep alive the old myths and wrong conceptions by often depicting bats as viciously aggressive and disease-ridden creatures waiting to pounce on unsuspecting victims. The reality is quite different: bats are extremely gentle and meticulously clean animals.

The fear of rabies from bats is probably the most misunderstood and overblown myth of all. It is a fact that less than 0.5% of bats actually contract rabies. Bats are no more susceptible to rabies than many other animals, and they rarely become aggressive even when rabid. In the more than 30 years that records have been kept on the disease, only 10 people have contracted rabies from bats in all of North America. It's no exaggeration to say that more people die every year from lawnmower accidents than from bat-related diseases. Myths, however, run deep. Fortunately, not all legends in all cultures hold bats to be creatures of evil. In China bats remain symbols of happiness and good fortune. The Buddhists hold them sacred.

Bats are not rodents. They constitute their own order, the *Chiroptera* (hand-wings). The smallest mammal in the world is a bat, with a wingspan of only 1.5 inches. The largest bat may have a wingspan of 4.5 feet. Unlike rodents, bats have a slow reproductive rate, which makes populations vulnerable to disturbance. Some bats may actually be primates or near descendants of them.

Insectivorous bats are insect-eating powerhouses. One single bat may consume as many as 3,000 bugs (often night-flying mosquitos) in one night, making bats a natural pest controller. Unfortunately, humans have opted for insecticides (far more profitable!), despite the fact that these substances not only kill insects but many other creatures as well, as the toxins linger in our soil and waterways.

Our grocery shelves are full of foods pollinated chiefly by bats; cashews, cloves, peaches, bananas, carob, breadfruit, figs, avocados, rum, tequila, are just a few items that rely on the contributions of bats. When feeding, pollen collects on the bats' facial hair allowing them to cross-pollinate flowers, bushes and trees.

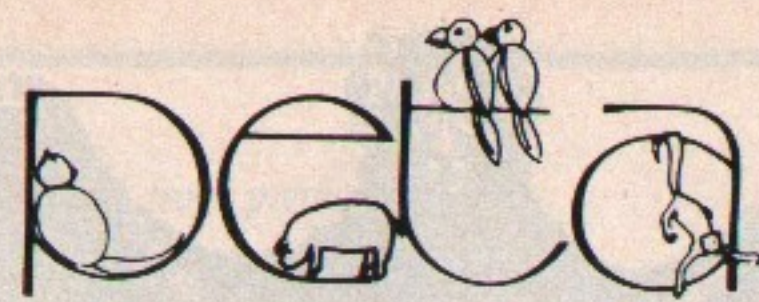
When eating the overripe fruit, the seeds pass through the digestive tract of bats unchanged. Deposited away from the parent plant or tree, the seeds sprout to produce the future generations, thereby reinforcing the cycle of life. Bats are the major seed dispersers of the tropical forests. And bat guano (droppings) is rich in nitrogen and represents an important

source of fertilizer for underdeveloped areas such as Thailand and South America.

The major threat to bats and many other animals is the destruction of habitat. In Australia—a country waging war against other native species—fruit bats are being killed by the thousands out of ignorance regarding their role in pollination. Bats do not interfere with the fruit market, as Australians believe. And in Guam bats are almost extinct, after being overhunted for bat milk soup, considered a delicacy.

Bats are a vulnerable yet vital link in the world ecosystem. Many countries have laws protecting bats, but these laws are seldom enforced. It's clear that a new attitude (backed up by public policies) is urgently needed to protect this species from further human assault.

Bob Jessup, a biologist, is president of Awareness of Wildlife and Animal Rights Through Education (AWARE). For more information on bats, he may be contacted at P.O. Box 1954, Des Plaines, IL 60017. Another group, Bat Conservation International, headed by Dr. Merlin D. Tuttle of the University of Texas, is working to change the bat's maligned image through public education and the sale of backyard bat houses (similar to birdhouses). The houses cost \$29.95 (plus \$2.75 for shipping) and include a booklet on the merits of bats. They can be ordered from Bat Conservation International, c/o Brackenridge Field Laboratory, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712.



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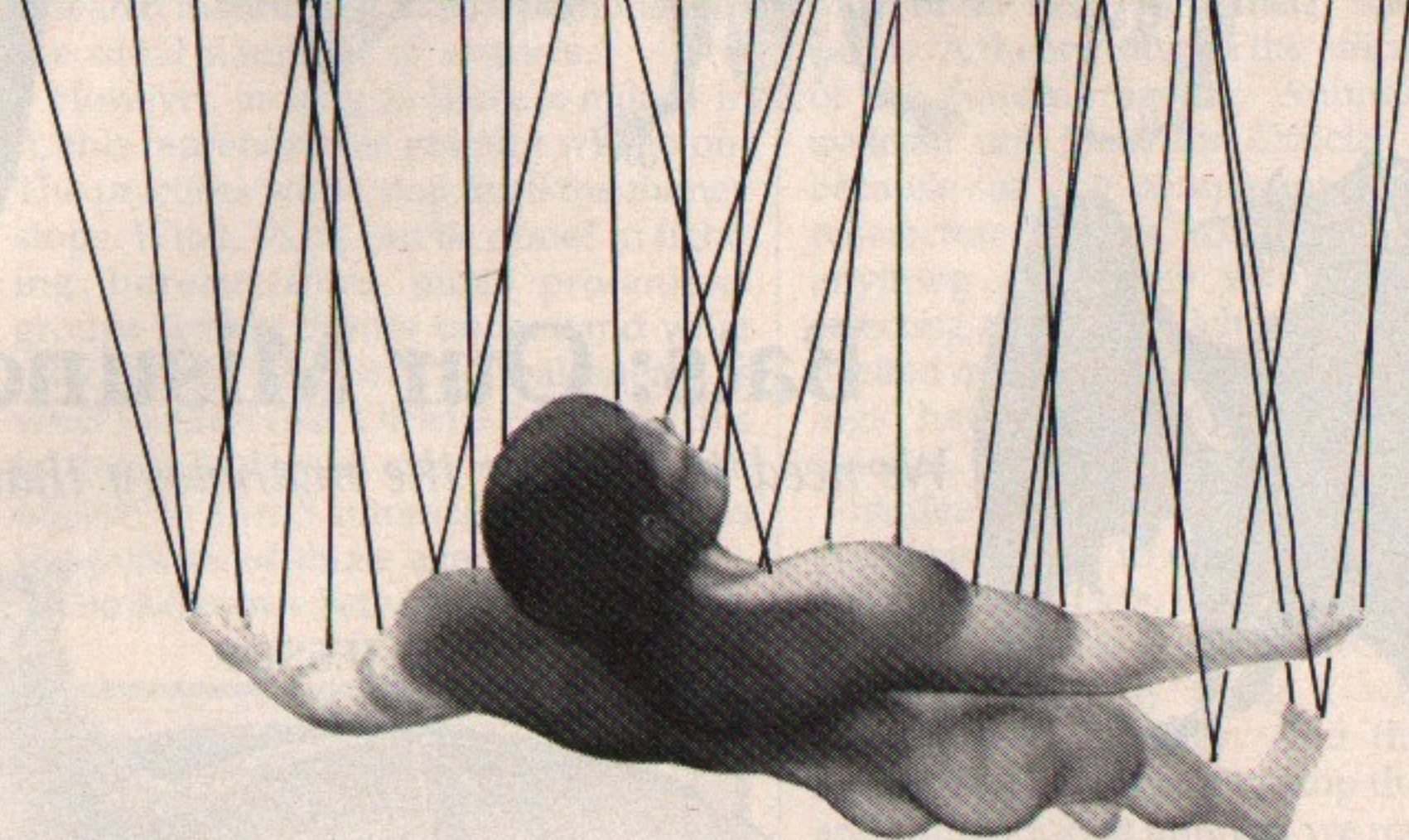


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NEOMORTS



A New Alternative in the Laboratory

Most, if not all, biomedical research, safety testing and medical education is conducted for the benefit of humans. Yet, nonhuman animals are extensively studied in these areas. Why? A major reason is the ethical constraints on human studies. Scientists turn to animals as "models" or surrogate humans despite the scientific shortcomings and questionable ethics of this approach.

Even those who advocate and employ animal models recognize their shortcomings. Stephen Suomi, a psychologist infamous for his deprivation experiments on infant monkeys, conceded:

...in virtually no case is an animal model a perfect... replica of the human disorder under study. Rather, it is usually a highly simplified, theoretically biased, and incompletely generalized version... An animal model is almost never the "real thing;" it is, instead, only a model of the real thing.

Therefore,

...the primary rationale for creating most animal models lies not so much in any obvious and impressive strengths of such models as it lies in the problems inherent in conducting research with humans as subjects.

Given this state of affairs, any technological developments that increase the scope of ethical human studies are welcome. One such development has great potential to reduce animal exploitation in biomedical science. It is controver-

sial because it involves brain-dead humans whose physiological functions (such as breathing) are maintained by artificial means. These special cadavers, known as neomorts, are medically and legally dead but resemble comatose patients whose bodies breathe, require food, and eliminate waste.

The technology for sustaining neomorts already exists. For example, the body of a pregnant Indiana woman who was killed in a car accident was sustained by supports until her child could be born by caesarian section several weeks later. In a recent issue of *The Futurist*, Dr. Harold Shane and Walter Daly, M.D., both of Indiana University, argue that this medical technology may be developing faster than our consideration of delicate legal, cultural and ethical questions raised by sustaining the newly dead for science. The authors want to see these issues resolved before the final technical barriers to widespread neomort use are hurdled.

The scientific potential of the newly dead was first advocated by physician and bioethicist William Gaylin in 1974. Gaylin thought that neomorts could revolutionize research, safety testing and medical education. (See box, next page.) New experimental procedures and drugs could be tested and practiced directly on humans. He wrote:

Experimental procedures that proved useless or harmful could be avoided; those that succeeded could be available years before they might otherwise have been. Similarly, we could avoid the

massive delays that keep some drugs from the marketplace while the dying clamor for them.

Researchers would not have to play the guessing game of extrapolating animal data to humans. The only scientific limitation would be the absence of a fully functional brain.

In practice, however, a more serious limitation would arise, namely, the availability of neomorts. More than two million people die every year in the United States, but Shane and Daly estimate that the supply of useable bodies would be only about 150,000. These would be deaths from accidents, suicides or other causes that leave the body substantially intact and disease-free. Furthermore, in some of these cases, the deceased may have chosen, or his or her relatives may choose, not to donate the body to science, especially for neomort studies. If the patient was already plugged into support systems, the family may want to mark the death with a prompt burial.

Patients and relatives might be more receptive if they viewed neomort studies as extensions of donating their organs or bodies to science, which are widely accepted practices. Gaylin views neomort studies as extended autopsies. He wrote:

The autopsy, that most respectable of medical traditions, that last gift of the dying person to the living future, could be extended in principle beyond our current recognition.

If such studies were widely accepted, then, at least initially, neomorts would probably be dedicated primarily to organ donation, and secondarily to laboratory procedures that would decrease demand for animals. (The current demand for donor organs far exceeds the supply.) However, these two types of studies are not mutually exclusive. Studies could be conducted before—and, in many cases, after—organ removal.

Although the few published discussions of neomorts have a futuristic tone, at least one neomort study has already been conducted. Physicians at Temple University implanted the Jarvik-7 artificial heart into five brain-dead humans before Barney Clark became the first clinical recipient. The physicians wrote:

...we were confronted with the question of whether or not an artificial heart successfully tested in calves would fit and function in man. But how to proceed in man with some assurance of success?... Today it is possible to test the functional capabilities of (implanted) blood pumps in brain-dead but hemodynamically stable human subjects at no

risk, so that it is not necessary to learn the fundamentals of fit and function in patients... The relatives of the deceased subjects have been extremely supportive of our experiments. Their hope is that through these studies others may live longer and more comfortably.

Two aspects of this study are noteworthy. First, the successful testing in animals did not provide the researchers with the level of assurance that they sought before the device could be implanted ethically in human patients. Secondly, most of the brain-dead subjects had donated organs prior to this study.

Although this study was a follow-up of

Potential Uses of Brain-Dead Humans

MEDICAL EDUCATION

- Practicing routine physical examinations (e.g. retinal examination)
- Practicing standard but difficult diagnostic procedures (e.g. spinal tap)
- Practicing exotic procedures usually not practiced until after medical school (e.g. skin grafting)
- Practicing surgical skills

TOXICITY TESTING

- Virtually all aspects

RESEARCH

- Discovering effective drugs
- Developing effective surgical procedures
- Developing cures after experimentally inducing illness (e.g. cancer)
- Improving diagnosis or therapy after experimentally inducing injury

STORAGE

- Of transplantable organs
- Of specialized blood components for transfusions (e.g. white blood cells)

HARVESTING

- Of bone marrow, skin, corneas, cartilage, etc.

MANUFACTURING

- Of hormones, antitoxins, antibodies, etc.

animal research, the clear implication of neomort studies is that our reliance on animals will be reduced.

Those who advocate neomort studies emphasize the contribution that dead humans can make to living humans, but animal advocates can easily see how this endeavor could help animals as well.

Animal activists should welcome these developments. Individuals may want to inquire at local hospitals or universities about bequeathing their bodies for neomort studies. They may also want to advocate these studies; however, they must be mindful of the sensitive issues involved. Some people may have religious or personal objections. In this regard it is important to note that the major religious groups have endorsed organ retrieval for transplantation, and so may also endorse more extensive manipulations of cadavers.

Animal activists may have been challenged in the past to explain how certain biomedical procedures, such as new surgical techniques, could be developed without using animals. They now have a compelling answer.



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What's New in Congress?

Animal Protection Bills Need Support

All of the bills described herein were introduced in the 1985-86 session of Congress, but were not enacted. They are all being reintroduced in the current session, the 100th Congress, and deserve the full backing of animal advocates. To express your support, write your Congressperson at The U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515, and both of your Senators at The United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. For more information about the bills, contact the groups named below. More pro-animal legislation is being developed—look for updates in future issues of THE ANIMALS' AGENDA.

Research Accountability Act

In January, Rep. Robert Torricelli (D-NJ) reintroduced the Research Accountability Act. The purpose of this bill is to stop the duplication of experiments on live animals by using modern computer technology.

The scope of duplication of experiments is not trivial. United Action for Animals has counted the number of documents in its files on 60 typical animal experiments, most of which require the use of many live animals. The results: 600 spine-severing procedures; 400 spine-crushing experiments; 160 animal drownings (dating back to 1795); 650 mercury poisonings; 875 carbon tetrachloride poisonings; and so on. Even some of the staunchest defenders of animal experimentation balk at the scope of the duplication.

The Research Accountability Act, if implemented, would: 1) establish a National Center for Research Accountability to conduct a full-text literature search of all research proposals involving live animals (after approval, but prior to funding) to ensure that experiments on live animals are not being duplicated; and 2) require the National Library of Medicine (NLM) to store the full text of all biomedical literature involving live animals from 1960 on, and make this information readily and economically available to the scientific community.

At present, a researcher who wishes to avoid duplication must first search several databases which provide bibliographical references with, at most, a brief abstract. Serious researchers must acquire the full-text documents—a procedure which often involves a time-consuming, frustrating, and costly “paper chase” through medical libraries across the country. The problem is especially acute in toxicology. An official of the NLM stated: “A large fraction of toxicological information is neither abstracted nor indexed for ready access. Thus...much of the recent literature in the field of toxicology is not readily accessible.” As a result, a scientist who wishes to test a chemical must first find out what databases must be searched, then devise a strategy to retrieve the data, etc.

The solution to this problem is readily at hand in modern technology. According to an article in the journal *Science* (volume 212, 19 June 1981, pages 1343-1349), we are in the midst

of an “information explosion” and “the proliferation of scientific literature and data files has taxed our ability to store, retrieve, and assimilate information. There is no choice but to use computers and modern telecommunication systems to preserve these data and make them accessible to present and future users.” The Research Accountability Act would make use of modern technologies to stop the duplication of experiments on live animals.

The bill, which was first thought to be too expensive to implement, has been revised, and in its present form is realistic and winnable. The proposals are reasonable and moderate. They would save billions of taxpayer dollars (the 1987 budget of the National Institutes of Health alone is over \$6 billion) by eliminating redundant experimentation. And the Act would also prevent millions of animals from being experimented on at all. The bill may well be the most meaningful piece of legislation ever introduced to reduce the suffering of animals in laboratories.

—Tom MacGowan
United Action for Animals
205 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017

Banning the Steel-Jaw Leghold Trap

Most civilized nations have laws against the steel-jaw leghold trap. In fact, 63 countries are ahead of the United States in this struggle to outlaw barbarism. The 100th Congress must be the one to pass legislation to end the use of this “diabolical instrument”, as a British government report described it shortly



The steel-jaw leghold trap was invented in 1823 by a teenage boy. It has been banned in 63 countries, but still maims and kills an estimated 15 million animals annually in the U.S., including many domestic dogs and cats.

before it was banned in the United Kingdom.

A survey by the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies found that 78% of the American public wants the steel-jaw trap banned. But lobbyists for trappers and furriers, the National Rifle Association, the American Farm Bureau, and government wildlife bureaucracies have paralyzed congressional action year after year. What is needed is a massive expression of public outrage at this situation—combined with a massive display of public support for legislation to ban the trap.

The Society for Animal Protective Legislation can provide activists with free leaflets, petitions, posters, and badges to help win the battle.

—Christine Stevens
The Society for Animal Protective Legislation
P.O. Box 3719, Washington, D.C. 20007

The Humane Products Testing Act

The Humane Products Testing Act would, if passed, require federal agencies to re-evaluate their regulations and guidelines encouraging use of the LD50 test, in which as many as 200 animals are force-fed substances until 50 per cent of them die, supposedly establishing a “lethal dose” level. The bill had gained the support of over a hundred members of Congress before the end of the 99th session last December, but the stumbling block to its passage was its referral to the House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment. The bill is, unfortunately, expected to be referred to the same committee in this session of Congress. Strong interest on the part of members of that committee is needed to convince Chairperson Henry Waxman (D-CA) that the LD50 issue is serious and worthwhile. Unless Waxman is moved to hold hearings and report the bill out of committee, the legislation cannot move forward toward passage.

The “Standing” Bill

Late in the last session, Representatives Charlie Rose (D-NC) and Rod Chandler (R-WA) introduced a bill which would allow any individual to sue the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to demand enforcement of the federal Animal Welfare Act. One of the major problems with enforcement of the Act has been lack of interest on the part of USDA, which has repeatedly asked Congress for “zero funding”. If funds were cut off, USDA would, in effect, be relieved of its responsibility for conducting laboratory inspections and enforcing provisions of the Act—which is the only federal law currently offering any protection to animals in laboratories. In addition, USDA has testified before Congress that it believes enforcement of the Act should be left to humane societies (which have no authority under the law).

Many of the deficiencies in laboratories documented by the animal protection community in the past few years have also shown up as violations of the Act on USDA inspection reports—however, USDA often has not acted to correct the deficiencies, even for gross violations of this very conservative legislation.

The re-introduced bill is expected to be referred to both the Agriculture and Judiciary committees of the House.

—Syndee Brinkman
The National Alliance for Animal Legislation
P.O. Box 75116, Washington, D.C. 20013

“Live Lures” in Greyhound Training

During the 99th Congress, Rep. Robert K. Dornan (R-CA) introduced legislation that could have helped bring an end to the use of live animals as lures in the training of racing dogs. Even though the bill was introduced only two months before the end of the session, 12 co-sponsors joined Dornan in calling for an end to the reprehensible practice. Each year, an estimated 100,000 small animals (such as kittens, rabbits, and chickens) are used repeatedly as bait until they are torn apart by greyhounds learning to race. (See “Greyhounds: Running for their lives”, THE ANIMALS' AGENDA, May 1986.)

The Dornan bill would help stop this cruelty by banning the interstate sale and shipment of animals intended for use as live lures. In addition, the bill would prohibit those dogs trained on live lures from being transported across state lines for racing purposes. Rep. Dornan is expected to re-introduce this legislation early in the 100th Congress.



Rabbits and other small animals are commonly used for training greyhounds to race. This rabbit was released in an enclosed area to be pursued and mauled by the dogs.

The Pet Protection Act

Rep. Robert J. Mrazek (D-NY) is re-introducing The Pet Protection Act to establish what is tantamount to a national ban on pound seizure. Passage of the bill would spell an end to the taking of an estimated 300,000 companion animals from the nation's shelters each year for use in biomedical research.

The Mrazek bill would prohibit the expenditure of any federal money awarded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for the purchase or use of dogs or cats acquired from animal shelters. Because NIH provides the funding for nearly all uses of companion dogs and cats in research, this legislation would effectively put an end to the practice.

According to Rep. Mrazek, “Shelter animals are not suitable for use in research because nothing is known about their...backgrounds. Despite this fact, some federally-funded researchers continue to purchase dogs and cats from local facilities, both directly and through intermediaries. These researchers unfailingly select those animals which appear to be the healthiest, most obedient and most adoptable.”

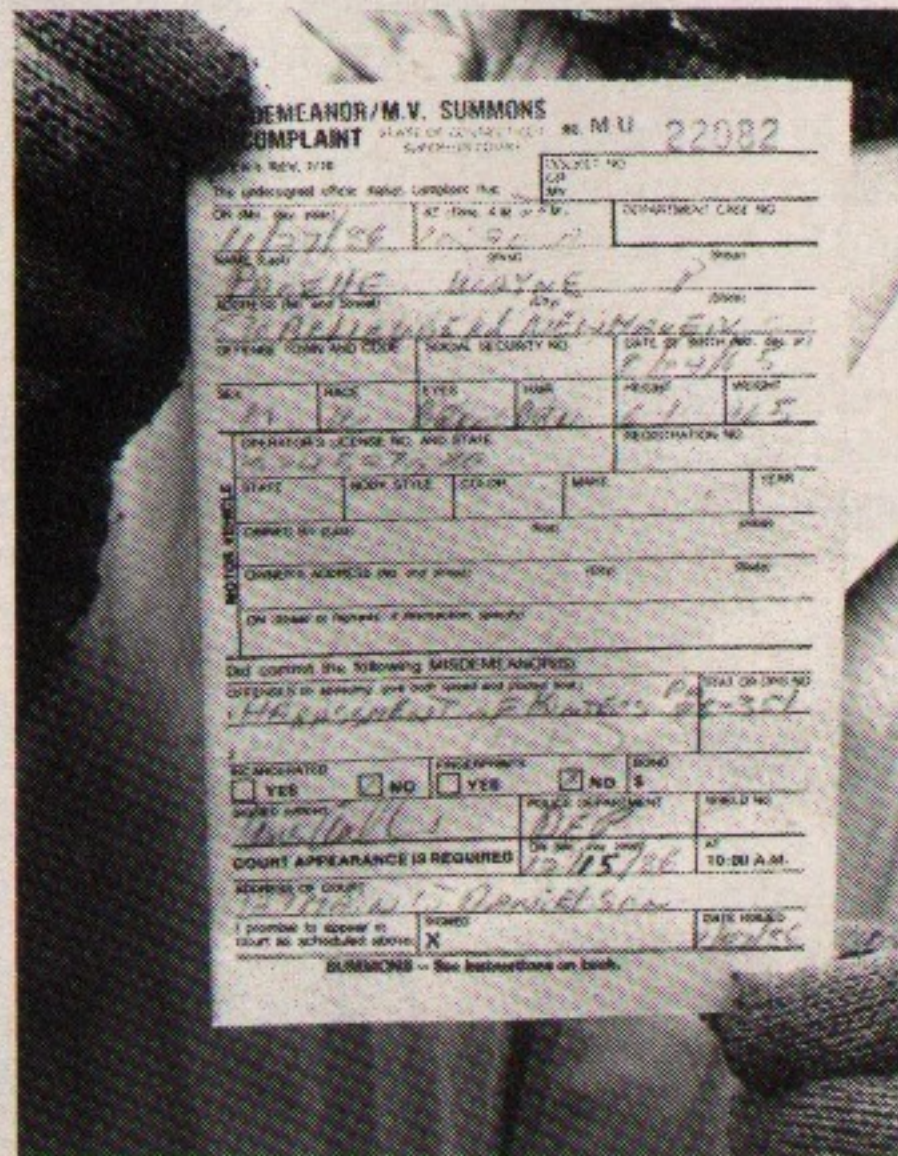
Sixty members of Congress co-sponsored The Pet Protection Act when it was first introduced in the 99th Congress.

—Martha Hamby
The Humane Society of the United States
2100 L Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20037

Activists Disrupt Thanksgiving Deer Hunt

Deer driving cars? Two-legged deer luring human hunters with "Macho beer" and then "harvesting" them? "Freshly-killed" hunters sprawled on the rooftops and hoods of cars? No, unfortunately, the terms of "sport hunting" haven't changed, but street theater has left the city and premiered in the forest. Sylvan theater was used to demonstrate protesters' opposition to the commencement of the third annual Yale deer hunt, which is sanctioned by the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and managed by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

For the third Thanksgiving in a row, Connecticut animal rights activists from Animal Rights Front (ARF) and the Yale Student Animal Rights Coalition were joined by activists from Boston and Rhode Island to protest the hunt, which took place in a Yale-owned forest in Union, Connecticut. Five activists dressed as angry deer, led by Bambo, "the deer who had it up to here," performed a mock harvest of hunters. Of course, the "deer" maintained that the "hunt" was carried out primarily for ethical and ecological reasons: human hunters had overpopulated their ecosystem and were in danger of mass starvation. In addition, their four-



A summons to appear in court for "harassment" of hunters.

wheel drive vehicles were spewing out exhaust and digging up soil, polluting and eroding this once-stable ecosystem. The "deer" reported that this problem could not be solved in a year, and maintained they would have to practice "low-

life management" (analogous to wildlife management) for a long while before the problem could be solved.

To the disappointment of the approximately 50 other protesters present that day, but not so disappointing to a few on-looking hunters, deer did not actually "take" any real hunters. But the protesters were successful in other ways. They disrupted the real hunt and ruined the day for several hunters. Five deer were killed that day in the Yale Forest, down from the 15 who had been killed on the first day of last year's hunt.

Numerically speaking, the big winners were DEP conservation officers, who nabbed four protesters under the state's year-old "hunter harassment" law. But unlike "bagged" deer who never got a second chance, "bagged" protesters may have had the last laugh, as this legal confrontation may give them a mechanism to have this law repealed as unconstitutional. Activists claim that Connecticut's law gives immunity to the hunting community by limiting protest and free speech. A similar law was recently found to be unconstitutional in New Hampshire.

Yale decision-makers have admitted that the hunt was conducted to protect tree seedlings, which they argue the deer are browsing beyond the point of profitable regeneration. However, they never let that justification stand on its own, and also add, ostensibly, that the hunt is conducted to benefit the deer. In a November 19 press release, David M. Smith, professor of sylviculture at Yale, said, "(it) is kinder to kill the surplus deer with guns in December than to let them starve or be chewed to death by dogs in February."

Since the hunt was first initiated, animal rights spokespersons have agreed that the deer are browsing the seedlings, but charged that hunting the deer is an unethical and ineffective way to deal with the problem.

Animal rights activists not only differ with wildlife managers over the question of pain caused to the deer by hunting them, but also object on broader ecological and philosophical grounds. By practicing their quasi-agricultural system of wildlife management, managers ensure that only the luckiest of deer can live very long. If the hunters don't get a deer this year, or next, they'll get one at some point. In Connecticut, because of hunting, the average age of a deer is just three-and-one-half years. This is the reality despite the fact that deer can live as long as twelve to fifteen years.

Animal rights groups maintain that the question of autonomy is the most relevant consideration in their decision to oppose

Doug Moss

Doug Moss



"Making creatures available to hunting doesn't hurt wildlife."

—Lynn A. Greenwalt, Vice President
National Wildlife Federation

hunting. By allowing decimating factors (such as exposure to heat and cold, starvation and the like) to constantly and persistently influence individuals of a population, deer are provided with the opportunity to exert their autonomy and ensure that genetically favorable traits are passed on to their offspring. By relying on the hunting spasm, wildlife managers minimize the impact of decimating factors. Also, hunting does not select for survival of the strong individuals, and assures that some weaker individuals who would not normally have reproductive success will have it, passing on defective genes within the population.

In addition, Forestry School decision-makers have perpetuated the myth that smooth population curves are desirable in a stable ecosystem. The reality is that all ungulate populations, over a specific time period, perhaps a decade or two, experience repeating cycles in their numbers that have both high and low points. Animal rights advocates have charged that a hunt simply knocks back a population to an earlier stage and temporarily stalls the cycle. The abrupt drop in population caused by a fall hunt often stimulates reproduction, because killing some of the animals reduces competition among survivors for food, space, and mates. All of these factors help determine the rates of conception, birth, and survival. The fact is, hunting perpetuates itself by spurring reproduction and is a commitment to a permanent problem.

The truth is only now starting to come out from the Forestry School. At a recent open forum, activists questioned the Forestry School's claim that unless deer were shot, they'd starve to death. Bruce Larson, associate professor of sylviculture, admitted that "starvation" was the wrong word to have used, and that, in fact, the word "undernourished" better described the deer's prospects. His statement demonstrates that the Forestry School has deliberately misrepresented the situation to justify its actions to the public.

In addition, though Forestry School officials point only to the deer as the cause of their problem, it has become clear that there are three other factors in the forest regeneration problem. First, mismanagement by students has "overthinned" some tree stands; second, mountain laurel, a non-marketable species, has proven impossible to contain; and third, other competing trees that also have no market value are shading out the slower-growing profitable species.

Despite claims that it is derived from ethical concerns, Yale's policy to institute a hunt has been guided almost exclusively by economic considerations. In a

letter dated August 14, 1985, David Smith said, "timber production, which must involve logging, is [the school's] primary objective. Wildlife management is a second priority purpose." And University policy towards the professional schools has encouraged this system of priorities. Shortly after A. Bartlett Giamatti became Yale's president in 1977, the University mandated that each professional school be economically self-sufficient. This pressured the Forestry School to turn its forests into money-making operations. Faced with that pressure, the Forestry School took the cheapest and most convenient course possible for eliminating the damage caused to seedlings: hunting the deer. These revelations indicate that the policy that led to the Yale deer hunt was neither ethical, academic nor scientific, but simply administrative.

Given these financial concerns and the philosophy of professional pro-management environmental schools like the Yale Forestry School, we should not be surprised by Yale's decision to institute a hunt. Forestry schools are the academic branch of the hunting and trapping industries and the training grounds for tomorrow's wildlife managers. In fact, the various parties participating in this hunt—the intellectual community, the Wildlife Unit of the DEP, and the hunters themselves—make the Yale hunt an especially attractive target for anti-hunting activity.

Animal rights activists are committed to uncovering the real reasons behind the hunt and to exposing these interest groups for what they are: incestuous, de-

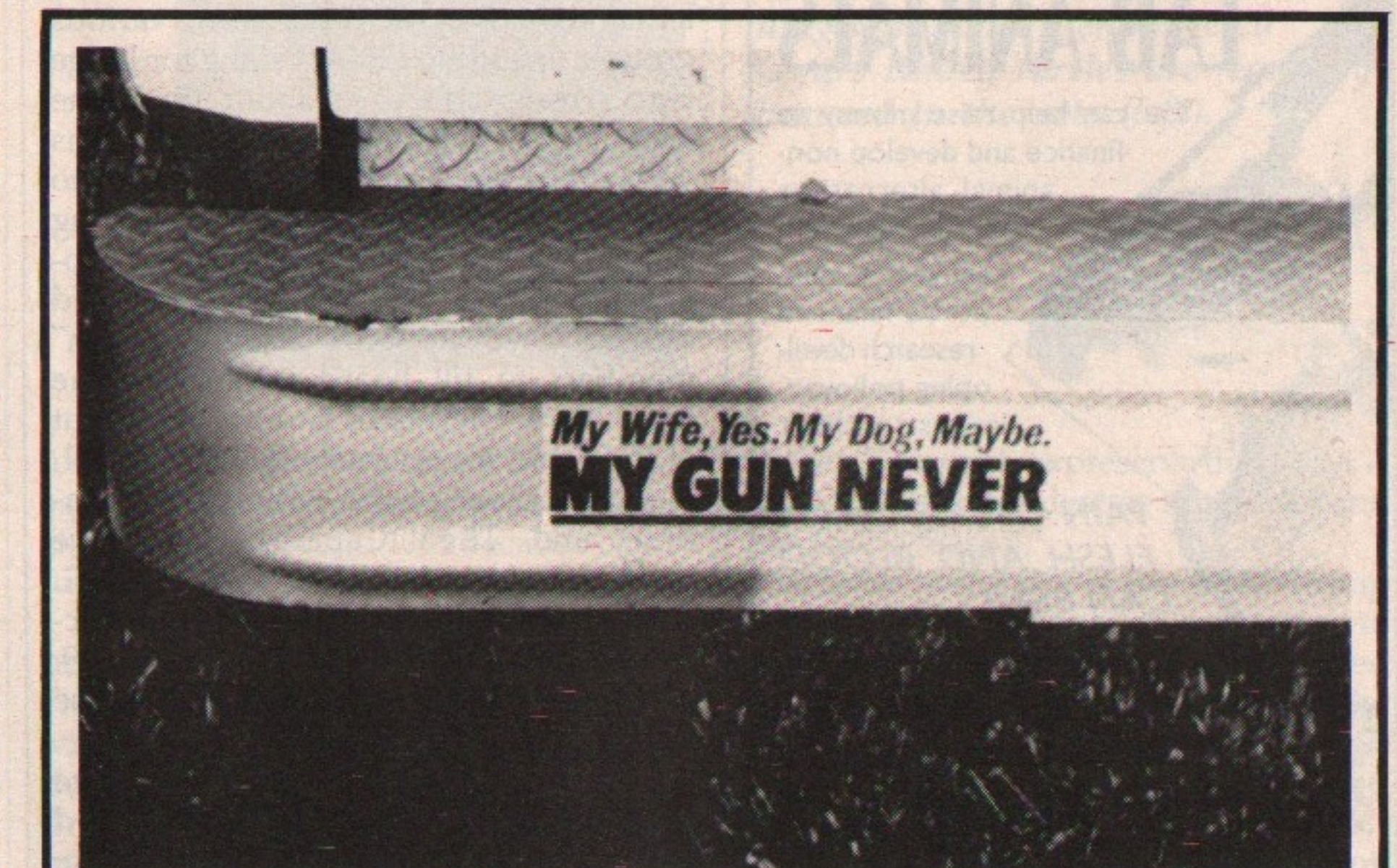
ceitful, profit-seeking groups that participate in or are complicit with this ruthless blood sport. Activists have vowed to fight until the Forestry School adopts non-violent fundraising solutions to what is a purely financial problem. If they allow the hunt to continue, we hope people from all across the country will gather for a Thanksgiving Day Pilgrimage to the Yale Forest next year.

—Wayne Pacelle

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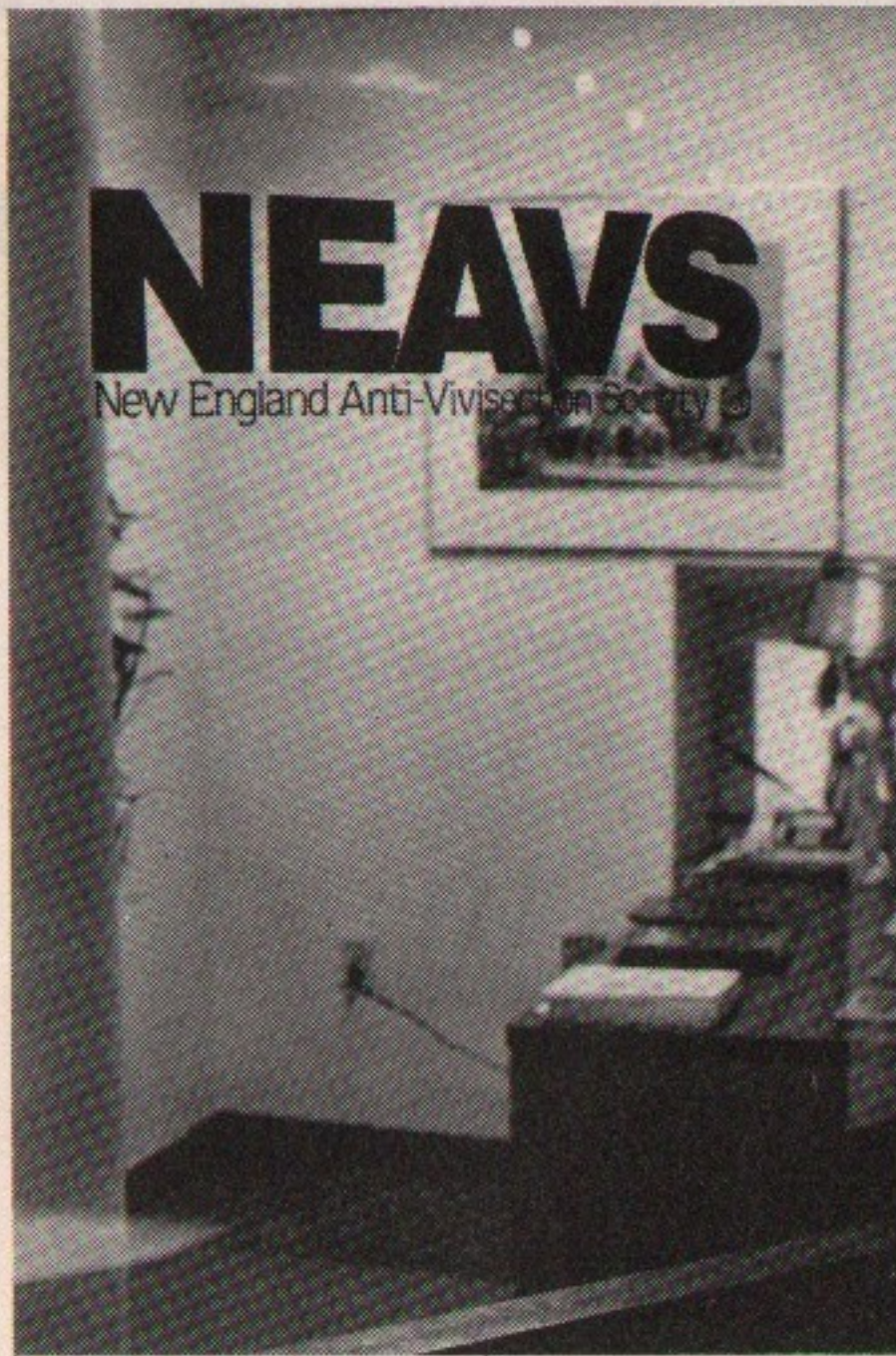


A hunter proclaims his values.

Doug Moss

Scandal Rocks New England Anti-Vivisection Society

Although the Boston-based New England Anti-Vivisection Society (NEAVS), one of the oldest and wealthiest animal protection organizations in the country, has seen its share of controversy over the years, recent events have shaken the 91-year-old society to its very foundations. Last December, reports began appearing in Boston newspapers revealing that Judge Robert M. Ford, president of NEAVS, and his "courthouse cronies" were drawing salaries totalling over \$100,000 for part-time NEAVS staff positions. Shortly thereafter, a Massachusetts judicial conduct commission investigation was begun. In the wake of the scandal, a number of animal rights activists began (not for the first time) a push to radicalize the relatively conservative NEAVS and make better use of the organization's approximately \$8 million in accumulated assets. An attempt in 1981 to radicalize NEAVS failed, but as a concession, Ford appointed two activists to the board of directors. Another attempt, by members of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and Boston's Coalition to



—Cindy Loo

End Animal Suffering and Exploitation (CEASE), to elect more "activist" board members to NEAVS failed in January of 1982. This time around, however, it would seem that activists stand a better chance of gaining control of the board.

The latest round in the battle for control of NEAVS began with the news stories of alleged financial improprieties. A demonstration held on December 26 by a group of NEAVS and CEASE members called for the resignation of all NEAVS board members associated with the scandal. In early January, CEASE released a letter signed by activists from various groups, including PETA, calling for Judge Ford's resignation. At about the same time, PETA began private negotiations with the Judge—apparently intended to persuade him to expedite the nominating process for the new board members proposed by PETA. On January 6th, Ford did, in fact, appoint three "interim" members to fill board vacancies. The three were: Cleveland Amory, president of the Fund for Animals; John Mitchell, board member of the Ahimsa Foundation; and Theo Capaldo, an active member of both PETA and CEASE. Amory, Mitchell and Capaldo face elections by NEAVS membership on April 29, as do six other board members whose terms expire.

On the evening of January 15, Judge Ford failed to appear at a scheduled meeting of the board, but sent a brief note announcing his resignation. At that time, Aaron Medlock, then executive director of NEAVS, was elected president of the

board, to serve at least until the April 29 elections. Medlock has stated that his role will be to "...get NEAVS through the next three months" until the April elections, and that he hopes "...to stick around past April to help NEAVS become a much more active and open Society." It is unknown how many current board members will seek to retain their positions. PETA has proposed a slate of candidates for the board which includes the three interim board members and six others. Proposed as officers are Cleveland Amory, president; PETA chairperson Alex Pacheco, vice president; Theo Capaldo, secretary; and John Mitchell, treasurer. Proposed board members are: PETA lawyer Gary Francione; Neal Barnard of the Physicians' Committee for Responsible Medicine (a PETA-affiliated group); Annette Pickett, formerly of Mobilization for Animals and now a PETA area contact person; and Holly Pearson of CEASE. PETA would not release the name of the ninth candidate, but other sources indicate that PETA director Ingrid Newkirk will seek nomination to the board. The slate claims allegiance to a 10-point plan to revitalize NEAVS; its provisions include increased financial support for grassroots groups, support for pro-animal legislation, and funding for research into alternatives to the use of animals in experiments.

However, there are other people who want to be considered for the NEAVS board. A slate of six other candidates and a "platform" of plans for revitalizing NEAVS were drawn up by an ad hoc committee of New England activists and presented to PETA. PETA refused to discuss the nominees, but subsequently incorporated most of the plan's provisions into their own 10-point program. On January 22, a nominating committee of five was appointed by NEAVS interim president Medlock in accordance with the Society's bylaws. Committee members are: Murry Cohen of the Medical Research Modernization Committee; Miriam Tod of the Ahimsa Foundation; NEAVS board member Cheryl Tracy; Maurine Freedgood, a NEAVS member; and philosopher/author Tom Regan as committee chair. The five will select nine candidates to be announced at least 30 days before the April 29 annual meeting. However, those names may not necessarily appear on the ballot unopposed. Interested parties dissatisfied with the selections can nominate others if such nominations are "made in writing and signed by no less than two per cent of the total membership eligible to vote as of the close of business on the first business day of November 1986" (about 160 out of the

approximately 8,000 NEAVS members) and mailed to the corporate secretary at least 60 days before the election.

On January 23, Trans-Species Unlimited (TSU) announced its intention of developing a slate of nominees "representative of the grassroots movement". TSU plans to mail information on the alternate slate to the entire NEAVS membership if it objects to the NEAVS nominating committee selections, or if there appears to be some danger of a unilateral takeover as election day nears.

While most animal rights advocates long for the radicalization of NEAVS, and

consider PETA a major force in the battle against animal experimentation, many are disconcerted by what they perceive as a pre-emptive move on the part of PETA leaders to obtain control of another organization. PETA's aggressive moves to gain control of NEAVS are interpreted by some as the first steps towards construction of a "cartel", possibly international in scope, within the animal rights movement—with its leaders and supporters also in control of other organizations. This, it is feared, might lead to a concentration of power, a loss of group autonomy, and decreased diversity within the movement. Lending

credence to that suspicion is the involvement of Kim Stallwood of the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection, and Vicki Miller of Ark II and Toronto Humane Society—both veterans of organizational takeovers in England and Canada, respectively. Both are serving as advisors to Newkirk and Pacheco of PETA, and Miller's name has been mentioned frequently as a possible NEAVS board candidate. Whatever the outcome of the NEAVS shakeup, it has already created ripples of controversy throughout the animal rights movement. Look for an update of the story in our April issue.

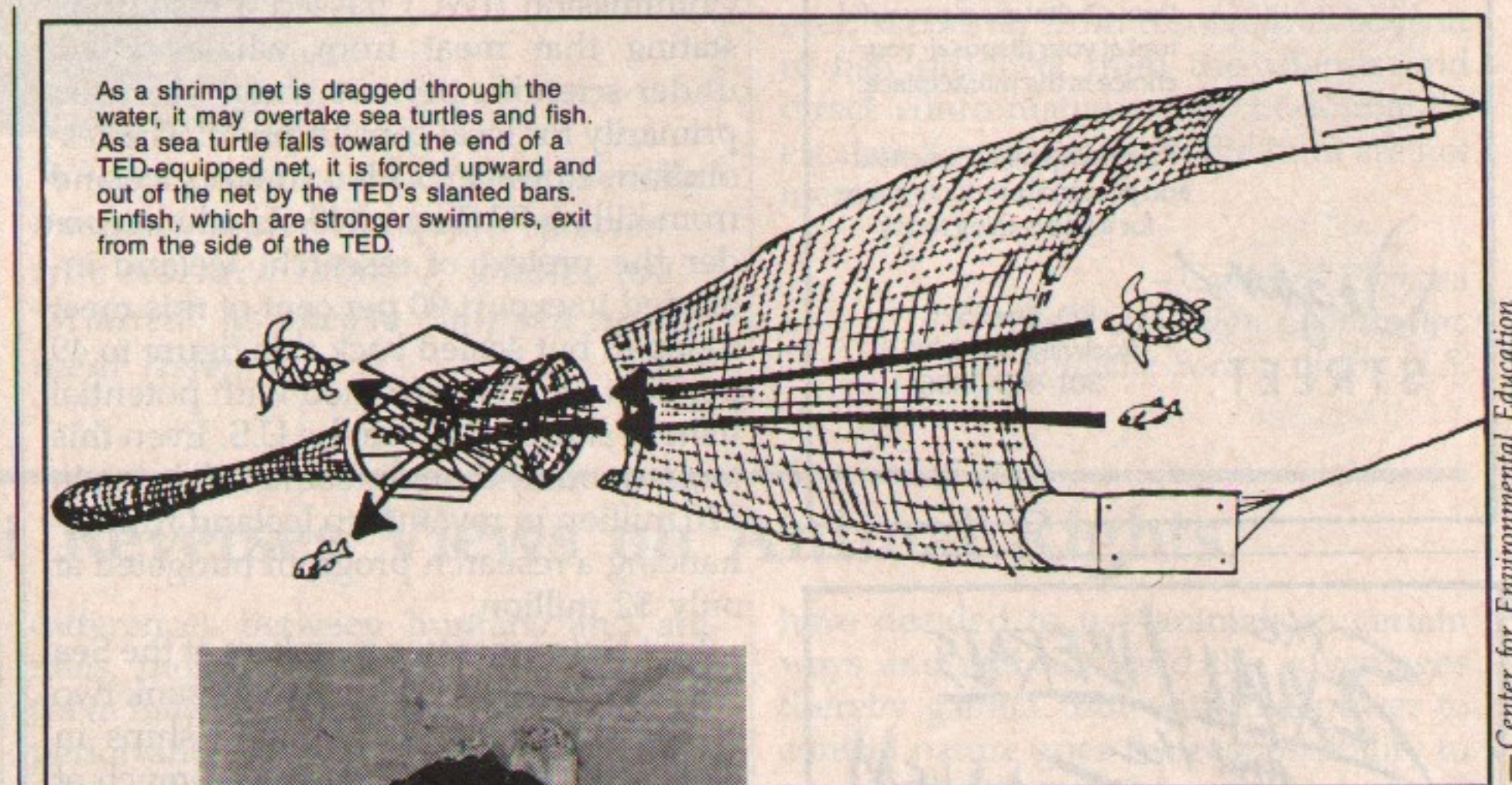
Turtles Also Victims of Shrimp Industry

Sea turtles may have an even harder time surviving in Texas waters, thanks to a recent action of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The federal agency has opened a huge area of water off Texas to shrimp fishing. For several years this area, in which endangered Kemp's ridley and green sea turtles are regularly found, has been closed to shrimp fishing for several weeks each summer to allow the shrimp to grow to a larger, economically more valuable size. One benefit of the closure has been that it prevents the drowning of sea turtles.

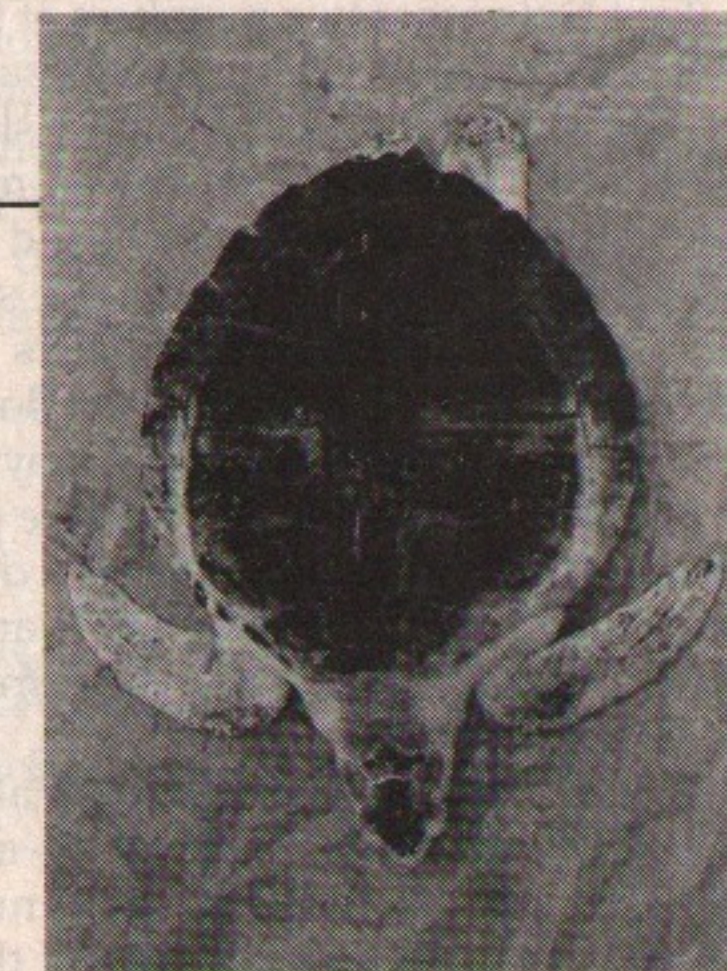
Circumventing normal legal requirements, NMFS made its decision to open the area for shrimping without giving the public an opportunity to comment. The Center for Environmental Education (CEE) led several other conservation organizations in challenging the legality of this action in a letter to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NMFS's parent agency.

In an analysis required by the Endangered Species Act, NMFS found that opening the waters off Texas to shrimp fishing would lead to the drowning of many endangered sea turtles. This fact had prompted NMFS earlier to reject a recommendation from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council that the area be opened. Nonetheless, intense political pressure from Texas led NMFS to reverse its prior decision.

In a token attempt to address the sea turtle problem, NMFS required fishermen to use the Turtle Excluder Device (TED), which eliminates sea turtle drownings, or to restrict the time they keep their nets in the water to 90 minutes. This latter measure can reduce sea turtle mortality substantially. However, as the agency is well aware, regulations requiring reduced



As a shrimp net is dragged through the water, it may overtake sea turtles and fish. As a sea turtle falls toward the end of a TED-equipped net, it is forced upward and out of the net by the TED's slanted bars. Finfish, which are stronger swimmers, exit from the side of the TED.



—National Marine Fisheries—Galveston, TX

Sea turtles could escape the nets of shrimpers if the boats were outfitted with Turtle Excluder Devices (diagram, above); endangered Kemp's ridley turtles are regularly drowned in the nets (left).

tow times cannot be enforced. Indeed, the agency rejected the idea of promulgating similar regulations in 1981 because of enforcement difficulties.

In August NMFS required that the TED be used in four specific areas: one off Florida and three off Texas. CEE representatives see this as a first step, but believe that ultimately the TED should be required in all shrimping areas. However, shrimp industry representatives are adamantly opposed to any regulations. Says CEE spokesperson Michael Weber, "We are facing a massive effort by thousands of

shrimp fishermen to preserve their ways—wasteful ways that destroy sea turtles and fish for no reason."

Because of the size of the Texas shrimp fleet and the importance of Texas waters to endangered sea turtles, readers are urged to express their support for requiring the TED. Letters should be sent to: Mr. Robert Kemp, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Rd., Austin, TX 78744. CEE has prepared information on the TED—to receive a copy, write to them at: 624 9th St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20001.

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Whaling Nations Circumvent Regulations

The good news for the whales in 1987 is that five of the ten whaling nations have finally laid down their harpoons, and by the end of this year the Soviet Union will also have sent out its last commercial whaling vessels. Korea started a research whaling hunt last year, but under pressure from the U.S. it aborted its bogus "scientific" endeavor after killing less than half of its intended quarry of 160 minke whales. Iceland, Japan, and Norway, however, are continuing to be obstinate foes of the whales.

Last year the International Whaling Commission (IWC) passed a resolution stating that meat from whales killed under scientific permits should be used primarily for local consumption. The resolution, however, failed to stop Iceland from killing 77 fin and 40 sei whales under the pretext of research. Iceland intended to export 90 per cent of this meat to Japan but scaled back this figure to 49 per cent when confronted with potential fishery sanctions from the U.S. Even this large amount, though, could still bring in \$20 million in revenue to Iceland from financing a research program budgeted at only \$2 million.

Last November two members of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society sank two of the four Icelandic whaling ships in Reykjavik Harbor and destroyed much of the equipment at the factory used to process whale meat and oil (see the story in our January/February 1987 News Shorts section). The vessels were refloated a short time later, but the ships may not be repairable. Although some whale protection groups did not condone the destructive tactics, the action did throw an international spotlight on whalers hunting in scientists' labcoats.

Japan is due to stop commercial whaling in the Spring of 1988, but is already plotting various ways to continue the hunt. One obvious indication of this is a quote on the front page of a 1987 calendar distributed by the Japan Whaling Association which states, "Taking of whales under scientific research is essen-

tial to comprehensive assessment of whale stocks." In declaring a moratorium on commercial whaling, the IWC mandated that a comprehensive assessment of whale stocks would be undertaken by 1990. Japan, Iceland, Norway, Korea, and several other whaling countries are clearly anxious to keep their vessels going during the moratorium by hunting under research permits and gathering data which they hope will justify the resumption of commercial whaling in 1990.

Whale protection groups, however, contend that one major reason why whales have been overexploited is that information obtained from dead whales has failed to provide reliable data on the size of whale populations or "safe" hunting levels. Conducting lethal research will only repeat a futile exercise at the whales' expense.

Japan's other strategy for evading the moratorium will be to request that the IWC reclassify its small-type coastal whalers into the same category as Alaskan Eskimos who hunt in the aboriginal-subsistence category. Japan's proposal should be rejected, since this operation is every bit as commercial as the businesses run by the coastal and pelagic whalers of other nations.

Norwegian whalers were repeatedly harassed last summer by the Greenpeace vessel *Moby Dick* just off the nation's coast. Norway finally agreed to stop hunting in violation of the IWC moratorium at the end of the 1987 season. When the U.S. threatened to ban Norwegian fish exports to the U.S., Norway commissioned an "independent scientific" review of the status of the North Atlantic minke whale. However, the government has also stated its intention to continue killing some whales for so-called research purposes.

Animal protection groups are urging their supporters to boycott the fish products from Iceland, Japan, and Norway to protest the whale killings. All whale protection groups are mobilizing their supporters worldwide to clamp down on research whaling at this year's IWC meeting. It's still too easy for countries to ignore the moratorium by claiming whales are being killed for scientific purposes.

Pressure from the international animal welfare community has begun to make a difference with the pilot whale hunt in the Faroe Islands. In recent years, the inhabitants of these North Atlantic islands under Danish administration have taken an average of 3,000 whales per year. Last spring, legislation was proposed which



Whalers now conduct their deadly business under the guise of scientific research (above); whales are "studied" as they're chopped up for meat (left).

— Photos by Lorette Dorreboom/Greenpeace USA

would have significantly restricted the area covered and weapons used in the hunt. These measures were not put into effect, but three beaches have been unofficially closed because their contours made it difficult to kill the animals quickly and because blood from the whale slaughter was polluting nearby fish aquaculture pens. The spear has been banned, and the gaff (a formidable barbed hook) is now supposed to be used only at the discretion of the sheriff supervising the hunt.

The hunt, which is normally conducted year-round, did not start last year until June; the number killed was reduced to about 600 whales as a result. The Dutch government sent a veterinarian to observe the hunt last year, so the IWC will soon be able to review whether or not the Faroese have actually reduced the amount of suffering in this hunt. The issue, however, seems far from resolved. A boycott of fish products from the islands and direct confrontations will undoubtedly escalate if restrictions on the hunt are not increased.

— Campbell Plowden
Whale Campaign Coordinator,
Humane Society of the U.S.

Vivisectors' Apologist Reverses Views on Animal Rights

The following is a reprint of a letter which appeared in the December 15, 1986 issue of *The Scientist* magazine.

In their reviews of my book *The Case for Animal Experimentation* (*The Scientist*, October 20, 1986, p. 19, 20, 22), Robert E. Burke and Jerrold Tannenbaum agree that it succeeds in explaining the nature of scientific research involving animals and in elucidating the requirements of humaneness. Tannenbaum, however, expresses the opinion that the philosophical argument of the book is "superficial, dogmatic and unconvincing" (p.19). He concludes that I "offer a curmudgeonly philosophy that begrudges in principle the humane and decent sentiments it would apply in practice." (p.22).

I have to agree with Tannenbaum. Since I wrote the book, I have come to be profoundly dissatisfied with the approach I took, based on rights possession and a narrow definition of the moral community. I have come to believe that attempts to justify the use of animals for experimentation convince no one except for the already-converted. This is because they rest on a hierarchical conception of ethics and of the relationship between humans and nature which I assumed in the book and which many, now including myself, see reason to reject. There is no nonarbitrary ground on which to argue that the

differences between humans and animals, morally relevant though some of them may be, make humans morally superior and animals inferior or valueless forms of life.

I now think that because humans are the dominant species on the planet, they

have decided to use animals in certain ways and will not yield the advantages thereby gained. But with the power to control nature goes the responsibility to exercise wisdom and humaneness at all times, and to be especially concerned and caring towards sensitive beings of whatever species that are at our mercy. It is impossible for humans to escape fully from their anthropocentric standpoint. Evaluations of things and of features of the world will always be made, and will always reflect their human origin.

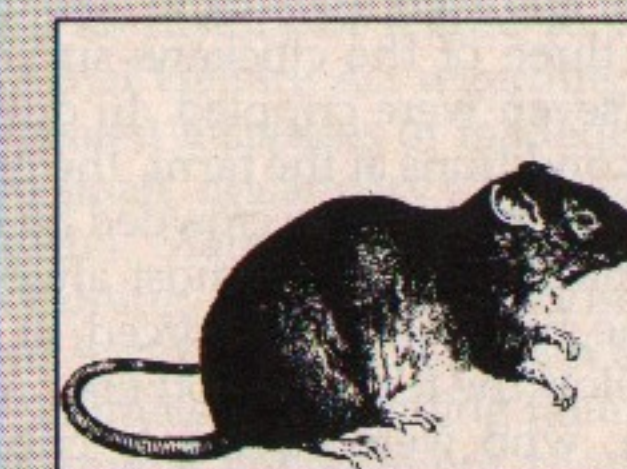
This, among other reasons, is why I still have trouble accepting the notion that animals have moral rights. But I now see no difficulty with the view that we have moral obligations toward them because of the characteristics we recognize in them (i.e., there can be obligations even in the absence of correlative rights).

So I find myself, nine months after my book's publication, in radical disagreement with some of its major theses. Arriving at this point has been both painful and exhilarating. Nevertheless, I think the book contains some merits, not the least of which is it will further debate and reveal a few directions not worth pursuing.

— Michael Allen Fox
Department of Philosophy
Queen's University Kingston, Ontario

THE CASE FOR ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION

An Evolutionary and Ethical Perspective



MICHAEL ALLEN FOX

The author of this book defending animal experimentation has now recanted the arguments he put forth to support the use of animals in research.

■ **Seven rabbits taken by Animal Liberation Front (ALF) raiders** in an October break-in of the University of Oregon's laboratories (see our January/February story entitled "The Animal Liberation Front Strikes Again") were discovered in a rural area about 30 miles south of Eugene and returned to University laboratories, according to newspaper accounts. The rabbits were among some 264 animals taken in the raid. The discovery prompted local newspapers to print stories in which concerned-sounding laboratory services director Greg Stickrod fretted over the fate of the rescued animals, stating, "[four of] the rabbits were found huddled together near the roadside...the clear indication is probably the other rabbits were dumped also." Stickrod went on to say that earlier statements made by the ALF that homes would be found for all the animals taken in the raid "was clearly not the case" with the rabbits, and that released lab rabbits would be unlikely to survive in the wild. Though one can't help but doubt the sincerity of the vivisectors' concern for the welfare of the liberated lab animals, the question of how and why the rabbits were released into the wild remains unanswered.

In an open letter to University officials, the ALF charged Stickrod with misusing the news media and misrepresenting the facts about the break-in to win the public's favor. The ALF stated, "...To the best of our knowledge, all animals were placed in good, safe homes. We rely on an intricate underground railroad network, much like the one used to transport fugitive slaves to the free states of the North in the last century, to bring all of the animals to sanctuary. However, much like the railroad of the 1800s, not all of the oppressed always find their way to freedom...due to unfortunate circumstances beyond our control, [the seven] rabbits have been returned to their tormentors at the University of Oregon. At any rate, this represents but a small percentage of our total effort. Over 200 former victims are now free from the torture and death of vivisection." While most animal advocates applauded the rescue of these animals, the reasons for the rabbits' release following the raid, as well as the fact that much sympathetic public sentiment has been generated for the laboratory, are issues of legitimate concern to the movement. We'd appreciate hearing from anyone with any information about the reasons why the rabbits were found in the countryside.

EDITED BY LESLIE PARDUE



This "veal" calf escaped his fate.

■ **"Howie", a calf destined to become veal**, was rescued in a novel fashion by members of the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) Arizona chapter. Activists had toured the Shamrock Dairy in Tucson last July, discovering filthy conditions, piles of dead calves, and many sick animals. They returned in September, a few days before World Farm Animals Day on the 27th, and arranged to buy one of the calves and to take delivery on the 27th. Little did the dairy know that the "customers" were animal rights activists, and the calf was being purchased for purposes of exposing the cruelty occurring at Shamrock. Though stressed and sickly when sold to the activists, Howie has improved immeasurably since his release from Shamrock and will now live out his life in safety and peace. PETA-AZ also rescued 27 chickens when, during a visit to Fresh Farms, Inc., they discovered a worker wringing the necks of sick and diseased chickens. PETA members simply asked for the chickens, and were allowed to take them. All but three of the chickens survived, though seven were crippled. In describing the conditions at the farm, the group said, "The birds were so crowded [in their cages] that...there was almost always at least one bird who was forced to find space below the feet of the others...many of them, who were obviously crippled from confinement, could not stand at all. None of the chickens looked anything like a normal chicken...some had no feathers left, all had been de-beaked...many of the chickens were panting pitifully from the heat, unable to cool themselves in the crowded conditions." If you still have any doubts about the suffering of animals raised for food, pay an unannounced visit on your local factory farm.

■ **As the 99th Congress drew to a close**, a joint committee of Congress directed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to spend a record \$16 million on the development of non-animal toxicity tests. This unparalleled breakthrough came about as the result of lobbying efforts by animal advocates directed at key members of Congress, who then approached members of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee which funds the EPA. The Subcommittee included the language on alternatives to the use of animals in toxicity testing by EPA in the appropriations bill. The entire sequence of events happened too quickly for the research establishment to mobilize any opposition.

The EPA is the federal agency in charge of testing substances which may adversely affect human health, and sets the standards which are supposed to guide manufacturers in the testing of new products. The EPA has final authority over all chemicals set to be released onto the market. The agency has been buried under a backlog of products needing testing, due to the relative slowness and high cost of animal tests. With greater use of alternative methods of testing, the agency should be able to more efficiently handle the load. EPA must report its progress to Congress at the beginning of fiscal year 1988.

■ **The pound seizure court victory** which occurred recently in Hillsborough County, Florida was a short-lived one for animal advocates. A permanent injunction against the practice of using pound dogs and cats for research purposes had been issued by Judge Vernon Evans in October (see our story in the January/February News Shorts section), but the County Commission voted unanimously in November to appeal the ruling. The appeal lifted the injunction, which means that pound animals in the county will still be sent to the University of South Florida (USF) to be used in research until the appeal is resolved. Counsel for USF promised to join in the appeal, also urging the commission to amend county ordinances so as to legalize pound seizure. The commission has directed its legal staff to prepare such an amendment, despite the judge's ruling and pro-animal public opinion.

The vote was taken in a public hearing held on November 19. A large group of white-coated USF medical students and staff were in attendance, as well as several individuals who claimed their lives were

saved by medical technology obtained through the use of animals in experiments. In voting to appeal, the commission apparently chose to overlook the many documented cases of death and injury caused to humans due to the medical community's over-reliance on data obtained from animal tests. Noting that the commission seems to have caved in to pressure from USF, The Humane Society of Tampa Bay's Director, Phil Snyder, is asking the courts to reimpose the injunction. Hillsborough County is the only county in Florida which still allows pound seizure; in fact, according to a former pound employee, some pound animals are never put up for adoption, but instead are set aside for USF researchers and thus "designated for certain death."

■ **In a coordinated pre-dawn raid** last November 24, the Northern California unit of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) liberated 127 young turkeys and inflicted about \$12,000 worth of damage to a series of turkey factory farms 20 miles east of Sacramento, California. The raid resulted in damage to farm equipment; tractors had their fuel lines cut, tires flattened and engines sugared. At the Omega ranch, where an estimated \$10,000 worth of damage occurred, the ALF put sugar in the transmissions of two tractors and poked holes in their tires. Several buildings used to house the turkeys were also damaged.

In a note sent to news media, the ALF said: "We liberated 127 turkeys [and] within hours they were placed in safe homes by caring humans, safe from the perverse 'tradition' of Thanksgiving."

The police said that the raiders also spray-painted "Animal Concentration Camp," "Meat is Murder" and other messages on many of the buildings.

The ALF said that hormones and other additives were given to the turkeys, making them unsafe for consumption. The turkey farms, after first denying this, admitted to some news media that they did feed antibiotics to the animals, but only "in accordance with federal guidelines."

According to Bernice Arebalo, manager of HSM ranch, "They [the ALF] cut holes big enough for people to crawl in and out" of two buildings. She said raiders carried away turkeys weighing about 12 pounds, but left larger birds.

Spokespersons for the farm said they had already slaughtered most of its turkeys for Thanksgiving. Still, they added, 145,000 turkeys remained at the time of the ALF action. The farm sends its turkeys to Foster Farms.

—Crescenzo Vellucci Jr.

■ **The veal crate was banned in Britain** this past November. The government decided that the use of the crate, which severely restricts calves' freedom of movement, contradicts the wording of the nation's Cattle Code and will be phased out. The organization Compassion in World

Farming (CIWF) led the campaign against the crate, leafletting in towns and cities, demonstrating, and conducting letter-writing campaigns. Bans are also being sought on the battery cage system for caging laying hens and the dry sow/tether stall method of pig confinement.



These young chimps were rescued from a lab conducting AIDS and hepatitis research. It was the first chimpanzee liberation ever.

■ **Four baby chimpanzees** slated to be used in AIDS and hepatitis research were liberated from a Rockville, Maryland biomedical research laboratory on December 7. Members of the animal liberation group True Friends broke into the SEMA corporation's labs, removing films and documents as well as the chimps in a raid which took place shortly before dawn. The FBI is investigating the break-in, said to be the world's first liberation of laboratory chimps.

SEMA houses over 700 nonhuman primates from 11 different species; the primates are used in studies of chemical carcinogens and infectious diseases, including AIDS. Human beings are the only animals who contract AIDS outside the laboratory. The disease is a uniquely human one, and though the virus can be kept alive in chimpanzees, the animals do not develop symptoms. The stolen animals had not yet been infected with AIDS or hepatitis.

SEMA was targeted for the raid due to the nature of the company's research and its history of failure to comply with the minimum requirements of the Animal Welfare Act regarding animal care and housing. Inspectors have cited repeated instances of inadequately trained personnel, use of cages which are too small, unsanitary conditions, and excessive numbers of "accidental" animal deaths. Many animals have died in SEMA's labs of starvation, dehydration, poisoning, anesthetic overdoses, untreated fight wounds, infections, blood loss, and hypothermia. A "steam accident" in April 1985 resulted in the deaths of 26 animals—a plumbing failure caused hot water to spray from the ceiling in an animal containment room, steaming alive the primates inside. SEMA's research is funded by five government grants, totalling about \$1 million annually.

The rescued toddler chimps had been kept in isolation in barren steel chambers, not for any experimental purpose but simply for "convenience". They are reported to be improving in physical health and are very energetic and playful, enjoying the affection and companionship their lives had previously lacked.

SEMA has also been the target of demonstrations by the Fight SEMA Coalition, a group comprised of nurses, animal protectionists, and gay activists opposed to the use of animals in AIDS research.

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◆ NEWS SHORTS ◆



—PETA, DC

Brooks, one of the monkeys rescued from Edward Taub's laboratory, died at the Delta Primate Center after being moved there last June. Now there are only 14 Silver Spring Monkeys.

■ "Brooks", one of the famous Silver Spring Monkeys, died of pneumonia recently at the Delta Regional Primate Center in Louisiana. Brooks was one of 15 monkeys taken from a laboratory at the Institute for Biomedical Research (IBR) in Silver Spring, Maryland in 1981 following the conviction of IBR researcher Edward Taub on cruelty charges. The monkeys were assigned by the court to the custody of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Taub's conviction was overturned in 1983 on the grounds that state anti-cruelty laws did not apply to federally-funded projects such as Taub's. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) has been battling NIH since that time in an effort to have the monkeys placed at Primarily Primates, a primate sanctuary in Texas. But instead, the monkeys were sent to Delta to be used as breeding stock to produce future generations of animals for labs. PETA is urging members of the humane community to keep the pressure on Congress and President Reagan to relinquish the remaining monkeys to the care of Primarily Primates.

■ **The Reagan Administration** is proposing strict new limits on political activities of nonprofit organizations chartered under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. At press time, the proposed regulations are expected to take effect on February 3, barring an IRS extension of the period of public comment, orders

for public hearings, or Congressional action to block the new rules. The regulations would vastly expand the definition of grassroots lobbying; a newsletter including information on pending legislation, for example, would be considered a lobbying effort, as would a direct-mail appeal for funds which contains even one sentence about legislation. Charity groups' expenses on lobbying efforts would be limited to five per cent of their total expenses; the current permissible level is 20 per cent. The regulations would also impose tax liabilities on private foundations making grants to groups which exceed the amount the recipient group can legally spend on lobbying, even if the grant is given for a purpose unrelated to lobbying efforts.

The Reagan Administration, while calling for more private sector initiatives to make up for its deep cuts in social programs, has cut funds available to charities by at least \$30 billion, according to a study by the Urban Institute. Gary Bass, executive director of OMB Watch (a group which monitors and critiques the federal budget), says, "There is a tremendous fear by most of the nonprofit community which understands the implications of these proposals." Groups are urged to contact Senators and Representatives immediately to express opposition to the proposed rules. **The ANIMALS' AGENDA** will be exploring this issue more fully in April's Animal Intelligencer.

■ **Several protest demonstrations** against major cosmetics companies are being organized by the Pennsylvania-based International Society for Animal Rights (ISAR). The first demonstration was held on November 17 and was directed against the Revlon corporation. As we go to press, other demonstrations are planned for January 17 at Avon, February 21 at Revlon, and March 28 at Bristol-Myers. All the demos will take place at the New York City offices of the companies, from noon until 2:00, and all are to be held on Saturdays to encourage attendance by as many activists as possible. ISAR is providing signs and banners for protesters. Says ISAR's Vice-President Nancy Anne Payton, "Token gifts to universities and centers for alternatives [by cosmetics companies] really are just buying time for the companies...simply giving money for alternatives will not appease us...we want to see an end to the use of live animals in cosmetics testing." For more information on the demonstrations, write or call ISAR at: 421 South State St., Clarks Summit, PA 18411; (717) 586-2200.



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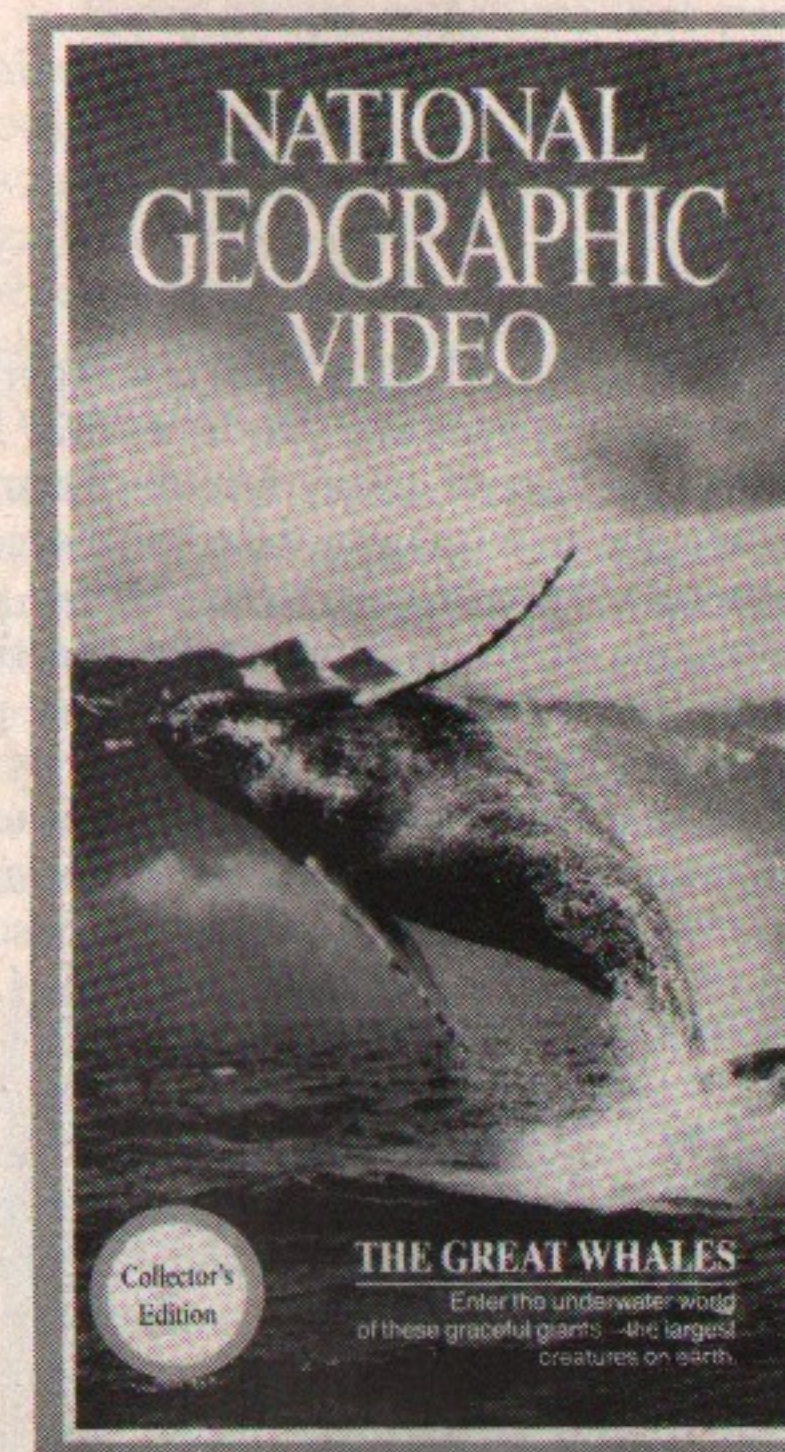
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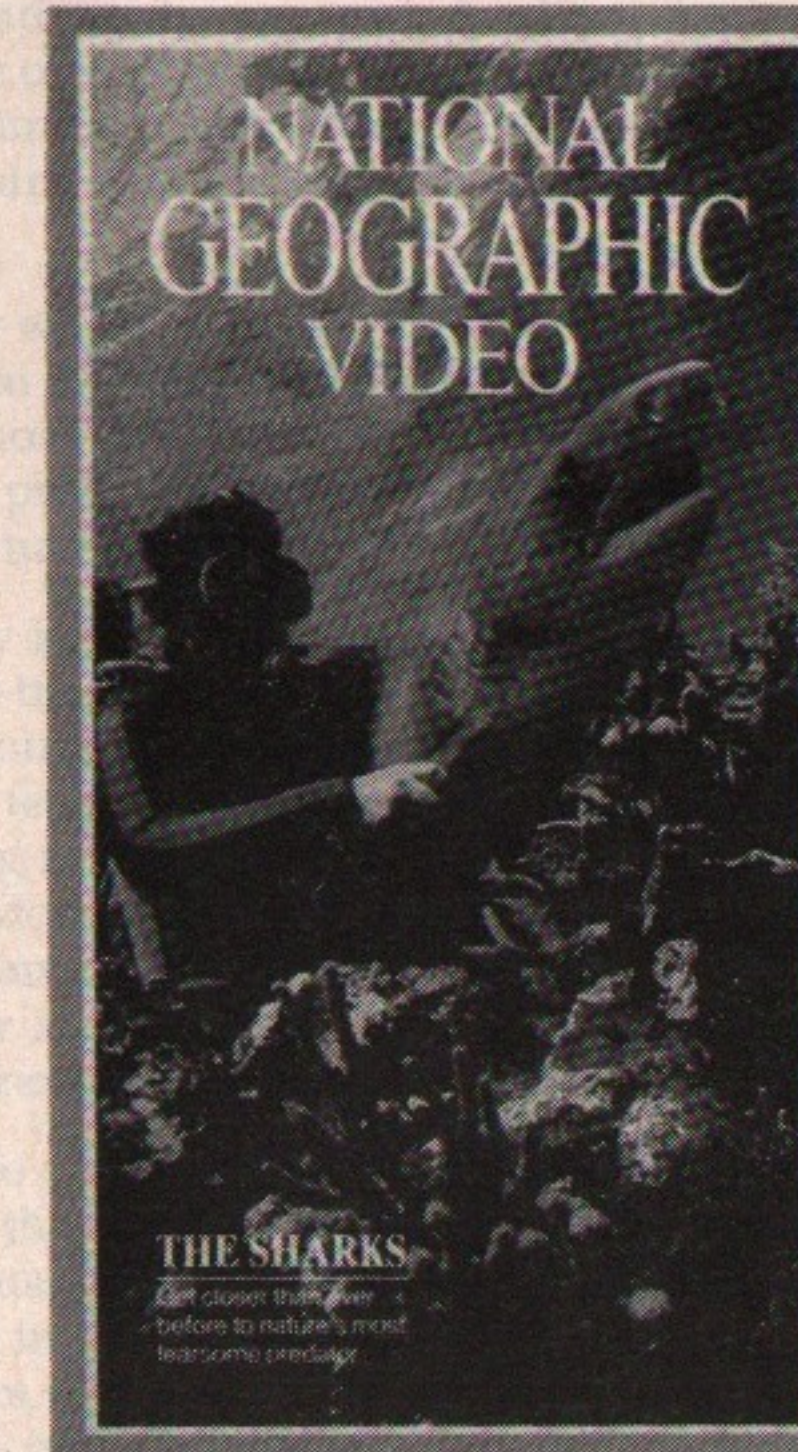
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The Case for Neutering Cats & Dogs

BY KATHARINE BRANT

The fact that animals *feel*—not only physical responses to pain, hunger, cold, and disease, but emotions both simple and complex like fear, anxiety, depression, and love—is either not recognized by a great number of people or, worse yet, acknowledged but disdained. Life on earth is not an easy business for any of us, but to the most helpless and inoffensive creatures often falls the cruelest lot simply because they are born in too great numbers into a world unable to provide for them adequately, and one which is, for the most part, completely indifferent to the inevitable suffering they will endure.

Each year millions of dogs and cats are taken to pounds and shelters to be euthanized because there are simply no homes anywhere for them. Countless thousands more are not even afforded this painless passage out of the world: they die under the wheels of cars, freeze in bitter winters, starve, succumb to disease, become subjects for experimentation in research laboratories, or are tortured to death by sadists. There are simply too many more dogs and cats being born all the time than there are caring persons to provide for them.

The fault is not the animals'. The breeding instinct is one of the most powerful drives in all species including our own—nature's guarantee that a species will survive. It does not take into account the quality of the life that will be created and does not question the necessity, or lack thereof, for copious reproduction.

The blame for the needless suffering of so many innocent animals, then, lies with people who refuse to assume the obligations attending their stewardship of the creatures who have over thousands of generations become human-dependent. These are the individuals who adopt pets on the spur of the moment and then abandon them when they cease to be "cute". These are the operators of puppy mills, and other mass producers of baby animals who operate for sheer profit. And they are the pet "owners" in your own neighborhood who may feed, shelter, and exercise their animals, but never think of having them spayed or neutered.

Most people who neglect to alter their



Shelters and pounds across the nation are full of kittens longing to be freed from their cages.

companion animals are simply unaware of the size of the problem. A dog can produce two litters a year, a cat up to four. Each litter averages from four to ten offspring. With an average lifespan of eight years, a single female is capable of producing anywhere from 64 to 320 more animals! And this number increases exponentially with each generation, since each female pup or kitten in a litter also has the potential, as an adult, for producing the same huge numbers of offspring. When one traces the line of a single female dog and the seven generations of pups born throughout her reproductive

years, the hypothetical total is staggering. If, in the first year, she produces only four puppies, two of them females, the second-year production of first and second generation females is twelve pups, probably six of them females. In the third year, three generations of females produce 36 pups, 18 of them females. By the sixth year, six generations are producing 972 pups; and after seven years, *one single unsplayed female* and her unsplayed descendants have theoretically created 4,372 more dogs.

The procreativity of a male animal may be less immediately obvious, but nevertheless is at least equally appalling in its potential for "inflicting" life on creatures who cannot be adequately cared for: an unneutered male can impregnate literally scores of females during a breeding season and thus be individually responsible for many more times the numbers cited above for the female. People who always insist on taking only a male "so there won't be any babies to worry about", or who don't bother to neuter him, are living a delusion based on the premise that if you don't see something, it doesn't exist.

Thousands of years ago the ancestors of today's dogs and cats were removed from their rightful place in the natural world by our human ancestors who, for selfish reasons, bred out the traits which would allow modern dogs and cats to survive independent of human assistance. Because domesticated canines and felines are so completely at the mercy of humans, we have a collective responsibility to act as guardians for them—a responsibility which may entail making decisions on their behalf that seem to violate their natural rights. But when the alternative to denying "reproductive rights" to companion animals is a life full of misery for most of their offspring, the animal advocate has no choice but to take steps to mitigate the tragedy of dog and cat overpopulation.

Katharine Brant is Director of Development for the Humane Society of Utah, and also serves as editor of its newsletter. She has been active in animal protection work for ten years, and presently shares her home with four dogs and three cats—all former strays.

Myths and Facts About Spaying and Neutering

Every single argument that people use to justify not altering their pets is a cruel fallacy that ultimately means only misery and suffering for more helpless animals somewhere down the line. The following list has been gathered from painstakingly researched and documented studies done by humane institutions across the country, and should be read and taken to heart by everyone who keeps companion animals.

Myth: Every female pet should be allowed to have at least one litter before being spayed. **Fact:** Why should she? An animal spayed before her first heat never knows, and never misses, the experience of breeding or giving birth. Furthermore, she will avoid the sensation of sexual frustration, and the discomfort and risks of pregnancy and labor. She will never get uterine or ovarian cancer, and her chances of developing breast tumors are greatly reduced.



An unsplayed female cat can produce up to four litters per year.

Myth: Children in a family should learn about the wonders of birth by watching a pet have babies. **Fact:** In the first place, most animals will instinctively seek a hiding place for actually giving birth, so the value of the experience as a learning tool is somewhat chancy. In any case, a far more important lesson to teach a child would be that of compassion and concern for life itself by explaining that too many kittens and puppies cannot find good homes and, therefore, the family pet isn't going to have any. If the miracle of birth must be taught at the expense of increasing the glut of unwanted animals, it might be well to show children the other end of the cycle as well: the deaths of masses of animals in a pound or shelter every day.

Myth: It's wrong to deprive an animal of the natural right to mate and reproduce. **Fact:** The altered animal does not experience the urge to mate and is, therefore, not being physically or psychologically deprived of anything. The animal is actually a great deal better off since the neutered male escapes the often vicious injuries incurred in battles over females in heat, and both the unaltered male and female experience severe stress and frustration if they are unable—for whatever reasons—to engage in sexual behavior.

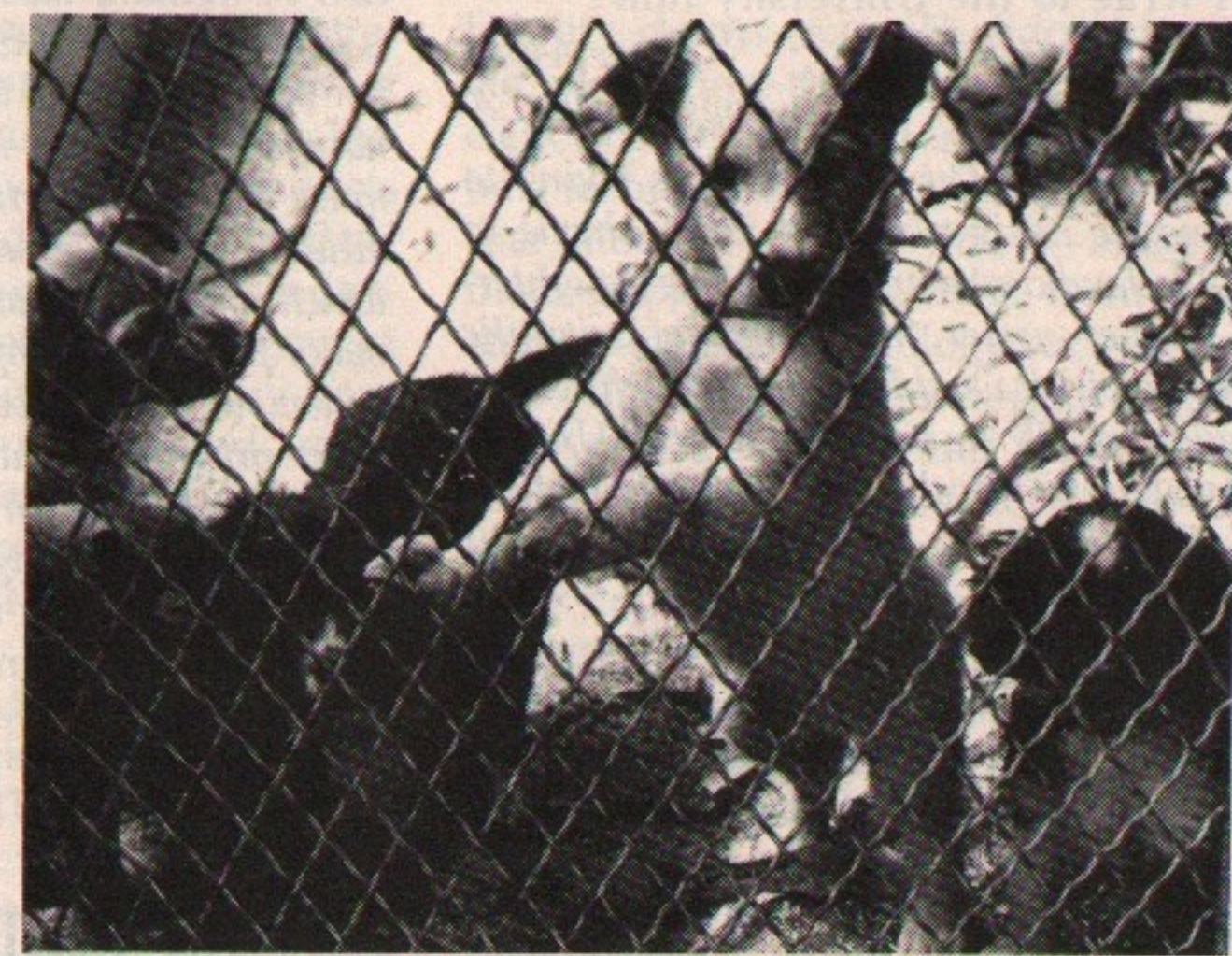
Myth: Spaying and neutering animals alters their personalities. **Fact:** The only personality changes that *may* result from altering an animal are for the better. They become more affectionate and calm, and are less likely to wander from home.

Myth: The surgery will be painful for the animal. **Fact:** The techniques used in modern veterinary medicine are as sophisticated as those employed for human surgery, and good veterinarians provide close post-operative observation and care. The animal's pain is negligible.

Myth: The surgery is too expensive. **Fact:** The cost of the surgery is a one-time investment, whereas when an unaltered animal continues producing litters year after year she requires extra feeding, the new pups or kittens must be fed, and finding homes for them will entail effort and possible expense. Most importantly, the price of the surgery is a minuscule amount to pay for the assurance that one is not responsible for allowing countless new animals to be born into a life against which the odds are heavily weighted.

Myth: Responsible "pet owners" find homes for their animals' litters, so they aren't contributing to the problem. **Fact:** There is no guarantee that all placed animals will still be in those homes in a year or so. And those animals will probably have litters, too—how can the original "pet owner" be sure that the second generation will be placed in good homes? Besides, the fact still remains that there are simply too many dogs and cats being born all the time, and only a limited number of homes for them. Those who do find good homes may displace others who might have been adopted from shelters by people seeking companion animals.

Myth: Humane societies will take care of the surplus animals. **Fact:** Such organizations do the best they can, but, again, the number of unwanted animals is vastly greater than the number of good homes available. Each year in the United States alone, approximately *ten million* unwanted dogs and cats are destroyed in shelters and municipal facilities.



Millions of healthy puppies are destroyed each year because there are no homes for them.

♦ LETTERS ♦

Continued from page 3

aerial wolf control. Apparently in part due to this effort, state-run aerial wolf control was virtually eliminated. The wolf control issue then reached national attention when Defenders participated in ABC News' "Nightline" in April of 1985.

Defenders of Wildlife is proud of the work we have done to protect wolves and other wildlife in Alaska. This continues to be a top priority for us. But, of course, we can't do it all. The fight must be continued by all of us who care. The "land-and-shoot" issue arises again at the Board of Game hearings in March 1987.

—Albert M. Manville
Defenders of Wildlife
1244 Nineteenth Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Editor's Note: As we go to press, THE ANIMALS' AGENDA has learned that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has quietly "re-allocated" \$30,000 to continue aerial wolf hunting. All aerial wolf hunt funds had been eliminated from ADF&G budget, but have been restored using sources ADF&G officials can't or won't identify. For more information, contact Defenders of Wildlife at the above address or The Alaska Wildlife Alliance, P.O. Box 190953, Anchorage, Alaska 99519.

University of Florida Defends Whaling Scheme

I write all the letters you suggest, and received a response from the University of Florida about the Lambertsen "whale research program" (November '86 News Shorts) denying accusations of wrongdoing. Who is telling the truth, and what do I write to the University now?

—Stacy Aspey
Long Beach, CA

Editor's Note: The University is trying to whitewash its involvement in a scheme to allow Icelandic whalers to continue slaughtering whales under the pretext of scientific research which would allegedly benefit whale populations. Write back and tell the University you haven't swallowed its misinformation.

A Narrow View

Saying that a nuclear explosion results in suffering and death for living beings "Preventing Nuclear War is an Animal Rights Issue", December '86 didn't tell us anything we don't all know. Anti-nuclear politics, however, belong in another publication. I wish that you could get past the feeling that we, as animal rights advo-

cates, need to make any apologies to anyone for either the breadth or focus of our moral concern. Everyone does as much as he or she can, and you can bet that the people who help the homeless in the U.S. probably aren't doing too much for the starving in Africa, and they probably closed the door on the last stray dog they found on their stoop, too. The editorial also risked offending in its assumption that "many" animal rights advocates "dismiss" the prevention of nuclear war as somebody else's job. I don't, and at any rate, it isn't for you to tell me how I should use what time is left over from animal rights issues. Nor is it The ANIMALS' AGENDA's job to enlist readers in all causes dear to the hearts of its editors. To put it bluntly, what we readers do in other political arenas is no business of yours. Tell us about animals.

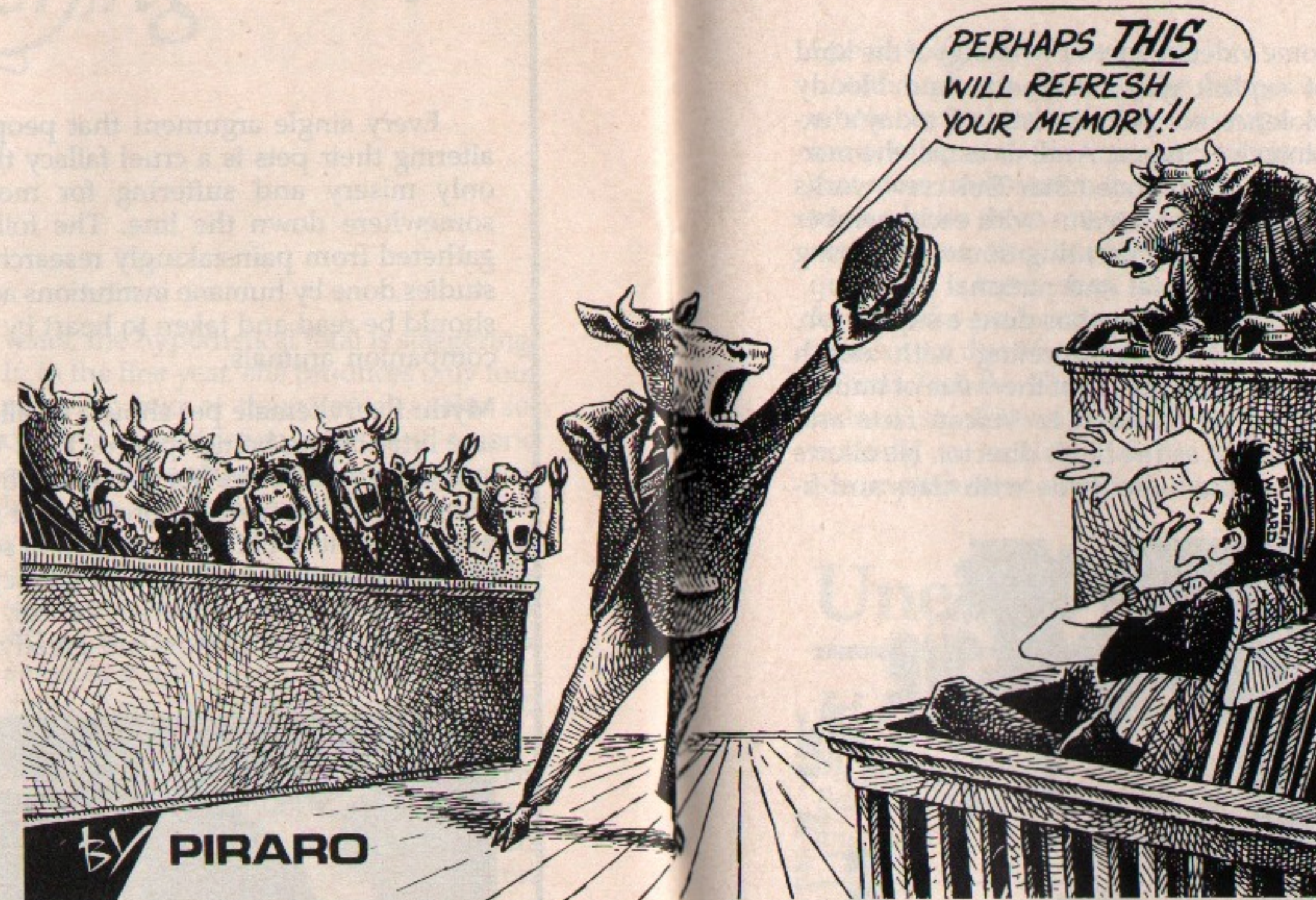
—Karen Sapolsky
Belmont, MA

Editor's Note: The point of the article was not to inform readers about the obvious: that nuclear war is bound to be awful. They know that. But there is a difference between "knowing" something in an abstract way, and in visualizing it in its precise details. The latter usually cannot be so easily repressed in our consciousness. How many people who "know" about nuclear war know also about the likely death of the oceans, the stench that would envelope the globe, and many other hard-to-imagine horrors? Furthermore, war—whether conducted with conventional or thermonuclear weapons—has a great deal to do with animals. Animals have historically suffered on the battlefield, as well as being "spoils" for conquering armies, targets for retaliation, or the first to be "thrown overboard" in a state of siege or post-war devastation. Today they're used additionally to test new weapons of destruction in military laboratories worldwide.

If the movement is to maximize its efforts to "make peace" in the human war against nature and the non-human animal world, it must begin broadening its focus from "undiluted" animal issues to encompass those which connect animal rights concerns to other major problems facing humankind. Failure to widen our perspective and form alliances with other progressive movements at this crucial point in time—when the effects of animal exploitation are glaringly apparent in many of the problems facing the world (environmental degradation, third world hunger, etc.)—will retard progress of the "reverence for life" ethic we are trying to promote.

Saving Little Lives

Last night I stopped by the 7-11 on my way home. Over the counter, a young man was teasing the female clerks with



a worm in a package. He said he worked in a meat market, and he had taken the worm and put her (or him) in a styrofoam package and wrapped it with cellophane. The package was labeled "meat." I thought for a moment about what to say—how much to say—how angry I ought to be—and then I walked over and said, "Here, let me take care of that for you." To my surprise, he handed me the package, and I took it and left. As soon as I got to my car, I ripped open the cellophane and found that the worm was still alive. I drove home, and as soon as I got to my property, I put the package, and the worm, in a damp spot under a tree. This morning the package was empty. The worm was gone.

Today hunting season began. All around me I hear gunshots, and I know that creatures are dying. I do what I can, however, and yesterday I saved the life of a worm.

—Elizabeth L. Howard
Hawthorne, FL

Sending Ambulances to Israel—A Clarification

Your October Network Notes contained some out-of-date as well as some erroneous information regarding efforts to convince the Israeli government to allow donated animal ambulances into the country without paying the \$20,000 per vehicle customs duty, as is presently required.



Appeals sent to the Finance Ministry, the Customs Department, and to Israel's Prime Minister by individuals, animal organizations, and legislators have all been routinely denied. Instead, it has been suggested by a member of Israel's Knesset (parliament) that Americans visiting Israel (especially those with delegations having economic clout, such as tourist or Israel Bonds delegations) make their views on this issue known to Israeli officials they meet.

ANIMALS' AGENDA readers may contact us for more information.

—Nina Natelson, Director, Concern for Helping Animals in Israel, P.O. Box 3341
Alexandria, VA 22302

Singapore Protests Your Protests

Knowing for some time that cats and dogs are tortured, brutalized, and consumed as food in Southeast Asia, I read with interest your Animal Newsline feature (Oct. 1986) which supplied addresses of officials concerned directly with this issue. I wrote to them all, but so far have received only one response—from the Ambassador of Singapore who denies that dogs and cats are eaten in his country. Can you furnish additional information about this?

—Jamaka N. Perrier
Los Angeles, CA

♦ LETTERS ♦

Editor's Note: According to Victor Watkins in the British office of the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA), though dog and cat eating is illegal in Singapore, the practice still exists. Puppies and other animals such as reptiles and monkeys are sold live in the food markets of the "Old Chinatown" section of Singapore, an area of the city patrolled reluctantly by police.

But to that assertion, Ambassador Tommy T. B. Koh of Singapore replies: "First, it is not true that the practice of eating dogs and cats still exists in Singapore. Second, it is not true that puppies are sold to be eaten in the food market of Chinatown. Third, it is not true that the Chinatown in Singapore is patrolled reluctantly by the police."

WSPA publishes regular newsletters loaded with information about animal protection activities worldwide. Its U.S. address is P. O. Box 190, Boston, MA 02130.

Barbie's Inconsistency

Regarding the Mattel, Inc. "Barbie Sticker Album" mentioned in December's Network Notes, did you realize that on the pages preceding the seal-spraying adventure, Barbie and Ken go to a rodeo?

—Julie Houston
Mentor, OH

Editor's Note: No, we didn't see the pro-rodeo spread. Readers can send some information about rodeo cruelties to Mattel, Inc. at 5150 Rosecrans Ave., Hawthorne, CA 90250.

Product Liability Insurance and Animal Tests

Probably few of your readers are aware of the impact that insurers and their reinsurers have in providing product liability insurance to businesses using live animals, such as the household products industry, cosmetics industry, and medical research field. It is the insurance industry that provides protection and payment from legal actions concerning injury from products. If a person is injured using cleaning fluids, cosmetics, etc., normally legal actions will be brought against the manufacturer and possibly the distributor.

Insurers normally do not know much about the products being produced by industrial companies. They will expect the industry to test their products, and live animal testing is the routine method. Until the insurance and reinsurance industry is alerted to the inadequacy of live animal testing and the waste in time, money and life it causes, there will probably be no

real change in the position of industry. Insurers must be made to understand that they are better served by alternative testing rather than live animal testing. The emotion around live animal testing will probably do little to change the course in this regard. They must be shown the leading edge technology in product testing, and how the use of this protects them from large damage claims. They think about money, and claims cost them money. I would suggest that knowledgeable parties press their case to the highest officials of major insurers and reinsurers, showing them that they are better served with the leading edge of non-animal testing procedures. They will listen to the facts. They are business people who must respond to their stockholders and be sure that they will be adequately protected.

Once major insurers and reinsurers providing products liability coverage for industry know of the tests that can replace live animal use, and they are convinced of their accuracy, I believe they will be willing to push clients to change from live animal use to the advanced technology.

The use of live animals in research and testing is, for many of us, repulsive and beyond our comprehension or justification. It becomes even more so when one considers the reasons for the testing (e.g., production of floor cleaner, toilet cleaner, hair spray, lipstick, nail polish, and the like).

Once again, this effort must be on a non-emotional basis. It will require experts to contact the leaders of major insurers, and to present them with the facts. One must show them how they can provide coverage with greater confidence. One must collect data on major products liability claims (e.g., Thalidomide, Tris, etc.) and show the alternatives and efficiency of non-animal testing today. It will be a technical effort, but in the end, one that should—without doubt—make dramatic impact on the change from animal testing to other technology such as tissue and cell cultures, whole organ cultures, the Ames test, LAL, and many more.

It is important to remember at all times that the insurance industry wants to provide coverage. If they cannot make money, they will not provide coverage. The industrial companies need the coverage and need to pay as low a premium as possible to maximize their profits. Both must be shown they will come out ahead by changing from animal testing to other technology.

—Laurence S. Cloutz, President
Reinsurance Intermediary Corp.
Overland Park, KA

A Welcome Time Warp

Star Trek IV—The Voyage Home

Directed by Leonard Nimoy. Paramount Pictures, 1986.

There is a space age limerick which goes:

"A voice from the UFO cried
To the smartest we'll give a free ride.
Several men volunteered,
But the ship disappeared
With a whale and two dolphins inside."

This in essence is the theme of the latest and best of the Star Trek movies, "Star Trek: The Voyage Home." Full of colorful fantasy, far-out special effects, and good-humored satire, this film conveys a powerful "save the whales" message, with lessons for humans in humility and compassion.

Planet Earth in the 23rd Century is threatened with disaster because of its inability to respond to a mysterious sound being transmitted from a great extraterrestrial object aimed at the world's oceans. Encountering this overpowering force in outer space, the Star Trek crew, led by Admiral James Kirk and guided by their Vulcan advisor Mr. Spock, can find no way to communicate with this probe emanating from an "intelligence unknown to us."

To the amazement of all, Spock eventually identifies the probe's transmissions as "the songs sung by whales, specifically, humpback whales." When asked if this was not a strange way to communicate with the people of the Earth, Spock observes: "There are other intelligent life forms on Earth. Only human arrogance would assume the message was meant for man."

The problem, according to the film's futuristic storyline, is that humpback whales "have been extinct since the 21st Century," so "there can be no response to this message." The intriguingly-executed answer is for the Star Trek crew to bring their spacecraft through a time warp back to present-day San Francisco to find a pair of Pacific Ocean humpback whales. When finally transported back to the 23rd Century, the whales communicate with the probe and the world is saved!

Because "Star Trek IV" incorporates basically accurate cetacean information and a moving concern for the plight of whales, and because it will be seen and enjoyed by hundreds of millions of peo-

ple around the globe, this one movie may contribute more to public awareness about the wonder and value of whales than the conscientious efforts of many cetacean conservation organizations. (It's



Photo by Bruce Birmelin/Paramount Pictures

safe to assume, nonetheless, that if the groundwork for public receptivity had not been laid over the past fifteen years by these organizations, a movie like this would not have been made.)

The unusual degree of pre-production consultation with such whale specialists as Roger Payne, and such conservation organizations as the American Cetacean Society, is evidence of the seriousness of the producers' interest in the whale cause. Producer and co-author Harve Bennett has written to Cetacean Society International (CSI): "It does all of our hearts good to know that the film was so well received by the whale community in general since we tried mightily to represent that world with respect and affection."

You don't have to be a "Trekkie" to enjoy this film. Apart from its technical virtuosity, the beauty of "Star Trek IV" has many facets. It is an upbeat, feel-good movie, with a total absence (except for

some video scenes of whaling) of the kind of explicit gore, mayhem, and bloody violence so characteristic of today's exploitative cinema. And, as usual, the marvelously integrated Star Trek crew works beautifully as a team—with each member smoothly representing some endearing temperamental and national traits.

Leonard Nimoy has done a superb job, not only in interpreting with depth Spock's acceptance of the value of human feeling in addition to Vulcan facts and logic, but as the film's director. He allows his points to be made with class and fi-

nesse, and encourages the audience to smile, wonder, cheer, and even weep, but never to take itself too seriously.

Spock: "To hunt a species to extinction is not logical."

Gillian: "Whoever said the human race was logical?"

Kirk: "Irony. When man was killing these creatures, he was destroying his own future."

I found especially engaging the humor of the human sequences filmed in San Francisco, showing interactions between 23rd-Century space visitors and members of the "extremely primitive and paranoid culture" they found in 20th-Century America. The use and misuse of "colorful metaphors" is neatly highlighted by Kirk's wry observation that, "Nobody pays attention to you if you don't swear every other word. You'll find it in all the literature of the period...Jacqueline Susann, Harold Robbins..." "Ah," adds

Spock solemnly, "The giants."

Although, in general, the humpback whale models used for closeups are remarkably realistic, my only criticism is that more underwater shots of real humpback whales were not used in the film to supplement the beautiful surface sequences. I have seen footage of live humpbacks performing almost all of the maneuvers done by models in the movie.

"Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home" may indeed significantly contribute toward making a reality of its fictional accomplishment—helping enlightened

humans and intelligent whales jointly save this planet "from its own short-sightedness." This alone should make "Star Trek IV" a long-term classic.

—Robbins Barstow
Volunteer Executive Director
Cetacean Society International

Editor's note: For readers wanting to send thanks or comments to "Star Trek" producers, the address is: Paramount Pictures Corporation, 5555 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90038.

The Cetacean Society International, an all-volunteer group headquartered in Wethersfield, Connecticut, has launched a global education campaign to educate people everywhere about whales. In cooperation with the United Nations Environment Program, CSI is sponsoring local public awareness campaigns in key countries, utilizing films, videos, slides, posters, and native-language printed materials.

Anyone who wants to act now to save the whales may contact: CSI, P.O. Box 9145, Wethersfield, CT 06109, U.S.A. —

Uneven Affections

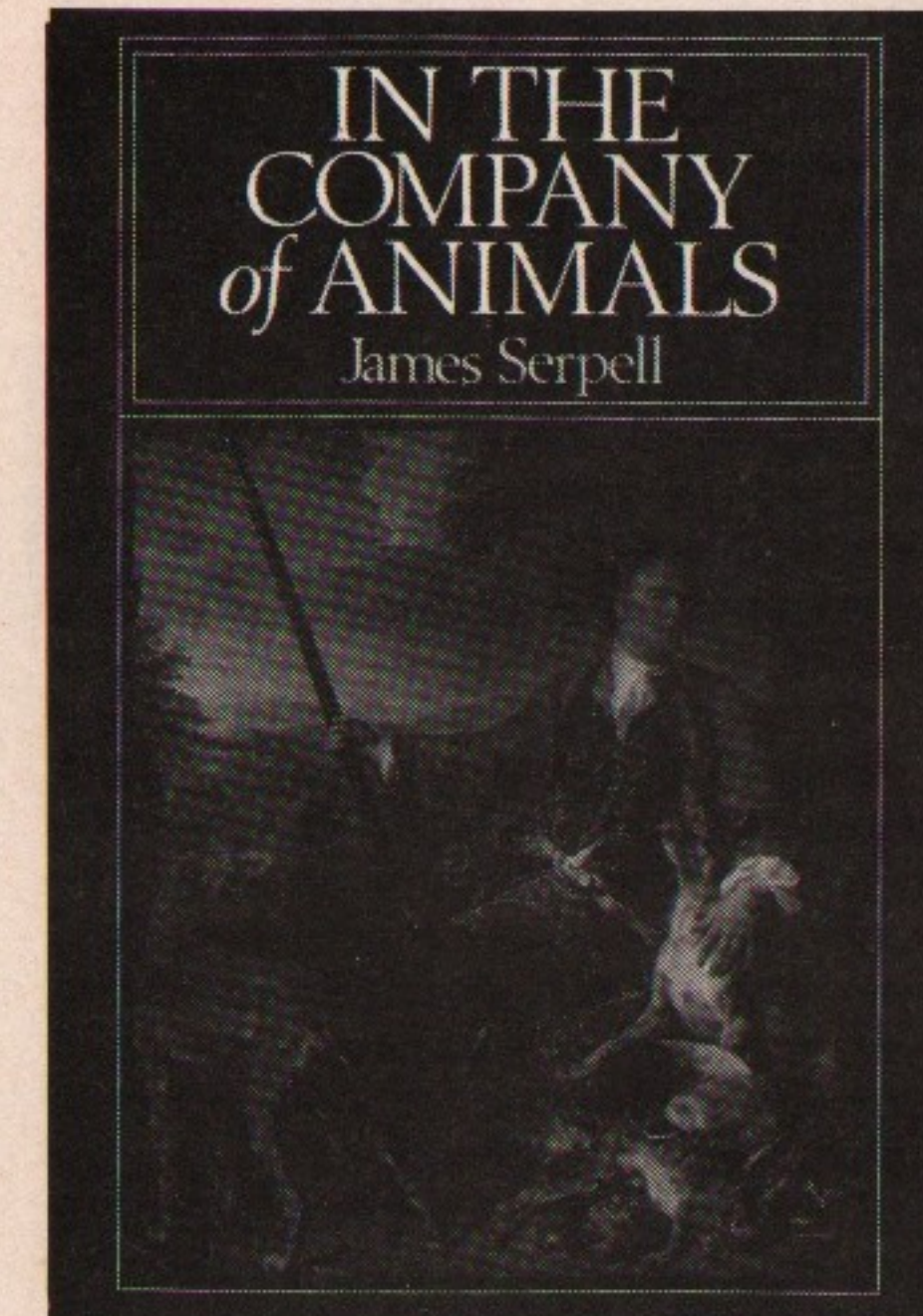
In the Company of Animals

By James Serpell

Basil Blackwell Publishers: New York and Oxford, 1986 215 Pages; \$19.95

James Serpell's *In the Company of Animals* is an in-depth analysis of western culture's arbitrary and contradictory behavior toward different types of domestic animals. Serpell reduces our treatment of domestic animals to its most basic dualism. Some animals (for example, pigs, cows and chickens) are treated like unfeeling machines on factory farms. Others (domestic dogs, cats, birds) are pampered as "pets"—cherished, indulged, and generally regarded as part of the family. Serpell uses the exploration of this contradiction as a wedge to break open the whole argument about animals' proper relationship to human beings. What emerges is a profound insight into the human rationalization process and the elaborate psychological footwork which enables us to abuse animals as we do. The book is not a defense of this behavior but rather an expose of it. Once exposed, Serpell believes, the behavior can and must change.

Much of the book is an analysis of pets and pet-keeping in western culture. Some of us might argue with Serpell that pet-keeping is *not* benign—*not* the flip-side of abuse, but exploitation of another kind. We might point to the millions of former pets on streets, in labs, and in pounds as proof of pet abuse. We might point out that the term "pet" is itself exploitive and demeaning. But Serpell's argument still holds water. He points out that although the culture condones cherishing pets, this caring attitude often has a stigma attached to it. In the popular mind, pet-keeping



is often denigrated as sentimental, silly, or weak. But why? Serpell believes that this condemnatory attitude toward loving pets is the basic component of the complex rationalization system that keeps animal exploitation going. We can't hold two contradictory ideas in our minds at the same time, so "instead of questioning the hardline economic exploitation of animals, we tend...to adopt a condescending attitude to pets." (p. 16) Indeed, our rationalization process is deep and far-reaching. To justify our killing, eating, and torturing of animals we have in-

vented "distancing devices": detachment (from animals and our own feelings), concealment (of animal pain behind locked doors), misrepresentation (of our own motives), and shifting the blame (always away from ourselves).

But what makes us go so far to justify our own greed? What starts the whole process rolling in the first place? Serpell pins the bottom-line cause on anthropocentrism. His book includes a history of speciesism which is nothing short of terrifying in its scope and breadth. But anthropocentrism *must* yield to a more benign relationship with the planet. And Serpell believes that we have a chance to change our behavior patterns now while current ecological crises on the earth are forcing us to re-evaluate our relationship to other life forms. In fact, Serpell believes we'd better change ourselves before it's too late:

The truth is that it is normal and natural for people to empathize and identify with other life forms and to feel guilt and remorse about harming them. It is the essence of our humanity.

But such a change in belief and behavior won't be easy. Serpell points out that we've been deceiving ourselves for so long that we're not even aware that we're doing it anymore. The myth has become the reality.

Perhaps it's the final irony that human beings will adopt a more equal and fair treatment of animals only when it's necessary to save ourselves. But, for whatever reason, let's hope that Serpell is right. Let's hope that human beings can come to some compromise with other animals on this planet, and that a more egalitarian future is in sight.

—Betsy Swart
East Coast Coordinator
In Defense of Animals

Animal Rights in the Theater

The Others

By Rachel Rosenthal

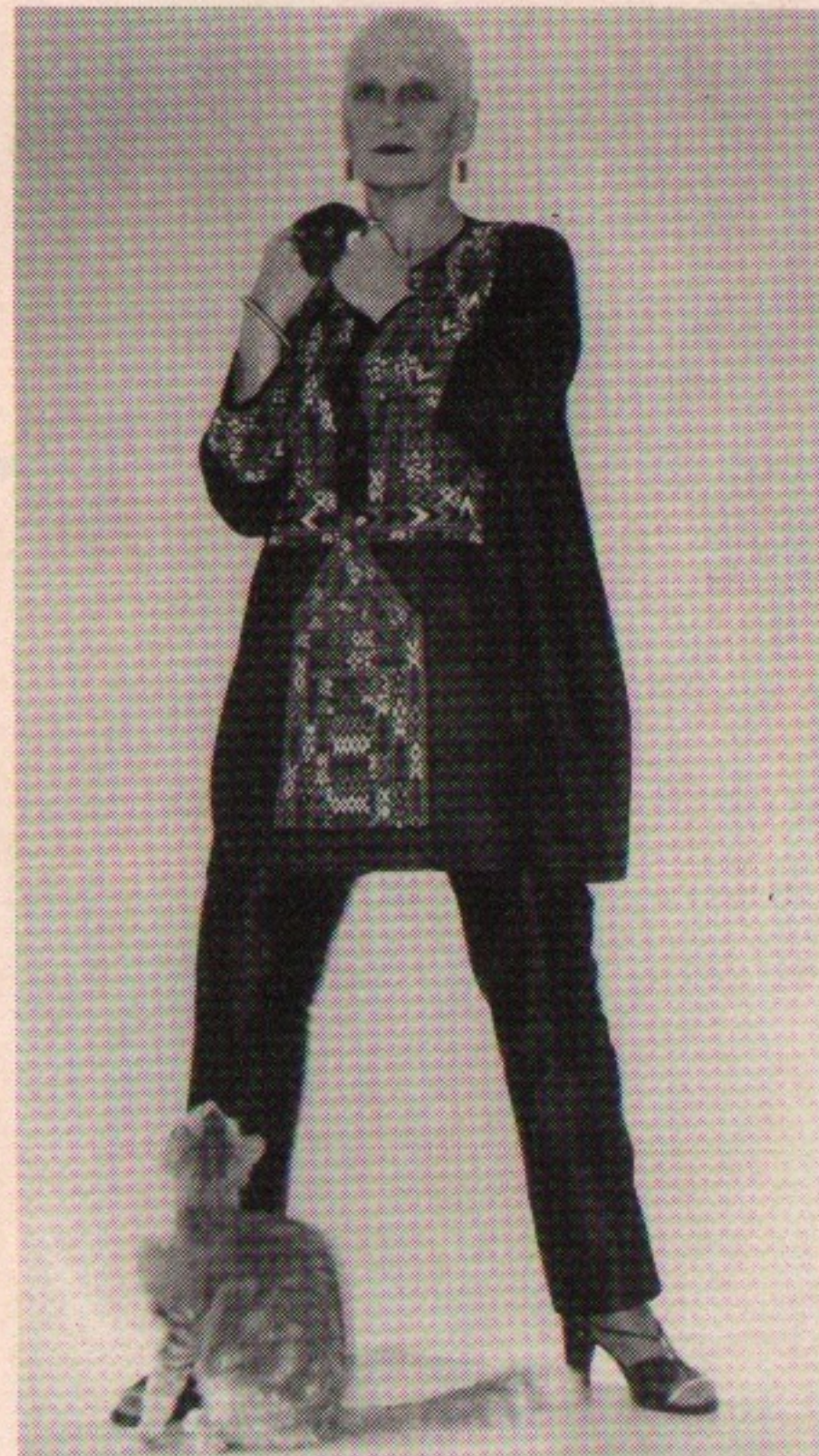
"The Others," is a theater presentation conceived, written and performed by Rachel Rosenthal. North Carolina State University's Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, with support from the Culture and Animals Foundation, sponsored three performances of this multimedia spectacle last Oct. 3-4 as part of "Animal Awareness Week."

Inspired by reading Tom Regan's *The Case for Animal Rights*, Rosenthal attempts to open the audience's minds and hearts to the issue of exploitation. She utilizes music, drama, dance and a cast that includes 40 animals and their human companions. An onstage cameraperson records the action as it takes place and these and other images are seen on a large overhead screen.

The animals are not required to perform or do tricks. This is no circus. Rosenthal believes that performing animals are "an aberration of nature, another form of animal exploitation." Rather, these animals are there so the audience can see their beauty and to evoke the dignity of the animals as individuals. In the program she writes, "This piece is dedicated to those we have hunted, exterminated, despoiled, tortured, eaten, neglected and mocked: our cohabitants on this Planet Earth, the Animals."

As a child, Rachel Rosenthal fled Paris on foot with her Russian parents during the Nazi invasion. Later, in New York, after attending the High School of the Performing Arts, she studied acting, painting, and dance. In the fifties she moved to California and founded the Experimental Instant Theatre and helped found a West Coast feminist art collective. Her performances address social issues that have included feminism, anti-nuclear and environmental concerns. Since researching and first performing "The Others," Rosenthal has become a vegetarian and hopes her art will inspire the same potential for change in the audience.

As is the nature of the performing arts, each presentation may differ somewhat. The animals add an unselfconscious element of spontaneity. Baby, a fawn, was given free reign to wander around the stage. The viewer's eye was drawn back



Rachel Rosenthal, who fled Paris on foot during the Nazi invasion, shaves her head as a memorial to the victims of the Holocaust.

and forth from the innocent baby deer to the harsh image of a masked Rosenthal as dissector/vivisection, scissors snipping at the rubber bodies of small toy animals.

In another scene, the darkened stage lightens to reveal 14 people wearing realistic animal masks, who stand and scan the audience, moving their heads to encompass everyone there. Two men in chefs' gear and translucent plastic smiling masks carry trays of freshly grilled meat into the audience shouting, "Hot-dogs, get your hamburgers!" The smell permeates the audience. Don Preston's original score is moving and effective.

Rosenthal incorporates stories, arguments, ritual, movement and flashing images, all augmented by the dignified presence of the animals. Her intent is to showcase animals that have previously experienced abuse and exploitation. Gail

Heebner of Raleigh spent weeks recruiting local animals. Dorothy, a terrier mix had been rescued from a frozen pond. Whiskers, a stray dog, had been found with her throat slashed. Samson and George, a boa constrictor and a burmese python, have scars from cigarette burns by their former owners. A Barred owl, blindsided by a car and now unable to fly, a horse left to starve in a barn, a blind guinea pig, a greyhound injured in a race—all were on hand to give testimony to humanity's disdain for the animals.

Rosenthal met with and screened the animals and their human companions for several days before the performance. She says she looks for animals that are "cool, non-skittish and not easily frightened." Every effort is made to make sure the animals are not stressed by this experience and their human companions are suitable. Adjustments were made rapidly and thoughtfully when a few minor snags occurred during the first performance. A horse was replaced by a more docile, also previously victimized, horse when it appeared that he was not as comfortable as was desirable.

Seven of the animals were from the local pound. Rosenthal calls them back on stage after each performance to appeal to the audience to consider adopting these and other pound animals. The seven were all adopted.

In a closing scene, Rosenthal is joined onstage by all forty animals and their human companions. One is impressed with their calm and stillness as a voiceover and a slide appears above with Henry Beston's words, "We need another and a wiser and perhaps more mystical concept of animals...they are not underlings; they are other nations, caught with ourselves in the net of life and time, fellow prisoners of the splendor and travail of the Earth".

—Marly Cornell

Readers interested in staging a performance of *The Others* in their areas can write to Ms. Rosenthal in care of The Culture and Animals Foundation, 3509 Eden Croft Drive, Raleigh, NC 27612.

WILL POWER

Please consider The ANIMALS' AGENDA when you make out your will. Make bequests payable to "Animal Rights Network, Inc." (ARN), our publisher. The address is: Box 5234, Westport, CT 06881. If you need more information about ARN, please contact our office.

Jeremy Rifkin

Continued from page 5

this? What's your perception of the movement?

The animal rights movement has been at the forefront of talking about an empathetic approach to science and technology and developing a more congenial way to steward, to care for, and to be a partner with creation. I would hope that the animal rights movement could provide an educational context for other constituencies because what animal rights activists are talking about is not just protecting an animal in a laboratory but developing a new, deep ecology philosophy about the sacredness and integrity of life. The animal rights movement is not only an activist movement. It is an attempt to change the consciousness of the culture. And I think the reason why it frightens and alarms some people is because it threatens some of the very basis of the way we think. It forces us to rethink not only our relationship to animals, but our relationship to each other as well.

Do you then see such a change in consciousness as entailing a new conception of politics, a new sense of what political is?

Most definitely. I think the real agenda for the future is to reshape the dimensions of the political spectrum. The old spectrum, right versus left, doesn't make sense to a lot of young people. The new political spectrum places the sacredness of life on one side and pure utilitarianism on the other. There is a whole new group of constituencies emerging: animal rights, eco-feminism, the bio-regional movement, worker self-management movements, the disarmament community, organic agriculturists and the preventative health people. In one way or another, all these individuals are trying to resacralize life and they are flying in the face of the prevailing worldview.

What advice can you offer to people on the "sacredness of life" end of the spectrum?

We need to weave together the principles in each of these movements into a broad, flexible, empathetic philosophy. There is no reason for animal rights to be separated from environmentalists and for environmentalists to be separated from family farms trying to move toward organic agriculture, or for such farms to be separated from the people dealing with preventative health and holistic medicine.

Each is involved in its own set of issues, but they all represent a broader philosophical focus which says that life is more than just functionality, more than just productivity, more than just expediency, utility and efficiency. What concerns me is that we not repeat some of the mistakes of the last major movement in this country—the New Left in the 1960's. The New Left was strong on activism and weak in philosophical underpinning. We need both. If we have philosophy devoid of action it becomes just an intellectual proposition. If we have action devoid of some kind of substantial intellectual content, it can end up burning out.

Do you have any suggestions for those in the animal rights community in terms of the biotechnology issue?

The ethical questions in genetic engineering are profound. The whole idea of using gene-splicing technology to redesign the genetic code of life is probably the most pressing ethical question the animal rights movement will ever have to deal with. The long-term question is, "Do we have the right to redesign the genetic code of living things?" If we do, what are the parameters? This is a journey in which we are becoming the architects of life. It's not 20 or 30 years from now. It's happening right now, although the technology is still crude. I would hope that the animal rights movement is beginning to see—and I think they are—that this is the frontline battle for animal rights across the world for the next 50 years. I think individuals should start looking into the genetic engineering research which is going on in universities and corporate laboratories across the country, and begin to challenge that research. I would also like to see people become very involved in the Bovine Growth Hormone case, because it will show the willingness of the animal rights movement to work with other movements and people, in this case the family farming movement. We need a long-term strategy in the animal rights movement to counter the biotechnical revolution and to advocate alternative approaches to science, technology and public policy. That's a pretty big agenda for now.

Dave Macauley is an independent animal rights activist and writer based in Washington, D.C.

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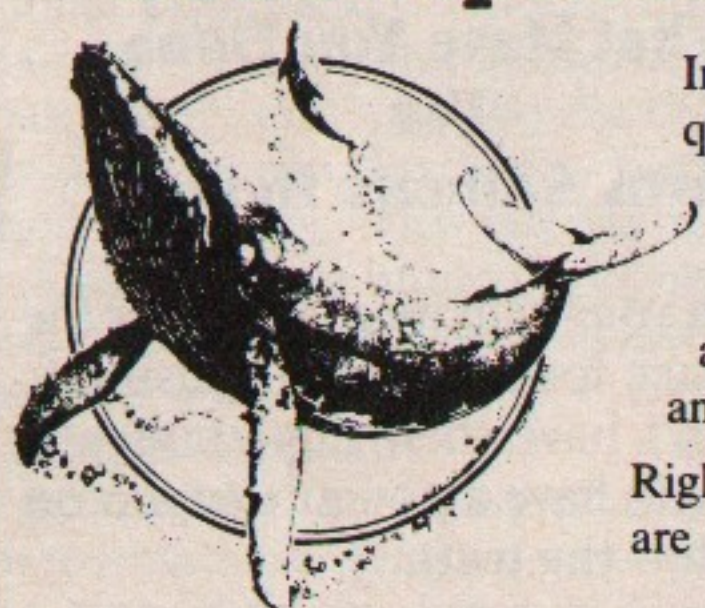
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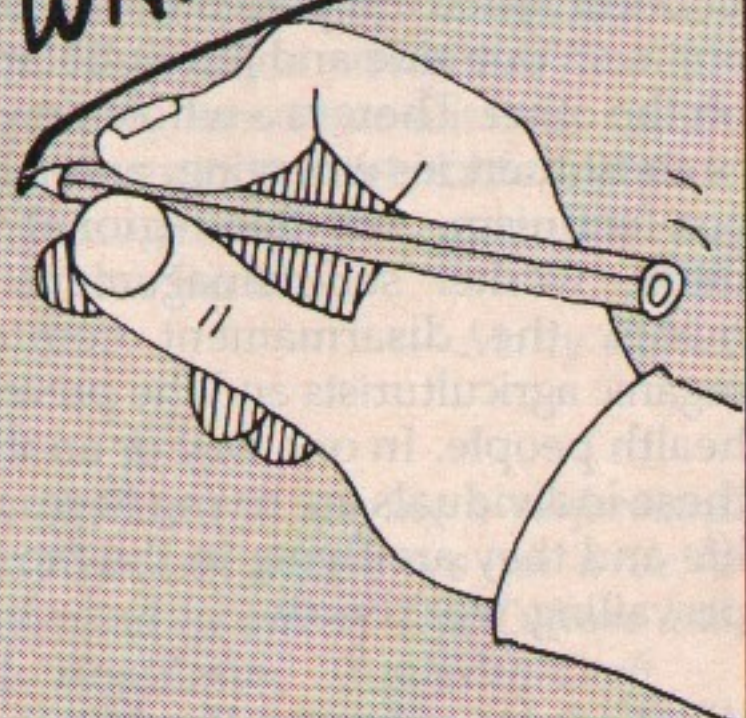
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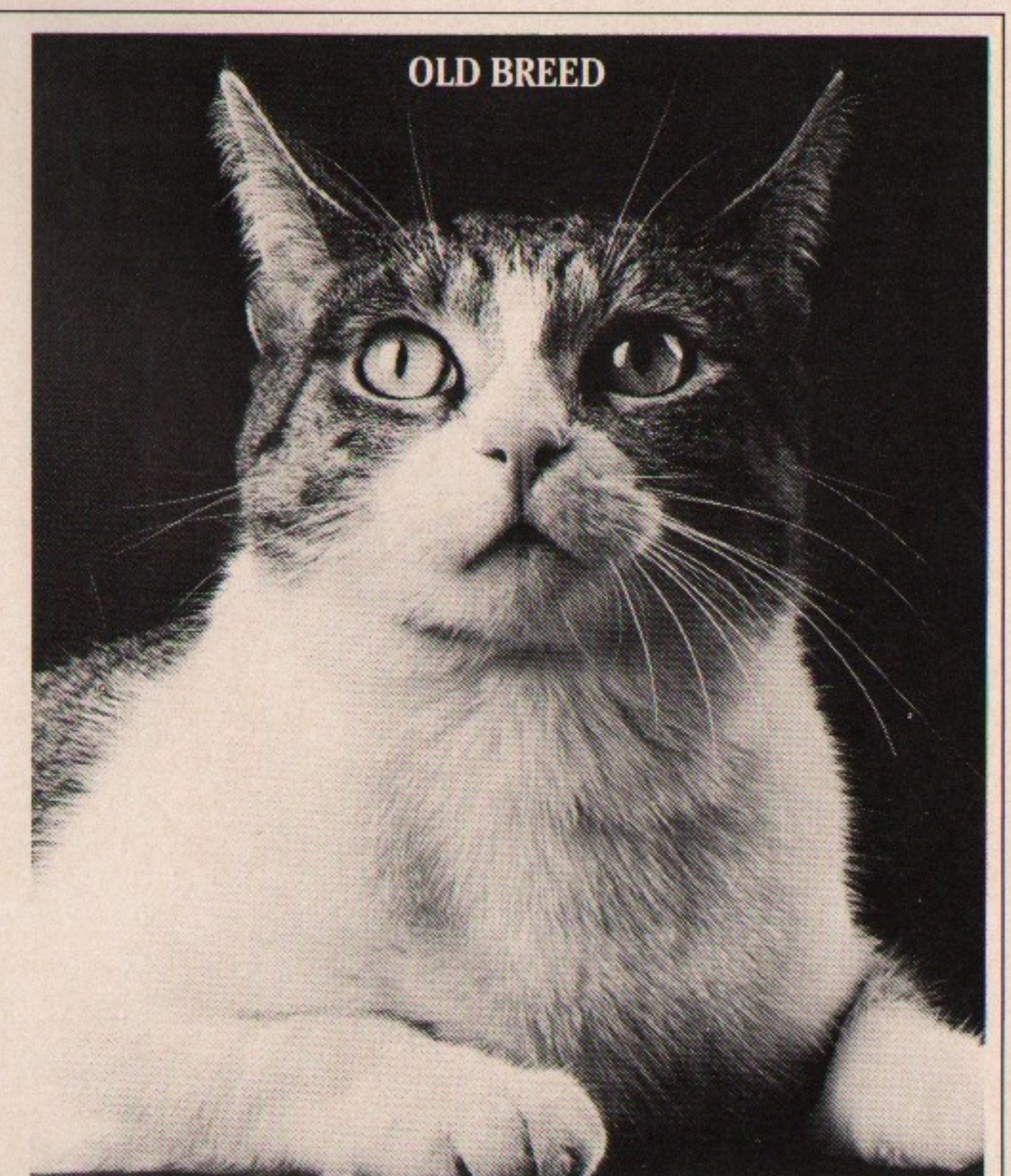
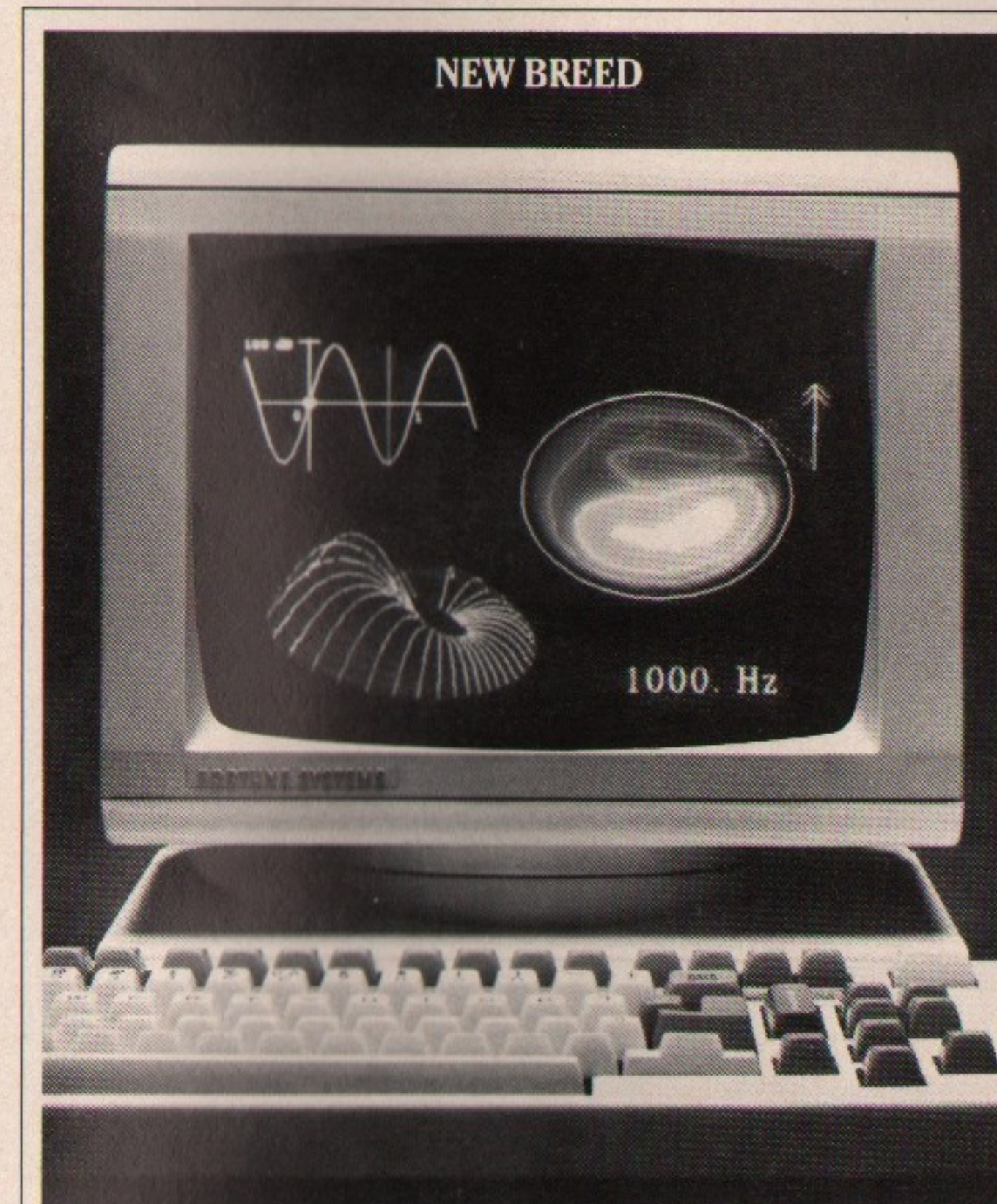
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ANIMALS' AGENDA READER PROFILE #47

FARLEY MOWAT

HOME: Port Hope, Ontario

AGE: 65

PROFESSION: Writer and naturalist

HOBBIES: Taking the mickey out of all bureaucrats and other such cementheads.

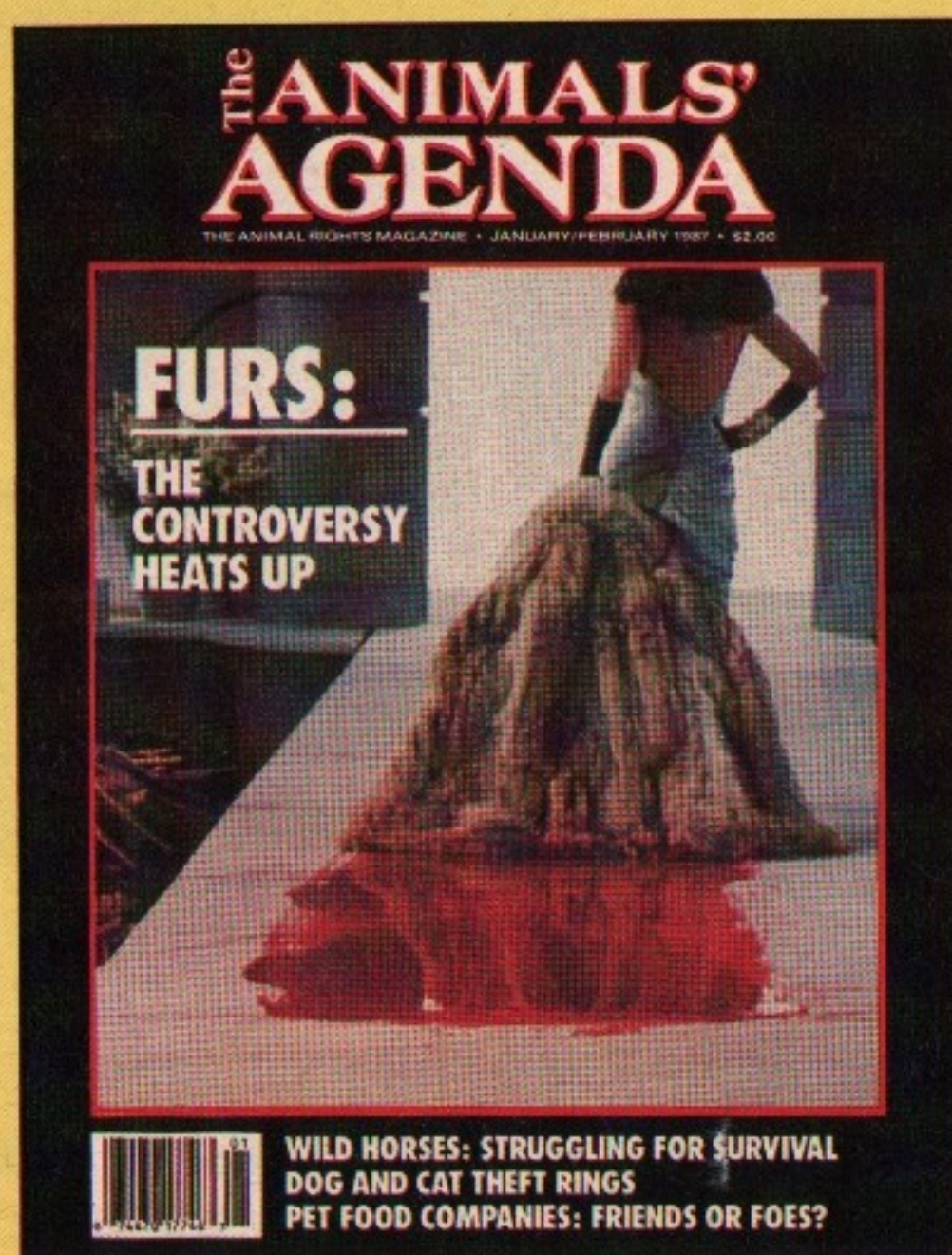
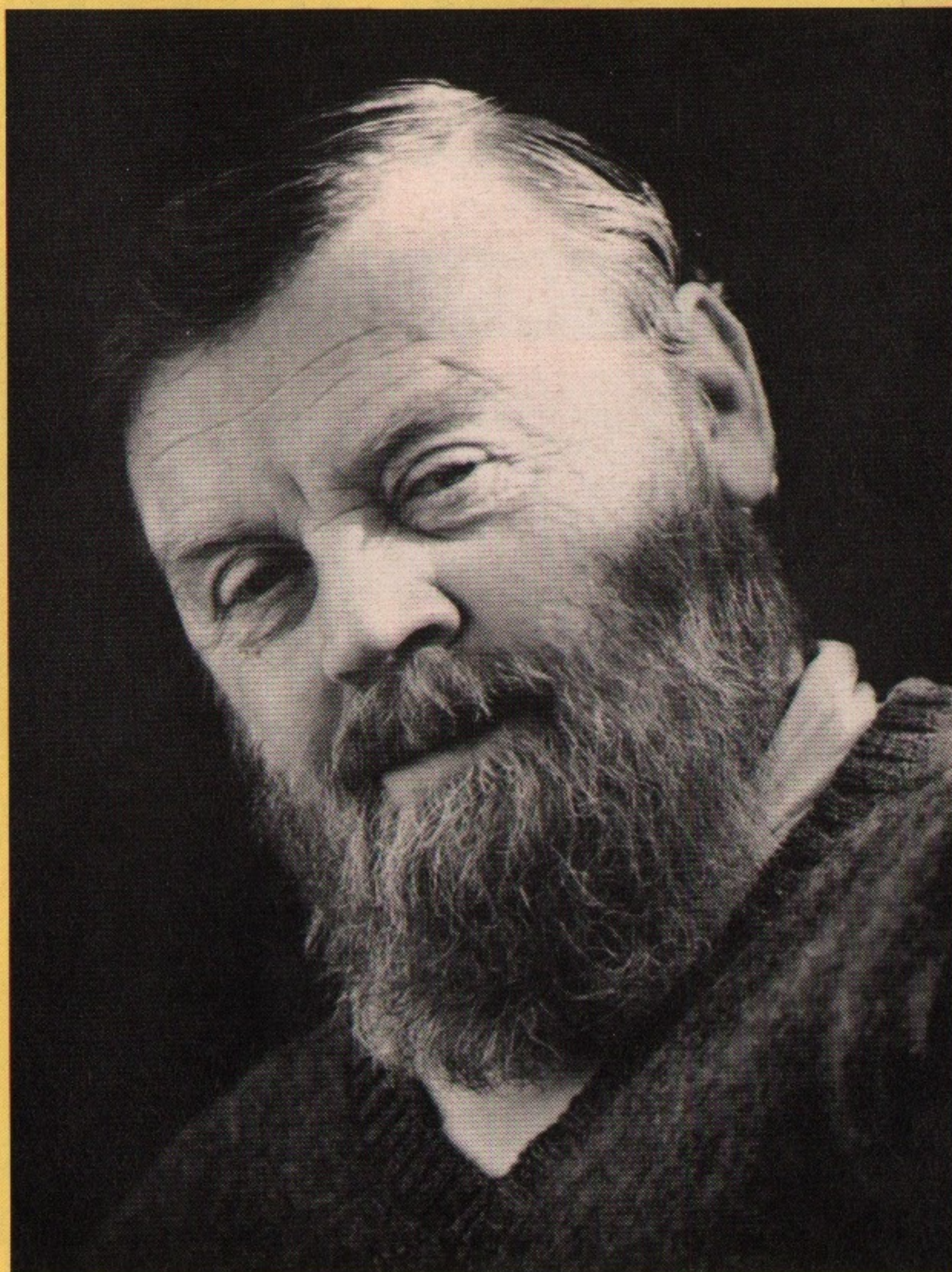
MOST MEMORABLE BOOK: Who am I to say? Many people think it might be *Never Cry Wolf*.

LAST ACCOMPLISHMENT: *My Discovery of America*—being an account of how the cementheads in Washington prevented me from entering the United States to propagandize my book *Sea of Slaughter*.

QUOTE: "When human beings learn to treat the rest of animate creation with generosity, sympathy and understanding, they may finally become humane."

PROFILE: Doesn't mince words when defending animals and nature. Writes his stories on an old trusty Remington. Has no use for U.S. immigration officials.

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