THE HOMELESS PET TRAGEDY

Why is the needle the only solution for 20 million cats and dogs?
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An Endless Quest

It is one of life's greatest ironies that one may know all the facts about a subject and miss the inherent truth. Discernment of truth may be as much a process of reason as it is investigation.

Reasoning is basically a three-step process, though it may happen with lightning speed or require a lifetime, depending on the complexity or perplexity of the problem at hand. It requires that we think, achieve understanding, and finally: draw conclusions. Seldom, however, does one attain what might be called a "supreme truth," one that will be as valid tomorrow as it is today. More likely, our "truths" will be of temporary duration or overtaken by additional information. Truth evolves and grows with time. And the strength of one's commitment to it is demonstrated not by how fast we hold onto the obsolete, but by the ease with which we give it up in favor of a new revelation.

From time to time, philosophers have presented their contemporaries with new theories of "absolute truth." Rarely, however, have they constructed formulas for extracting it. One such formula, with roots that extend back to Socrates' procedure of question and answer, was most thoroughly described by Hegel as the dialectical method. A dialectic is a process of reasoning involving, again, three steps: thesis, antithesis, and synthesis. But it can be most easily understood as a method of reconciling one extreme of contradiction or contrasting idea into a higher, or more complex, concept.

Writing about the historical dialectic in terms animal rights activists will surely relate to, Will Durant explained that "the future will see neither the present reality nor the visioned ideal, but a synthesis in which something of both will come together to beget a third reality. And that higher stage too will divide into a productive contradiction, and rise to still loftier levels of organization, complexity, and unity...The dialectical process makes change the cardinal principle of life..."

In the broadest sense, the animal rights movement is composed of all the people who are working towards a new awareness for relating to animals. At the extreme are those who demand nothing more than elimination of "unnecessary" suffering, at the other end of the spectrum are the radical animal liberationists. Of the millions of Americans who can be loosely described as belonging to animal rights movement, the vast majority occupy the philosophical middle ground. While the disparity of views underlies the inherent conflict in the movement, it also provides an ideal dialectical situation. Through the open process of a dialectic, fresh ideas can be conceived, new truths validated, and current ideas incorporated to establish stable doctrine. The dialectic model provides a way to arrive at a specific situation.

In this issue, we touch on the moral dilemma presented by animal shelters, those sad places where animals are killed so that they may be helped. There, the desire to aid and preserve life—the noble impulse that leads people into humane work—gives way to the realities of the dog and cat overpopulation tragedy. In the animal shelter, a dialectic between idealism and realism might prevent a creative and life-affirming solution. But the process will flourish only in an atmosphere of tolerance and mutual process.

Often in the pages of The ANIMAL'S AGENDA, we present opinions that may not reflect mainstream animal rights knowledge. If the views expressed do not necessarily reflect a consensus position on the part of The ANIMAL'S AGENDA or The Animal Rights Network, Inc., our parent organization. Ideas or statements occasionally be controversial, or even offensive to certain segments of the movement. But it is our hope that they will always be provocative, and that their magnitude will serve to bring about the evolution of a viable system of ethics, helping to turn today's visions into tomorrow's realities.

Sabbats Not Satanic

I work with the Thomas Morton Alliance, a political group for persons of pagan earth-focused spirituality, and I applaud your animal sacrifice perspective, especially for the gods," Animal Newsletter, January 1980."

I am pleased that you made a distinction of pagans or witches, for animal murder has not always been a sanctioned part of the movies. Paganism is a religion of balance with the Earth and those who walk, claw, fly, or swim. Satanists is not Paganism, and neither is Saturnian, so I got concerned when you mentioned Sabbats. The eight Sabbats of the year (called by a variety of names, but usually Yule, Imbolc, Spring Equinox, Beltane, Summer Solstice, Lughnasadh, Autumn Equinox, and Samhain) are Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays. They are not Satanic. Pagan holidays.

—Billy Ray Boyd
San Francisco, CA

Criticism from Congress

The animal rights lobby needs to be better organized. As a senior legislative aide to a Member of Congress who handles animal rights, I am always amazed at how a body of people who supposedly believe in a cause, yet — year after year — show no progress in informing policy- makers of their viewpoint.

While sit-ins and protests may be effective publicity stunts, they do nothing for Congressmen, who regard animal rights activists as just another fringe group. Firm and persistent dialogue with legislators is the best way to ensure the passage of animal rights laws. I recommend that interested parties ask for a yes or no answer when writing to Washing- ton; otherwise, the response is likely to be of the "keep your views in mind" category.

Personally, I believe in conservation of public lands and a balanced wildlife pro- tection program. But I also believe in biomedical research with experimental animals. To be sure, there are gross over- exes in many fields of animal research. At the same time, however, I believe that such research has provided many medical breakthroughs that would otherwise not have been possible. The strident "all or nothing" attitude of many animal rights activists automatically alienates this group from elected officials who, by the nature of their profession, are practiced in compromise and give and take.

While it is obvious that I do not support many of the animal rights efforts, I do encourage those of you who do to make your voices heard. This is the only way our democratic functions on Capitol Hill. Personally, I do not enjoy answering (on the Congressmen's behalf) letters from animal rights activists simply because of their knee-jerk reaction to many of the issues. The correspondence comes in waves, too. All I have to do is pick up my numerous animal magazines, and I can gauge when the mail will come and what it will be about. If activists are serious about protecting animal rights, they should write frequently, concisely, and — please—originally. Letters by note only beget role responses.

—T.B.
Washington, DC

More letters pages 4, 5, 6, 56, 57

Book Recommendation A Mistake

I recently purchased the December 1987 Review of the book Who Goes First? as well as the introductory designation "Heroes in White". To my extreme amazement, I discovered that the book was not in the list of books available. A more accurate title would have been Who Goes Second. I am sending you virtually all the exhibits cited in the
**TWISTED IMAGE**

by Ace Backwords

**LETTERS**

**BUT DOCTOR SKUZZ... I THOUGHT YOU ALWAYS MAINTAINED THAT...**

WRATH IS A LABORATORY SUBJECT... IT'S JUSTIFIED BY THE ADVANCES IN SCIENCE IN MEDICINE.

**YES, BUT SOMEHOW THE WISDOM OF THAT PERSON recently seems so terrible right now...**

Continued from previous page

The procedure was tried on animals first. Your reviewer never mentions this. Although I applaud the researchers for being the first human animals on which they experimented, my plaudits will never go to those who sacrifice nonhuman animals first. Your reviewer quoted some lines from the book which she believes are accurate: "It is the fool who takes pride in being independent thinkers and intellectual revolutionaries." We all know of countless experiments that are totally useless, have been repeated for decades, and would be described more accurately as either demonstrations, in the domain of torture; or playing the "basic science" game which suffocates the scientists' brains as they comfortably enjoy the enormous funds dumped on them by intimidated government agencies. Those who conduct such experiments can hardly be called "intellectual revolutionaries.

A truly accurate quote from that book that would have been far more appropriate would be: "Researchers have become increasingly dependent on their ability to publish in the medical literature in order to win promotion and continued financial support." And "...research, it would seem, must be conducted not only for its sake, but to gain both salary and advancement. No wonder the desire for short cuts to attractive answers blinds the investigator's judgment about what is and what is not appropriate..."

Your reviewer ends the piece stating that the book counters "the tried, overworked argument... had it been for experiments on animals..." There is no logical way she could have come to such a conclusion from reading this book. All the review will accomplish is to produce chauvinists about our movement's inability to get the facts straight in something as basic as a book review.

Lawrence Alman's book can be of use to us for his many quotes about the restrictions and efficacy of using animals in many kinds of experiments. Let's pay attention to those statements of fact that will get us our point across against anti-vivisectionists, and not become apologists for any researchers who use animals.

—Rhoda M. Kahn
New York, NY

**Dole Dilemma**

Patrice Greenville's article, entitled "The Dole Dilemma" (Animal Intelligence 4, April 1988), would better be described as a "commentary." The article is obviously Greenville's biased attempt to discredit the only presidential candidate— in either party (by Greenville's own admission)— with a positive track-record on animal issues solely on the implied grounds that Senator Bob Dole is alone in his view on world issues. A pragmatic analysis of Dole's political position and views will appear in the May/June issue of The Animals' Voice magazine, published by the Compass for Animals Fund, of which I am founder.

It would be great if 230 million Americans shared Greenville's socialist idealism, and perhaps—over the next two hundred years—the world could change accordingly. In a democratic society, pragmatism is a weapon the animal rights movement should discover; it is the tool by which our "indispensable task of building a man social base" can be reached within the foreseeable future.

Dole may very well be the next President of the United States—with or without the animal defense community's endorsement—or, at the very least, continue on in the powerful position as Senate Republican Leader. It would be wise for us to join Dole in the White House; doing so gives us a golden opportunity to show what's best for animals, as well as allowing us a chance to enlighten the President on related matters which we find to be of equal importance.

Greenville's attack on Dole serves only to sabotage the integrity and credibility of many animal rights activists who must work with the U.S. government, not against it. It is unfortunate that because of Greenville's prejudice and bias—as well as the use of The ANIMALS' AGENDA as a forum for his inflammatory innuendo and rhetoric—some prominent activists who have joined the "Dole bandwagon" are being led to believe they have partaken in a "betrayal of what the animal rights idea is supposed to be" and are supporting a drive which is "seriously misguided." This is an insult to those activists who have worked diligently on Bis-acid "Campaigns" for animals, and serves secondly to undermine what little strength and unity we now share. In the words of The ANIMALS' AGENDA's March 1988 Page One editorial— in criticizing colleagues in the movement, it's important to retain from impugning motives. Let's limit ourselves to criticizing each others' methods, not people. A strategy— if it seems called for—and stop short at the sort of criticism that can only have a corrosive effect on the movement, from inside and out.

Most importantly, alleviating and eliminating the suffering of nonhuman animals now, today—not "frustration with the slow pace of events"—is the reason why many of us are "going for the quick fix," isn't it the basic truth. It isn't even a bad idea. How much time is going to pass, how much "patience" do we demand from the animals whose minds, bodies, and lives are at this very moment being tortured, tormented, mutilated, and exterminated while we wait for a total "expansion of the realm of moral consideration?"

—Gil Michaels, Animal Welfare Liaison Dole for President P.O. Box 5312 Beverly Hills, CA 90210

**Tigers Drug-Shot**

The zoo article in the March 1988 issue was very good, but there was an error in the part about the Detroit zoo. Although the outcome was the same, the "surplus" Siberian tigers killed in 1982 were not shot. They were injected with an overdose of barbiturates and chloroform.

—Dot Deam, Field Agent The Fund for Animals 2811 Colony Road Ann Arbor, MI 48104

**Classroom Vivisection**

Thank you for the informative and important article on vivisection in school science fairs ("School Days, Cruel Days," January/February 1988). Unfortunately, this sad state of affairs is only a symptom of a deeper problem alluded to in the article, namely, that of vivisection in education.

I would like to draw your readers' attention to a statute passed in 1984 by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This law, which was the result of intense lobbying by the Massachusetts SPCA, represented the first American victory in the struggle for the rights of laboratory animals. The current form of this enlightened legislation, enacted in 1989, reads in part: "No school district, school administrator, or teacher shall allow any live vertebrate to be used in any public school..."

Continued on next page

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**Tigers Drug-Shot**

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Pamela Marasa, 451 Queen Anne Road, Tenneck, NJ 07676 (201)563-7820
Continued from previous page

elementary or high school... as part of a scientific experiment or for any other purpose... whether health or safety of said animal is interfered with or where pain or distress is created is debatable.

The Massachusetts law also bans the demonstration of vivisection in classrooms. While the measures suggested in the article are important, no action is likely to have a long-term impact in this area than the passage of similar legislation by other states, counties, and cities. Concerned citizens who wish to use the Massachusetts statute as a model may want to write to me.

Also worth noting is a British law enacted in the last century which forbids the use of live animal experimentation in education—ever at universities and medical schools.

—Gal A. Agha, Ph.D.
Cambridge Committee for Nonviolent Research
P.O. Box 1626
Cambridge, MA 02238

Too Many People

I was interested to read the interview with Dave Foreman of Earth First! (December 1987). Although there is obviously a conflict between some of his views and the animal liberation philosophy, animal rights campaigners should not take the serious tone of a time test to heart. The idea that there are far too many people on this planet, for instance, and the fact that we “are acting as liberal reformists in assuming that by living in our own way, we are liberating others from their suffering and using cruelty-free cosmetics we are significantly reducing the suffering.”

Of course, it is right and necessary to avoid the products of animal experimentation, etc. to encourage others to do the same. Hopefully, this boycott will help to eventually bring this rejection, the future factory, factory farming, and perhaps even the meat industry to an end. This will get rid of the “repression” and will be further influenced by the much more serious problem of actual “enemy occupation.”

The extreme forms of animal persecution are just the tip of the iceberg of which human imperialism has invaded, occupied, and desecrated the homelands of animals. Instead of limiting its numbers to something fair and reasonable in relation to the other animal species (perhaps Dave Foreman’s optimum population of 50 million people worldwide is about right), the interstate commerce has gone forth and multiplied with horrendous consequences for all other species.

Continued on page 56

KINERAT SHAMPOO

KATRIN SHAMPOO

continues

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Proteins, the primary source of protein, in the hair, to penetrate and

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CATALOG

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Cruelty-free cosmetics as they’ve never been before! You can look beautiful and still be cruelty-free with these dazzling colors for day or night from RAINBOW.

Also from ECOBELLA, a beautiful catalog with a color chart for the cosmetics and over 100 other glorious products. To view or to order, write: ECOBELLA, Box 168, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12602, or call: (914) 489-7352.

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Putting Animal Rights Into Action

An Interview With David Willis

BY WAYNE PACCELLE

From the moment I arrived in Detroit, Willis seemed more like a tour guide than an interview subject. For four days, Willis, the executive director of the Michigan Humane Society (MHS), took me through virtually all of the MHS’s numerous facilities. Finally, after that initiation, Willis sensed that I was adequately exposed to the MHS’s unique operation to conduct the interview. It was none too soon. My plane was departing in a few hours and Willis is completing his Ph.D. in philosophy, had to leave for class shortly. So, with a feeling that there was no time to waste, we headed out in such a cramped, desk office, Willis offered, “At the MHS, excess working space doesn’t go to humans.”

When you came to the MHS eight years ago, what kind of shape was it in? The MHS was heavily dependent on funds from zoos in 1979. More important, the public perceived it as a place to bring and kill animals. It didn’t sterilize animals before they went out, did little adoption screening, and, up until 1979, gave away animals at mall shows. Almost 50 percent of its income came from contract income paid by the cities to kill stray dogs. It had literally become little better than a poor dogs’ pound release at state committee hearings in Lansing, Michigan.

What image of a humane society did you want to create?

My idea is to take the rhetoric of animal rights and apply it in the field. We try to meet the needs of our clients (the animals) by creating community service centers. We are a mix of a hospital and a YMCA. The program is geared toward taking in an animal, making the determination of his or her adoptability, and, once that decision is made, throwing everything into getting that animal into a humane environment!

In a sense, the public has looked upon humane societies and shelters as our sinkets. Give us ten dollars, and then walk away and forget that a serious social problem exists. We don’t apologize for the problem. We want to teach people who contribute to pet overpopulation problems to be more responsible and, in a larger sense, to treat all animals with respect.

What are the major structures of the organization?

Its primary physical structures are the three community service centers, each with a shelter and a veterinary hospital. We also have a wildlife rehabilitation center and a development center, from which we direct our retail sales.

All facilities are animal-centered; they’re designed to satisfy the animals’ physiological and psychological needs. For instance, cats look out windows and have light; dogs and cats are housed separately because cats are sensitive to barking; and nearly all animals have indoor and outdoor runs.

Financially, we take creative risks. Last year, we raised over 10 percent of our money through operations—money generated by the veterinary hospitals, retail sales, adoption fees, and a little contract income—in a year, roughly about $7.7 million, people walk into the hospitals and pay for service if they can, but we turn down no animals because we have no “owner” can’t pay. We also raised another $1.7 million from the public. Through the organization only has $600,000 in the bank, we are breaking ground on a $25 million shelter. Though the MHS has no endowment to speak of, this year’s budget exceeds $4 million. We operate on the edge, but we’re not financially irresponsible. We don’t have any one source of income that we’re dependent upon. It’s an integrated approach to financing.

Distinguish the MHS of today from what existed eight years ago.

First, we believe that humane societies should operate veterinary hospitals. Despite the public believing otherwise, organized veterinary medicine is, in many respects, the antithesis of what we believe. Veterinarians have the skills to make a difference for animals. We have 12 full-time vets who have some of the best equipment available. Second, we emphasis enforcing existing cruelty statutes. I think lots of laws have been changed, but there are many useful cruelty laws on the books. We have made these laws work against cruelty to animals. We provide our product—animal rights. The honesty and integrity of marketing that message distinguish us from everybody else. We have 4,000 current members and donors who understand what we are doing.
CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Fourth, have formalized education programs like everybody else, but that's not enough. Not only the veterinary profession, but also the public thinks it is. Tell us how you came into conflict with the veterinary community.

When we set out to establish top-notch veterinary facilities in MSU's low-cost spay/neuter clinics.

**COMING SOON**

- **WHAT'S AROUND THE BEND FOR HORSE-RACING**, the most popular spectator sport in the United States? Like other businesses that use animals, the horse racing industry is run by profit—not by a concern for animal welfare. A look into a multimillion-dollar business that stays on course despite glaring economic, social, and ethical problems.
- **AN INTERVIEW WITH JIM NOLLMAN**, author of Animal Dreaming: Using clairvoyant, clairaudient, and clairsentient gifts to communicate with your animals. Dr. Barbara Hogarth and Martha Sands, veterinary technicians, perform a cat spaying operation at the MSU's Central Shelter in Detroit. Over 5000 animals are sterilized at MSU's low-cost spay/neuter clinics.

**THE ANIMAL Y AGENDA**

MAY 1985

**THE ANIMALS**

**THE ANIMAL AGENDA**

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MAY 1985

**THE ANIMAL AGENDA**

MAY 1985
If you don’t think your donation makes a difference, look at the difference it made in Lady.

Images such as this one have elicited a tremendous response from the public. This direct mail piece generated contributions in excess of $270,000. Starved without food for a month, Lady, an Afghan Hound, weighed only 19 pounds when cruelty investigators carried her into the Michigan Humane Society.

The animal rights movement can put itself on the back for heightened visibility among the general public and specifically by the media. But the next step has largely been considered: how do we translate this increased awareness into relieving animal pain? I see little overall lessening of units of suffering. I do not see any broad-based sociological change. The animal rights movement has been remiss, and maybe grossly negligent, by neglecting the one in attempting to solve the problems of the many. Success has become a measure of how many words we get in the newspaper, not how many animals we have saved. Among many other things, I am proud that the Michigan Humane Society has adopted 800 dogs and cats, placed 600 animals in responsible homes, blocked 170 hunting in Michigan, rescued over 2,000 domestic animals and 2,000 wild animals, and pioneered a humane deer relocation project—all in 1985 alone.

You’ve done a bang-up job reforming this humane society. But many organizations would not allow someone with your ideas to assume power. What do you think of the future of humane societies?

Effecting a change of a traditional humane society does not always have to entail a major disruption or ‘hostile’ takeover. Our dreams and ends goals for animals should not be built by treasuring upon human animals. I don’t have any magical blueprint for reforming existing humane societies. In my case, it has taken me eight years to gradually build the sort of dynamic and committed board of directors we need to do our job effectively. Animal activists need to get hungrier and think of creative ways to penetrate these structures.

Also, I honestly do not think takeovers are productive. Generally, groups that take over others seldom avoid the pitfalls of the groups they resist from. A favorite example of mine is Martin Luther, the protestant reformationist, who left the Catholic church because it dealt ruthless-ly with critics. Ten years after he left, he was burning anti-baptists because they disagreed with him.

In a general sense, I think economics, public opinion, and developing standards will lead people to more progressive action, to change from within. In Michigan, we are the standard by which other humane societies are judged.

It’s the year 2010 and David Wilis has put into place the structures he believes are necessary for most effectively changing our relationship with other animals. What do things look like?

In a traditional humane society, having integrated programs, will deal with the suffering of individual animals. As we create disciplines designed to serve individuals, the many will be served. While ethical philosophers continue to debate what species possess moral rights, the scientific fact that animals have feelings remains indisputable, and the initiatives of the animal rights community will be geared toward a concern for their feelings. And no group will initiate public campaigns until they have the victims of abuse safe from the hands of their abusers.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FENCE

“A sensitive and powerful film.” —Heny Spen, Animal Rights International

“An essential tool for educators everywhere.” —Brad Miller, Humane Farming Association

“An example of moral education in the best sense.” —Tom Regan, Culture and Animals Foundation

These are just a few of the comments critics have made about THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FENCE, a new humane education video program produced by The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and Varied Directions, Inc. Designed for a junior high through high school audience, the film introduces viewers to the confusing conditions under which “milky-fed” veal calves are frequently raised. Using the calf as an example, it reveals that the physical and behavioral needs of farm animals are routinely ignored on mechanized “factory farms.”

Unlike other films of its type, THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FENCE is not designed to shock or disgust the viewer. Rather, its aim is to create empathy by showing that the needs of human and non-human animals are remarkably similar. Finally, the film offers suggestions for actions viewers can take to alleviate the suffering of farm animals.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FENCE is available on 1/2 inch videotape, at a cost of $49.95. For ordering information, please contact the ASPCA Education Department at the address below.

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
441 East 92nd Street New York, N.Y. 10128 (212) 876-7700

America’s First Humane Society
Psy 'Em Out

Edited by Leslie Pardue

Vegetarian Meals on Wheels

Chairmen, an effort spon-

sored by the Hare Krishna
religious organization, fees

brings nutritious vegetarian
meals to the doors of more than

60 low-income individuals

and families in Ohio.

Lehman, in Pennsylvania, and

West Virginia three days a week.

The charity is solely

served with the help of the

Hare Krishna group. Funding

mainly from local temples,

with independent donors

making the balance. The group

hopes to open a vegetarian

soup kitchen in "West Virginia to

serve meals to homeless people,

and would like to see the meals-on-

wheel program a five-day-a-

week operation to accommodate

all the at-risk octogenarians.

For more information about

this exceptional project, contact:

Chairmen, Vegetarian Meals on

Wheels, 8130 Battersby Rd.,

Moundsville, WV 26041.

Uncovering Species

Students of all ages can fight
crime in the classroom and

promote awareness of animal

rights by launching animal

rights clubs in their organizations.

The Student Ac-

tion Corps for Animals (SACA)

has prepared a booklet entitled

"Suggestions for Students

Groups." The booklet can be

obtained by writing to: SACAInc.

P.O. Box 15388, Washington, DC

20003. The group also

publishes a newsletter for

student activists.

Upcoming Events

The Animal Shelter Re-

form Caucus (ASRC) is spon-

soring a protest on Sunday, May 22 at 1

T.M. at the Ninth Street-Aveine

League (NASP) in Washington,

a long Island. The group

protests that NASP is not

putting its $5 million in assets

into work for animals - and

looks to programs to promote

human education, animal

protection legislation, and

spaying and neutering. For

further information, contact

ASRC at: P.O. Box 15388, Washing-

ton, DC 20003.

AVMA Supports Pound

Seizure

As of its meeting dates January

1, 1998, the American

Veternary Medical Association

(AMVA) announced that it will

not approve, classify, or cleanse

an additional $350,000 in pounds of

animal products. The action was

taken by the AVMA Council on

Animal Welfare (CAW) at its

August 13, 1998 meeting.

Active in stopping the sale of

an estimated 25,000 pounds of

fares, the Canadian Animal

Humane Society, has

announced that the

annual Animal Cruelty

Conference will be held on

February 21 to 26 at the

Ohio Beef Congress, an annual

beef industry trade show held in

Columbus, Ohio. The Beef

Council asks all beef producers
to move away from cruel

treatment of animals. Acti-

ve leaders of the New York

State Animal Rights Activists

Association will also be

attending. The absence of

bears and other "pests" from

aboard the ship will

impact on the ship's

safety and stability. The

meeting will be held aboard

the ship.

The ship's captain will

address the meeting,

announcing that the ship will

be docked at its

destination. The meeting

will be open to the

public. The ship's

crew will be

present to answer

questions.

Animal Rights Congress

in Columbus, Ohio. The

board members of the

American Society for

the Prevention of Cruelty to

Animal (ASPCA) and

other advocacy groups will

be present. The event will

feature speakers from some

of the nation's leading

animal welfare organizations.

The meeting will be

opened to the public.

No tickets will be

sold. The meeting

will begin at 10:00 AM

and continue through

3:00 PM. The meeting

will be held at the

Main Street Armory in

Columbus, Ohio.

What gives you the right to

kill an animal, other than

that so that he can fill his belly

with its flesh?

-Isaac Rutherford Singer

Fighting for Texas.

The San Antonio Tax, group

Voices for Animals will
campaign at the state's first

animal welfare billboards in

December. Following their

fourth annual anti-sulfur

bills, the three billboards

are to be displayed.

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Eating Unglued

Animals continue to suffer

as the merchandising of the

glueboard, a particularly

pernicious form of death for

trapped animals, who become

mired in the sticky surface

ultimately die of starvation

or dehydration if suffocated

by the glue stick. Those who

attempt to escape may have

their feet and toes ripped off.

People for the Ethical Treatment

of Animals (PETA) succeeded in

convincing the city of Topeka

Park, Md., to offer a natu-

rative of humane cage traps to

residents of the county.

The city council voted in

favor of the measure.

Advocates say the measure

has agreed to remove glue

boards and replace them

with humane cage traps.

PETA also reports that

another city in the state has

agreed to remove glue

boards.
As many as 59 million cats may have homes in the U.S.; 11.7 million others enter shelters each year, and millions more struggle to survive in a wild, or "feral," state.

Animal Shelters:

Anyone out to spark a successful revolution of ideas, attitudes, and behavior in this country could find no better vehicle for change than a network of local units staffed with trained professionals and volunteers dedicated to the cause. Establishing a nationwide network like this could take years, but it already exists in the form of approximately 3,500 local animal shelters. The majority of shelters are, of course, conservative in scope and aim, restricting their activities mainly to dog and cat problems. Municipal shelters or pounds mainly exist to enforce animal control laws; many, however, have humane education and community outreach programs to promote responsible "pet ownership." But the work of these shelters—be they privately or publicly funded—represents the longest continuous attack on a specific animal problem that has ever been mounted.

That problem is dog and cat overpopulation. While dogs and cats also suffer from abuse and neglect by disturbed or insensitive individuals, or in laboratory or breeding businesses, overpopulation is currently the greatest problem they face in terms of numbers affected. Statistics from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) for 1983 estimate the number of companion animals in homes at 54 million dogs and 53 million cats, though more recent estimates place the companion cat population as high as 59 million. But no one knows how many are living in wild or semi-wild states in alleys, parks, and wooded areas.

According to figures in the American Humane Association (AHA) 1986 Animal Shelter Reporting Study, about 15.5 million dogs and 11.7 million cats enter shelters each year. "Owner relinquished" animals, those turned over to the shelter by people who no longer want them, comprise 40.6 percent of the dogs and 49 percent of the cats. The most common reasons given are that the people are moving and can't take the animals with them, or that the animal has behavioral problems (i.e., not housebroken, too noisy, or destructive to furniture or carpets).

Arriving as lost or stray animals are 59.4 percent of the dogs and 51 percent of the cats. Once in the shelter, 19 percent of the stray and lost dogs and 33 percent of the stray and lost cats are found and claimed by their "owners." The percentage of cats reclaimed is low partly because they seldom wear tags or collars with identification.

The leftover animals are put up for adoption, and in this way 21 percent of those dogs and 19 percent of those cats are placed in new homes. The unadopted represent the tragedy: 60 percent of the dogs and 77.7 percent of the cats who enter shelters are destroyed simply because there are no homes for them. We're talking about 8.3 million dogs and 9.3 million cats—most of them young, sociable, healthy animals who are simply discarded because human society has no room for them.

A major question, then, is: "With a network of 3,500 shelters working in communities to end dog and cat overpopulation, why are we still having to kill more than 17 million a year?" Or, put another way: "What does it take to end overpopulation so we can stop practicing mass euthanasia?" The answers are just beginning to be found, and, in the past few years, some shelters have seen significant reductions in the numbers of incoming animals.

Changing Roles

BY CAROL MOUTON

The U.S. companion dog population is about 54 million; 15.5 million less fortunate canines end up in shelters or pounds. Rather than wait for people to come to the shelter, some humane societies are taking adoptable animals into the community.
Where did they all come from?

A

HA has been around for about 112 years, and the periodicals it has published and collected over that time provide a glimpse into the humane movement and its concerns over the years: Cruelty, neglect, and exploitation of animals were the focus of early animal protection activities, but the campaigns most often centered on the horse. There is very little mention of dog and cat care in magazines. As late as 1927, the "Cruelty to Animals" section of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA), was concerned with elementary instruction on animal care to new home owners. This essay is intended to give instruction to those who desire to terminate the existence of any animal, with due consideration for the speed and humane manner, whether such animals are intended for food, or whether they have become useless through age, sickness, or other cause. Dogs and cats in the booklet are always in the category of old or disabled, with the exception of one paragraph advising that "when the young of cats and dogs, when but a few days or hours old, may be humanely disposed of by drowning, if properly executed." The first issue of AHA's newsletter, "The Animal Humane Review," published from 1913 to 1916, contains hundreds of articles on horse abuse and dozens on cruelty to dogs or cats, trapping, rabbit hunting, farm animal suffering, and other issues—but none on overpopulation as a specific problem. Right of this background, dog and cat overpopulation would seem to be a late 20th century phenomenon, and we can conjecture that urbanization combined with advances in veterinary medicine is the root cause.

In rural America, a female dog or cat in estrus might find only one or two potential mates within a mile. And, since she might well be undernourished (which effects her reproductive capacity), pregnancy might occur less often with smaller numbers of offspring. In urban America, there can easily be two dozen or more male animals living close enough to a female in an area of several square miles. Any shelter worker can tell tales of male dogs breaking through screen doors or jumping six-foot fences in a frenzy to get to the female whose scent they can smell. Once a male cat will slither through impossible small spaces to get to the female whose scent causes it to go "cuckoo." Pregnancy now is pretty much a sure thing for an unspayed dog or cat—no matter how hard one tries to keep his or her companion animal from it.

In the early part of this century, neither humans nor nonhumans had the benefit of antibiotics and inoculations against debilitating and deadly diseases. The young of all species were particularly vulnerable. As many human parents lost children to smallpox, scarlet fever, and diphtheria, many canine and feline mothers lost puppies and kittens to distemper and upper-respiratory infections. With a lower birth rate and a higher death rate for dogs, cats, and humans, there was no widespread overpopulation problem.

“With a network of 3,500 shelters working in communities to end dog and cat overpopulation, why are we still having to kill more than 17 million a year?”

Where do they go?

The animal sheltering system grew alongside the overpopulation problem. The shelters themselves range from small, rural-area Quonset huts with runs for five to ten dogs to state-of-the-art facilities capable of housing four to five hundred animals at one time, but there are three basic types of operations:

1. Tax funds and user fees support public shelters, which are basically animal control holding facilities. These are sometimes referred to as pounds, short for impoundment facilities. Their basic function is to enforce animal control ordinances, and protect the health and welfare of the people in the community by minimizing the number of instances of animals damaging property, threatening humans, causing automobile accidents, disturbing the peace, and spreading disease. There is growing understanding among municipalities that animal welfare agencies that it isn’t enough to simply clean up after problems occur by imposing strictures. The aim is now to get to the root of the problems (human ignorance and indiscriminate breeding), and, through education and tougher laws, eventually eliminate the problem rather than “band-aid it.”

2. Most cities have one or more private humane agencies (often called the Animal Rescue League, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, or the Humane Society), that are usually nonprofit, tax-exempt, charitable agencies dependent on bequests and donations from members. Private shelters are those that have a policy of accepting any and all animals brought to them, and that usually do not euthanize animals not claimed or adopted within a certain period of time, because of the continuous flow of incoming animals and the limited space and funds available. Shelters that do not euthanize (no-kill shelters) typically have long waiting lists of animals to be turned over to them, as they also may have limited space and funds. Where the no-kill shelter is full, people who will not wait for an open space usually turn their animals to the city or private shelter that does close out.

Private humane organizations generally have programs to educate children and adults about animal care and welfare. Counseling and educating potential adopters of shelter animals is another important function. A requirement that all adopted animals be spayed or neutered is now typical for a private shelter, as it helps follow-up procedures to ensure compliance with the rule. A variety of other programs like animal rescue services, animal care classes, obedience training for dogs, advice on behavior problems, and cruelty investigations may be provided by private agencies.

3. The third type of agency is a private humane society that has negotiated a contract with a city or county government to handle animal control for the community. Sometimes the shelter only handles impounded animals, while animal control officers are dispatched and supervised by the police department. Sometimes a private shelter may hire, train, and supervise animal control officers. This field, as well as house impounded animals. The private organization will be a key player in the community’s animal control service, but may also provide donations to support other programs, such as humane education and animal rescue. Most cities have one or more private animal control shelters, but often they work independently with few, if any, cooperative endeavors or programs.
The Crucial Role of Humane Education

BY PATTY A. FINCH

"I'm tired of other activists assuming that I'm politically unsophisticated, too moderate, or afraid of confrontation, simply because my main emphasis is humane education."

—An Anonymous Arizona Activist

Humane education can foster a child's natural empathy for animals.

Why has environmental education flourished in the room while humane education has floundered? With an overwhelming amount of teaching material to present and choose from, and little time to waste, teachers have to make hard choices. They must be sure that the subject matter they are teaching has clear benefits for their students.

The movement has successfully demonstrated, not only to teachers but to the general public, that its cause ultimately benefits people. The animal rights movement, however, has not succeeded in doing so—partly because of its own ambivalence. Believing animals to be deserving of justice without reference to the implications for human welfare, it seems—to some animal advocates—a betrayal of their philosophy to try to illustrate the interconnection of human and animal welfare.

Nonetheless, expecting educators to embrace humane education without fully understanding the benefits for human children is unrealistic and inappropriate. Activists must demonstrate to the schools the significant contribution humane education can make to the development of children and the ultimate good of society. It develops children's sense of justice, compassion, empathy, and respect for all living creatures—including their fellow humans. In addition, the topic of animals can usually bring motivational power to classes in any subject.

Prominent educator Joseph Heatherton recently observed, "It baffles me that we can live in a society in which children are starved to give." They need not be. Indeed, solving the problems animals face in today's world is a responsibility that today's children may be able to discharge more successfully than today's adults. Children are not hampered by vested interests, lifelong habits involving animal exploitation, or ingrained practices of putting economic considerations above all else. They are idealistic, full of energy and empathy, and almost irresistible in their appeals.

The time is ripe for humane education, and it's too big a job to leave solely to the overburdened animal shelters. Animals in need are waiting...and so are the children.

Patty Finch is Director of the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education, a division of the Humane Society of the United States.

Humane education materials are available from: The National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education, Box 362N, East Haddam, CT 06423; Focus on Animals, 700 W. 45th St., Room 135, Trump, CT 06631; and the Humane Education Committee, P.O. Box 445, New York, NY 10028.
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When you let your pet
bring unwanted animals
into the world

ning, there was a brief increase in the number of dogs handled, as people who would not care for them simply got rid of them. But, by 1983, the number of dogs and cats coming into the facilities had dropped to 23,300—almost half the number handled a decade earlier.

Other types of laws are effective as well—if enforced. Some states, including New Jersey and California, have passed laws requiring all animals adopted from shelters to be spayed and neutered. Los Angeles, Calif., and Fort Wayne, Ind., both have laws requiring anyone who advertises puppies or kittens for sale to pay for a permit. The number of the permits has to be displayed in the ad. The only way to avoid buying a permit is to release the litter to the animal shelter. The permit requirement is a deterrent to unplanned breeding, but it also discriminated against "owners" who did not want to engage in deliberate breeding by cutting off his or her presumed profit. By reducing the number of "backyard breeders," those who want animals are more likely to get them from the shelter, where they can be educated in proper care and be required to do so by their new family member. The law also channels many young animals into the shelters—so-called "spay-neuterization requirement"—they can be prevented from adding to the overpopulation problem in the future.

Strong enforcement of licensing laws, with a significant differential favoring sterilized animals, is another force for controlling overpopulation. Not only does this encourage spaying and neutering, it increases the number of lost and stray animals who can be returned to their homes, since the license is transferable and the "owners" can be notified when their animals are found.

Perhaps the most unique animal ordinance at this time is a Santa Cruz, Calif., requirement that animals be sterilized the second time they are impounded. The rationale was that animals could not repeat their animal shelter, even if puppies and kittens were a problem, but those who repeatedly let their animals roam could at least be required to sterilize them so that they would not be conceiving or fertilizing future litters of unwanted puppies and kittens during their travels. Since the law was enacted within the last two years, the long-term effects on population are not yet known.

Getting lost animals home. Half of the animals coming into shelters are lost or stray. If not found and reclaimed, these animals add to the overpopulation figures just as surely as newborn litter. There are many reasons why lost animals may not be reclaimed, even when their humans look for them (and not all do). Animals often get lost when left with a "pet sitter," and the sitter may not look for them. By the time the "owner" returns, the legal holding period observed by the shelter may be over and the animal euthanized. Since many cities have more than one shelter (Denver, for example, has 13) and a lost animal could end up in any of them, the only way one could be sure of finding a lost companion is to personally visit each shelter frequently. Denver is attempting to cope with this problem with a new computer lost-and-found system that will soon link all the shelters in the area. Soon-to-be introduced reports from all shelters will be available in each of them. The Denver Dogs Friends League, which has operated its own in-house computer lost-and-found system for two years, has seen a 28% percent increase in the number of claimed animals. Even more promising is the number of unclaimed lost animals reunited with their human guardians through the League's ability to computer-match phone-in reports. The figure jumped 130 percent in the first year of the computer's use, and continues to show significant improvement.

But with the volume of animals handled and the similarity in appearance of so many of them, just phoning in a description is not a reliable search method. The best way to ensure the return of lost animals is to keep them tagged with phone numbers and addresses. This is where strong licensing enforcement programs can make a difference.

Another reason why strong licensing and animal control programs can help reduce overpopulation is that they provide a way of holding people responsible for their animals. For example, more people than we would like to think will refuse to claim impounded animals because they don't want to pay the fees or fines. Rather than redeem their animals, they can replace them with puppies from the folks down the street. This, of course, creates an artificial market for animals who are really only replacing perfectly fine, healthy ones who have lost their homes. But when an animal is identified as belonging to an individual by a tag and it is possible—if the laws permit it—to hold the "owner" legally responsible for fines and fees, whether or not the animal is reclaimed. Knowing the penalties are inescapable, people may either pick up their animals or, at least, decide to forego future "ownership" rather than risk additional penalties.

What else helps? Increasing the number of animals adopted from shelters helps to lower the number of those euthanized. Twenty years ago, many shelters "held" animals to anyone who wanted them. That only resulted in a recycling of the problem—a mistreated animal from one home would often end up being mistreated in another home. Now, most shelters have adopted a policy of either one cat or two along the way. The idea of screening potential adopters became popular, and those who did not meet certain criteria (i.e.,的房子, for a dog, or two puppies to people who worked) were refused. This was a good idea, but, as often happens, it was taken to extremes in some cases. Applicants were refused adoption by the rules rather than on a case-by-case basis. In the name of protecting the animals in their care, some shelter workers even bragged about how

Early Neutering Begun by Some Shelters

Both the Memphis (Tenn.) Animal Shelter and the Hawaiian Humane Society have initiated programs whereby all adopted animals are spayed or neutered before leaving the shelter—even puppies and kittens as young as eight weeks. Although six months of age has always been considered the optimum time for sterilization, a death of scientific data suggests that reasons for selecting that age may be more arbitrary than medical. According to Dr. Leo Lieberman, writing in the September 1, 1980 issue of the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, more than 100,000 puppies and kittens have undergone neutering at eight weeks with no significant problems. In fact, it appears that early neutering may result in less stress on the animal, shorter surgery time, and quicker recovery.

Commenting on the new policy, Robert Lee, manager of the Memphis shelter, stated, "It would be totally irresponsible for us to release an animal capable of reproducing through the front door while hundreds of carcasses are leaving through the back door after euthanasia." Alex Wade, director of the Hawaiian shelter, indicated that their program had been put into effect on a one-year trial basis, with results to be monitored closely.

—Kim Bartlett, source: American Humane Association

Continued on next page
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many people who had turned down for an adoption while holding out for only the most predictably perfect homes.

The idea of identifying the best homes and refusing the rest seemed sound, but there was one significant flaw: the shelter was only one of many sources of dogs and cats in the community, and while it was possible to keep someone from adopting a shelter animal, it was not possible to keep that person from obtaining an animal from another source. Pet stores, backyard breeders, show breeders, and people trying to get rid of "their pets" were all anxious to supply what the animal shelter would not.

In fact, in one community studied in 1984, only four percent of the dogs and two percent of the cats in the general population came from shelters. Turning down an adoption application did not prevent mistreatment of an animal, it only transferred the problem from a shelter animal to a non-shelter animal. In most cases, a shelter animal that had been adopted, he would at least have been sterilized. The non-shelter animal not only suffered whatever mistreatment might be in the offering, she might have produced 10 or 20 offspring in the meantime—

continuing the cycle of surplus animals whose lives are cheaply held.

The best shelters are now revising their adoption screening techniques. Instead of identifying good homes and rejecting "bad" ones, adoption counselors try to identify problem areas and educate the person—so that a "bad" home can be turned into a good one. If it appears there is no hope of improving the situation.

Some states have passed laws requiring all animals adopted from shelters to be spayed and neutered...Strong enforcement of licensing laws, with a significant differential favoring sterilized animals, is another force for controlling overpopulation.

The Progressive Animal Welfare Society of Lynnwood, Wash., a pioneer in this approach, asks potential adopters to take a humorous but meaningful "responsibility test" before looking over the animals. The test points out the common problems of living with an animal in hopes of educating the ignorant and discouraging the indifferent.

The Michigan Humane Society (MHS) teaches its adoption counselors

counselors may try to convince ap-

Continued on page 33

Continued from page 30

that "one of the most important com-

ponents of the adoption program is helping people become good pet owners regardless of whether they will be rehomed at the shelter." The counselors are told the MHS adoption program is based on the following premises:

- Loving and responsible "pet owners" are not necessarily born that way.
- Loving and responsible "pet owners" are not necessarily born that way.

Low-Cost Spaying and Neutering
CALL 1-800-631-2212

Friends of Animals (FOA) presently operates the only national dog and cat breeding control program. Begun 31 years ago, the program facilitated the sterilization of 70,000 dogs and cats in 1989 through a network of approximately 1,100 participating veterinarians in 46 states.

People interested in low-cost spaying and/or neutering can phone an ROA toll-free number. The ROA operator takes the name and addresses, and sends vet lists and applications. The applications are returned with payment for the desired surgery fees everywhere in the country. But prices are currently as low as $50 for feline spay, $40 for canine spay, $20 for feline neuter, and $34 for canine neuter. In most states, you send a coupon to a participating veterinarian. For those who cannot afford even those low prices, FOA has set up a subsidy fund so that fees can be relayed according to need.

Priscilla Feral, FOA president, believes that all the pet overpopulation literature in the world won't solve the problem as long as people can't afford the high cost of spaying and neutering. Activists can get help by publicizing the ROA number, enlisting local veterinarians, and generating funds. For more information about the program or to get involved, contact FOA (1601 West Highland Drive, Suite 220-221, 603-2212, or write her at Friends of Animals, One Pine Street, Neaple, FL 0735).

Announcing
The NEAVS 1988 Creative Arts Competition For Students

$10,500 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

Theme:
EXPRESSIONS OF ANIMAL RIGHTS

The New England Anti-Vivisection Society is offering students an opportunity to express their concepts of animal rights through three different creative mediums: writing, art, and photography.

"Animal rights" suggests that animals have the right to share our planet without being harmed; that they be permitted to live out their lives in ways appropriate to their species without being oppressed or exploited by human beings.

Examples of animal exploitation include the use of animals in lab experiments, the confinement of cows, pigs, and chickens in "factory farms," the killing of raptors, foxes and lynx for their fur, or the use of animals such as bears and lions in circuses and bullfights, goats and horses in rodeos.

Judging And Prizes:

Entries in three categories will be judged in two age groups—grades 6 through 8 and grades 9 through 12 for the school year of 1987-1988.

Entries will be judged on creativity and impact of the message that is conveyed. First, second, and third prizes will be awarded in each category and at both levels.

1. First Prize—$1,000 Scholarship
2. Second Prize—$500 Scholarship
3. Third Prize—$250 Scholarship

A total of $10,500 will be awarded in each scholarship.

Categories:

- Creative Writing: a short story, poem, play, or other creative writing of any length. Must be typewritten, double spaced, on 8½ x 11 white bond paper.

- Art: Painting, pen and ink drawing, collage, sculpture, or any other creative art form. Submit only slides of your work. Do not mail original artwork to NEAVS.

- Photography: Black and white or color photographs or phototapes. Prints must be 5 x 7 or larger, unmatted glossy finish. Slides may be submitted. (For photography, white background is recommended.

Rules:

1. Any entry that exploits or harms animals in any way will be disqualified.

2. To enter, you must be a student enrolled in an accredited school grades 6 through 12 or a high school equivalency program for the school year of 1987-1988 anywhere in the United States.

3. You may submit only one entry in each category.

4. You must have completed your entry after September 1, 1987.

5. Each entry must be identified with your full name, address including zip code; telephone number including area code; social security number; the name, address, and telephone number of the school or the program in which you are enrolled, your principal's name, and your grade level.

6. Send your entry in a heavy, manila envelope or other secure packaging.

7. Mail your entry to CREATIVITY ARTS COMPETITION FOR STUDENTS, NEW ENGLAND ANTI-VIVISECTION SOCIETY, SUITE 850, 333 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108 5100.

8. All entries must be postmarked by June 15, 1988 and received within one week.

9. All entries become the property of the New England Anti-Vivisection Society and may be reproduced and distributed, in whole or in part, by NEAVS at no charge. NEAVS is not responsible for lost entries and no entry will be returned.

10. The decisions of the judges are final and judges may choose not to award prizes in any category if quality or number of entries is deemed insufficient.

11. Winners will be announced on September 15, 1988.

12. The New England Anti-Vivisection Society 1988 Creative Arts Competition for Students is subject to all local, state, and federal regulations.

13. The immediate families of Employees, Officers, and Directors of the New England Anti-Vivisection Society are not eligible.
Pet Therapy Programs:
Can They Help People and Animals?
BY RANDALL LOCKWOOD, PH.D.

Dogs, cats, and other animals have been part of formal programs to enhance the quality of life for institutionalized people since at least 1972. But providing a dog or cat for an hour or two isn’t an adequate solution for ending chronic loneliness and many animal advocates question the use of animals for quick psychological “fixes.”

People who work closely with animals have long realized that contact with all kinds of creatures enriches the life of everyone involved. But in recent years, dogs and cats have become more widely used in a variety of settings. The human-animal bond is a powerful one, and research has shown that the presence of animals can have a positive impact on people’s physical and mental health. However, it’s important to consider the context and purpose of these interactions to ensure they are truly beneficial.

1) Assess the needs. No PFT program should be undertaken without careful consideration of its objectives. Is the group doing it because “everyone else is,” or is there a genuine need for the program? The welfare of the animals and the people they interact with should always be the primary concern. The program should be designed to meet specific needs and provide meaningful interactions.

2) Establish written rules. Effective PFT programs have clear guidelines and boundaries. This helps ensure the safety and well-being of both the animals and the people involved. Rules should address topics such as animal care, interactions with the animals, and any other relevant considerations.

3) Provide appropriate training. PFT programs often provide workshops or training sessions to help volunteers understand the care and management of the animals. This is crucial to ensure the animals get the care they need and the interactions are meaningful.

4) Select animals carefully. Health and sound temperament are obvious requirements for therapy animals, but volunteers also need to consider their own comfort and ability to handle the animals. The animals should be comfortable and enjoy their interactions at least as much as the people are. Some of the most effective animals in the history of PFT, such as the dog who “volunteered” for his therapeutic role through his enthusiasm for such contact in many ways, the animals that are used in therapy. The animals may be the most sensitive link in the chain. Their fatigue, distress, or frustration may be the first sign that it is time to reassess methods or objectives.

If the concerns are addressed, therapy programs can benefit everyone involved. PFT programs that use animals from shelters have the potential to help animals if the organization has got its rules and policies, an experienced staff, and a daily selection of animals with a proven track record of comfort and training. These programs often provide important services to the community, such as companionship, therapy, and emotional support. With proper planning and management, PFT programs can be a valuable addition to the services offered by animal welfare organizations.

Beware of “Pet Therapy” Scams

In the last several years, the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) has received complaints from local humane societies about fraudulent “pet therapy” programs and fraud. Several people have been hoodwinked into giving money to use the animals in this way, they will be “put to sleep.” This kind of emotional blackmail has offened many local groups. In all cases so far, the local shelter has no connection with the soliciting organization. In fact, most shelters will not allow organizations to adopt animals. In one case, the Humane Society name was being used by a non-sorthern nonprofit. If you receive similar requests, please provide the name of the organization to the HSUS.

Call your local humane society or animal shelter to ask about this program. Get the name of the organization doing the fund raise, the address, and the phone number for which they are soliciting. Call the local organizations in that geographic area to confirm that they are actually participating. Better Business Bureau or a solicitation review board for more information.

Dr. Lockwood is Director of Higher Education Programs at the Humane Society of the United States.

Coming Together, P.O. Box 10453, State College, PA 16805.
Both of these documents would be valuable in planning any kind of PFT program.
**ANIMAL NEWSLINE**

**Europe Moves to Defend Farmed Animals**

Last year ended with two resounding victories from European animal welfare groups. The first round of application for the Swedish Animal Welfare Law, which was announced in December, will see animals rearing in the future will be better protected as the number of those keeping pigs, beef, and calves healthy and happy. The government plans to phase out battery cages and the tethering of pigs, and to require cages to suit the right to those who care for their animals. The second victory came as a result of the passage of legislation by the Parliament of the United Kingdom (U.K.) to ban the veal crate. Starting in 1996, veal crates will be punishable offense in the U.K. to keep a calf in a single pen unless the calf is able to turn around without difficulty and is provided with adequate eating, drinking, and comfort. The U.K. veal crate ban came just before the 21st birthday of the organization Companion in World Farming (CIWF), a group headquartered in Britain which seeks to address animal issues on an international level. The ban was the result of many years of campaigning by CIWF, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), and Animals UK. The campaign focused on winning public opinion by showing the cruelty of the veal crate. In the case of the veal crate, a veal is fed model calf and crate made, which toured the U.K. creating interest and raising support. It may also be a dirty word in the minds of consumers. The final nail in the veal crate’s coffin was CIWF’s prosecution of a 600-calf intensive confinement veal farm run by a religious leader in a small Sussex village. On the farm, calves were chained by their necks in crates causing pain and discomfort which was exacerbated by the fact that many calves died young from causes of unknown disease and distress and suffering to the calves, the veal was won. The case also allowed that the U.K. government to move forward with new regulations of animal welfare. **The U.K. has banned the veal crate, and the European Community may not be far behind.**

**Hunter Harassment Law Declared Unconstitutional**

On February 1, 1988, in a 20-page decision that Connecticut animal rights activists hailed as a major victory, District Court Judge Alan Newsu struck down Connecticut’s Act Concerning the Harassment of Hunters, Trappers, and Anglers as unconstitutional. The plain title of the case reads: Connecticut v. Newsu, et al. The court interpreted the Connecticut law as an unconstitutional invasion of the right to private property and the right to freedom of speech. Newsu declared that the act, which he felt was not consistent with the constitutional right to speak and associate, was too broad and overbroad. Newsu essentially ruled that it was not specific enough to be constitutional and that it threatened protected speech. Newsu also struck down a provision of the Connecticut law that made it a crime to use any means, including the use of a firearm, to harass a hunting or fishing trip. Though Newsu maintained that the state was capable of passing a law to protect hunters and trappers, he felt that the act was too broad and overbroad. Newsu maintained that the state was capable of passing a law that was more specific and less broad. Newsu felt that the state was capable of passing a law that was more specific and less broad. Newsu maintained that the state was capable of passing a law that was more specific and less broad. Newsu felt that the state was capable of passing a law that was more specific and less broad. Newsu maintained that the state was capable of passing a law that was more specific and less broad. Newsu felt that the state was capable of passing a law that was more specific and less broad. Newsu maintained that the state was capable of passing a law that was more specific and less broad. Newsu felt that the state was capable of passing a law that was more specific and less broad. 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Dear Reader,

As we approach the end of the 1980s, we can look back with some pride on a decade that's been an important one for the animal rights movement. While there's certainly much more work to be done, we've come a long way in gaining public understanding and acceptance of animal rights ideas. But it's important to recognize the role of both animals and humans — and to celebrate our successes.

Despite a growing public anti-animal sentiment in the United States and elsewhere, a group of dedicated activists are working tirelessly to protect animal welfare. The number of animal-related deaths is decreasing, and awareness of the importance of animal rights is on the rise. We've been able to fight back against the injustices and abuses that have been perpetrated against animals for too long.

Just a few years ago, the Global 2000 Report issued dire warnings about the rapid depredation of the ozone layer, the extinction of many species of animals, and the possibility of mass extinction of all species. We need to act now to address these issues and ensure a more sustainable future for ourselves and the animals who share our world.

Yes, we still have a lot of work to do. And yes, we still have a lot of work to do. But we are making progress, and we must continue to work towards a world where animals are valued as sentient beings, not just as commodities.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Publisher

*PS. Some 125 of our readers are now ANIMALS’ AGENDA Sustainers. Sustainers pledge $25 or more per year towards our publishing efforts (paid in quarterly installments) and receive a special PUBLISHER'S REPORT newsletter. Please consider joining our Sustainer program by checking the appropriate spaces on the coupon.*

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The ANIMALS' AGENDA is in a good position to do this. But even with an estimated readership of 75,000-100,000, we're still touching too few people. The main impediment, of course, is a lack of funds. Sure, we're "sustaining," while providing good coverage and good analysis, but we need to grow. We need funds to pay for direct mail appeals, newsletter subscriptions, paid ads in major magazines, and to break into the long-overlooked medium of television to reach mass audiences with The ANIMALS’ AGENDA and animal rights.

Ordinarily, we appeal to our readers just a few times during the year — at Christmas time and then again after the holidays. All in all, we brought in about $20,000 from our appeals around the holidays, and we're bringing in that much again on a yearly basis through our sustainer program. Donations also trickle in via contributions over and above subscription and renewal orders, and we're receiving some grants to pay for free institutional subscriptions.

This year we want to start raising funds early so we can get to work early on some aggressive circulation promotion. Aside from the obvious benefits of a larger circulation, building the subscriber base also makes the fundraising, and hence further circulation-building, easier. As I write this, our $25,000 subscription appeals are still going in the mail at a phenomenal cost. And our ambitious plans call for several of these appeals per year in addition to other worthwhile — but expensive — campaigns like the one mentioned above.

So this letter kicks off OUTREACH CAMPAIGN '88 and we hope you'll help us by sending a check today for any amount, $5 or $100, whatever you can reasonably manage. Contributions to The ANIMALS’ AGENDA are always tax-deductible. Or, if you're not a subscriber (yet) and you've picked us up off the newsstand or are reading this in a library, please see the subscription cards on pages 7 and 55 and join us in our vision for a more sane, sensible, and humane world — for everyone.

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ALF RAIDS UNIVERSITY LAB
Illegal Beagles

On the night of Friday, January 29, 13 beagles were taken from their outdoor cages at the University of California at Irvine (UCI) by members of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF), who apparently cut through two padlocks to gain entrance to the cages. The presence of the animals was not discovered until the following afternoon, when local news outlets received notes from the ALF claiming responsibility for the action. Evidently the dogs were being used by UCI researchers to study the effects of some on the lungs; the other two were part of a research project on the effects of in vitro applications in tracheotomy surgery (a procedure in which the windpipe is cut or created by cutting a hole in the trachea). Dr. Robert F. Phelan, director of UCI’s Air Pollution Health Effects Laboratory.

ANIMAL NEWSLINE

ALF member and Clyde, one of the beagles used in UCI’s tracheotomy studies.

heads a team of researchers which, for the past 13 years, has been forcing beagles to breathe various levels of smoke while running on treadmill—into the tune of some $90,000 a year. Following the liberation, the ALF announced that the dogs had been examined by a veterinarian and, contrary to the researchers’ claims, showed evidence of abuse as a result of the experiment.

The ALF reported that the mouths of the dogs used in the smoke studies were damged by the pressure of the tight-fitting masks they were made to wear. The dogs also suffered discomfort from the teeth and gums from the toxic fumes they were forced to breathe, and the top center teeth of many of the dogs had been removed, apparently to ensure a tight fit for the masks. This oral trauma caused by the tracheotomy studies had electrodes surgically implanted in their heads in order to monitor their sleeping patterns. According to the ALF, another dog had electrodes implanted in the abdomen; another suffered from severely infected and glands, and still another had a large tumor-like growth behind one eye, into which researchers had inserted a plastic drain. The feet of the dogs used in the smoke studies were enlarged, reddened, and callused—a condition apparently caused by running on the treadmills and having blood samples repeatedly taken from their feet.

Phelan claims that the dogs weren’t suffering from the smoking studies. “The extesions are not destructive to the dogs ... I think they enjoy it,” he told reporters. Yet he admitted that the smoke levels were comparable to those in the Los Angeles Basin at its worst—levels which everyone already knows are not good for humans. Responded activist Bob Barker in The Los Angeles Times: “Would you be comfortable in a moment that an animal would enjoy breathing smoke coming from a weed mill? That is ludicrous. It is also ridiculous to be wasting taxpayers’ money with those experiments when there are many people with respiratory problems who would participate in the study.”

—Leslie Pardue

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON BREAK-IN CASE

The Trial of Roger Troen

On October 26, 1986, members of the clandestine Animal Liberation Front (ALF) freed some 264 animals (including cats, rabbits, pigeons, rats and hamsters) from a University of Oregon (UCO) research lab (see our coverage of the raid in the January-February 1987 issue). The raiders claimed that estimated $50,000 worth of damage to the facility during the break-in. Nine months of investigations by local, state and federal authorities yielded the July 1987 arrest of Roger Troen, a 29-year-old self-employed graphic designer from Portland. Police were tipped off to Troen’s participation in the action by a local veterinarian who said that Nanette Ben- son of Nahalem brought three former UCO lab rabbits to him for examination. The vet told police that Benson said she had obtained the rabbits from Troen.

Troen’s trial began on January 12, 1988. His attorney, Stephen House, told the court during pre-trial proceedings that Troen would not dispute the facts of the case (that he transported and later found homes for some of the animals taken during the raid, but did not directly participate in the break-in itself). Rather, Troen’s defense would be based on the “choice-of-action” premise; that his actions were taken to prevent a greater harm from taking place—namely, the continued experimentation on the animals by UCO researchers. Assistant District Attorney Frank Papagni asked the court to refuse to allow evidence to be presented before a jury in support of the choice-of-evils defense, arguing that Troen’s case did not meet the legal requirements of that defense.

During the pre-trial proceedings, House spent six days presenting testimony and documents before Lane County Circuit Court Judge Edwin E. Allen, in the hopes of later presenting them to a jury. On January 31, Allen ruled out the use of the choice-of-evils defense, preventing a jury from hearing evidence which would attempt to show that Troen’s actions were necessary and reasonable steps to take to prevent harm being caused to the animals. House plans to appeal the ruling, saying that “The premise of our presentation is that every person is entitled to a defense. In this case, the defense was ‘Choice of Evils.’” The judge’s ruling deprives us of our right, in effect, to a jury trial. “We believe the ruling is incorrect.” Once Allen disqualified the use of the defense, Troen waived his right to a jury trial under those circumstances and was found guilty of first-degree theft.

Roger Troen and friend.

second-degree burglary, and conspiracy to commit second-degree burglary (all Class C felonies carrying maximum sentences of five years in jail and a $100,000 fine). At press time, Troen’s sentence had not yet been determined; his sentencing is set for March 27.

During the pre-trial proceedings, numerous witnesses were called to testify on Troen’s behalf—including primatologi- st Roger Fouts, Ted Newman of Physicians’ Committee for Responsible Medicine, and Dr. Nedim Buyukmihci of the American Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) provided legal and financial support for Troen throughout the proceedings. Three UCO researchers—Dr. Doug Stickrod, Richard Mamocco, and Barbara Gordon-Lickey—were also questioned on the witness stand. In all, some 25 witnesses were asked Stickrod why monkeys were made available for repeated testing. Mamocco, whose research involves surgically implanting electrodes, metal bolts, and plastic caps into the animals’ brains and recording their brain activity. Stickrod replied that he did not keep track of how many times on one animal or do it on eight animals. “There’s another choice, isn’t there?“ asked House. “And what is that?” said the researcher. House replied, “Don’t do it at all.”

—Leslie Pardue

No Room, Save in the Heart

Poetry and Prose on Reverence for Life

by

Ann Correll Free

“We power lies in the stark contrast between the beauty of the natural world and the odious reality of our human stewardship.” —Lois Stevenson, Newark Star-Ledger

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33
KENYA—Game Parks Threatened by Corruption

Although game hunting has been technically outlawed in Kenya for more than a decade, illegal hunting and poaching continue to be serious problems. The problems with the parks may not be easily solved by firing corrupt officials, however. The parks are a rip-off, said the director of the National parks system, who denied that any corruption was occurring. The director said that the parks were now open for business and that the public was welcome to visit them.

The new regulations, which are intended to reduce the number of poachers, also include increased fines for poaching, which are now up to $1,000. However, the fines are still not enough to deter poachers, who continue to kill endangered species for their skins and other parts.

The new regulations also include increased surveillance of the parks, including the use of dogs and helicopters to search for poachers. However, the effectiveness of these measures remains to be seen.

The new regulations are a step in the right direction, but they are far from enough to protect the parks. The parks need more resources and more effective enforcement to truly protect the wildlife they contain.

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Ralph Purina stockholders attending the company’s January 21 convention in St. Louis were outraged by protests from several environmental and animal protection organizations, who were on hand to call attention to the continued killing of hundreds of thousands of dolphins in tuna nets (Ralph Purina owns Chicken of the Sea tuna). The demonstration was organized by Earth Island Institute’s Save the Dolphin Project, and was co-sponsored by Earth First!, The St. Louis Animal Rights Team, the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, the Marine Mammal Fund, and the Grassroots Institute.

Security personnel stood by helplessly as a lone climber—Lee Desseaux of Earth First! Santa Cruz (Calif.)—scaled the outside of the historic Union Station convention ball and unfurled a giant banner reading, “Ralph Purina: Stop Killing Dolphins!” Fire trucks roared to the scene with sirens wailing and police closed off the roadway in front of the conference center. Desseaux eventually disassembled and was arrested for trespassing. Meanwhile, protesters handed out leaflets while singing an updated version of Ralph’s well-known jingle: “Ask any mammal in the world what’s killing dolphins? Chicken of the Sea!” The Earth Island Institute’s dolphin education coordinator characterized Ralph Purina as “one of the chief offenders in the dolphin slaughter.” Ralph Purina could easily stop buying tuna caught by killing dolphins. Unfortunately, they are more interested in profits than dolphins.” The extensive media coverage of the protest forced Ralph Purina chairman William P. Stirz to address the 1,300 assembled stockholders on the issue. In a press release issued after the annual meeting, the company admitted that seven percent of its tuna was caught in the eastern tropical Pacific, the region where most dolphin killings occur. “This proves our point,” Stewart remarked. “Why kill hundreds of thousands of dolphins to produce this insignificant amount of tuna?”

Readers are encouraged to write to Ralph Purina, asking them to announce a moratorium on using any tuna caught by methods and in locations which jeopardize dolphins. Write to: William Stirz, Ralph Purina, Checkerboard Square, St. Louis, MO 63164. For more information on how to fight the dolphin slaughter, contact: Save the Dolphin Project, Earth Island Institute, 300 Broadway Suite 28, San Francisco, CA 94133.

—Thanks to Ted Steinr

Wild horses continue to suffer and die at the hands of officials of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Some 70 mustangs have died in the past few months as a result of incompentent handling of a 81 million taxpayer-funded experimental birth control project, carried out by BLM officials and researchers from the University of Minnesota. In November of 1987, the BLM rounded up a group of horses from an unauthorized area (because they were unable to find any other authorized area) and herded them at breakneck speed with helicopters some 15 miles (three times the maximum distance the horses were supposed to be herded). After fitting some with radio collars and giving others birth control implants, the researchers abandoned the herd in a fenced area, expecting them to find a fence break which would lead them to water. Instead, the horses attempted to return to their former range, became disoriented, and were blocked by the fence and unable to escape. In the 90-degree temperatures and drought conditions which followed, 48 horses died of thirst—before the BLM even figured out there was a problem. Then, in January, more horses were discovered dead—killed by infection and slow strangulation caused by too-tight radio collars.

Animal protection groups are being joined by a growing number of private citizens and newspapers in the West in calling for a full investigation of the BLM’s handling of the incidents and immediate suspension of the birth control project. The agency has also come under scrutiny for its unwritten policy of turning a blind eye to ranchers who “adopt” mustangs, which they then sell with the assurance that the animals will be put down as pets.

Over the past two years, the organization Farm Sanctuary has investigated and documented the conditions for farm animals at Lancaster Stockyard in Lancaster, Penn. The activists report that the animals at Lancaster are whipped, shocked, beaten, and routinely kept without adequate food, water, or shelter. Sick and injured animals are deprived of veterinary care, and often die slow and painful deaths. Stull living animals are tossed around on hard concrete and left on the ground, conscious and bleeding.

After observing these conditions, Farm Sanctuary representatives met with stockyard president Bill McCoy and other officials to discuss their concerns. The activists offered to cooperate in setting up a necessary veterinary care for sick and injured animals, and presented stockyard officials with a set of veterinarian-approved standards for animal care. Lancaster officials agreed that problems existed, but did nothing to improve conditions.

An incident which occurred in January typified the stockyard’s indifference to animal suffering: Farm Sanctuary received a report from a citizen about a living female sheep who had been thrown onto the dead pile. McCoy refused to provide veterinary care for the animal, and said he’d rather kill her than turn her over to Farm Sanctuary. An official from the Humane League of Lancaster County, empowered by the state to enforce anti-cruelty laws, eventually took the sheep to a veterinarian—but by that time, her condition had deteriorated to the point where she had to be euthanized. Frustrated by Lancaster’s continued negligence, Farm Sanctuary is planning a demonstration at the stockyard for Monday, May 30 (Memorial Day) from noon until 4 P.M. For further details, contact: Farm Sanctuary, PO. Box 37, Rockland, DE 19732; (302) 654-9026.

In each issue...

* A column on interspecies communication.
* Issue 16 will feature the animal art of Dan Gilbert and the landscape photographs of Giri Jordahl.

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The irony of the situation is that the decline in the number of family farms is precisely the result of what most economists call as desirable: a high level of competition and a remarkable output.
Faroese Pilot Whale Slaughter Continues

Still alive, a pilot whale with a gaff stuck into its neck and another in its abdomen struggles in agony to escape the Faroese fishermen.

By Daniel Moras President International Wildlife Coalition

The telephone rings... the excitement is immediate. People drop what they're doing, leave work, rush to the shore. The spectators, men, women, and their children rush to the shore to view the tragic scenes. The roar of the crowd is heard as the whales are killed.

"Grindul! Grindul! The Whaled!" someone yells and frantically points out to sea. Boats of every kind head out from shore. There are 40 or more and each is loaded with men... some carry spars... all have a large, ugly, single-propped gaff close at hand.

It's a typical day out of hell for the pilot whales caught near the Faroe Islands (located north of Scotland). Fishermen there are able to get in on the "traditional" fun. They haul and gaff entire pods of pilot whales because they still enjoy the taste of whale meat and blubber.

As the pilot whale slaughter proceeds, the boats charge the whales. Sometimes a lead whale is spotted so it will drive onshore. The whale is then turned so that the whale's head faces the shore.

Pilot whale saves its life by thrashing in the water. The men in the boats gaff whales and try to hold them at sea. Shouting and bumbling in the frenzy, a gaff is rammed through the whale in its attempt to escape.

And this whale atrocity gets worse! The whale is now talking to itself and it will drive towards shores bringing the other whales in its pod along with it. It's the result of mass chaos where one whale will try to help another in trouble.

And then the true horror begins. The men begin to raise the gaffs high and swing them down hard into the nearest whale.

The men standing in water red with blood struggle and fall as the whales twist and thrash out of pain.

Many times the gruesome metal hook doesn't hold. A gashing blow leaves a bleeding gash. Other times, a gaff will pull out completely leaving a hideous gaping wound.

"We shall continue... I wouldn't feel Faroese any longer if I couldn't eat whale meat and blubber once a week."

Arte P. Dam Prime Minister Faroe Islands

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The knife-man in the boat has a tougher time. In the water-born, head or side of the whale while bouncing through the waves of blood and sea water.

In this sub-arctic culture, native people scratching out a living in some remote jungle! Definitely not! Because of their fishing industry, the Faroese enjoy one of the highest standards of living in Europe.

I know, I've been to the Faroe Islands. I also have been to two meetings of the International Whaling Commission where the Faroese pilot whaling was widely condemned. The Whaling Commission, however, hasn't established the precedent of regulating the take of pilot whales which some countries claim are small cetaceans and, therefore, can't be regulated by the Commission.

The result of all this is that the Faroese are willing to suffer the criticism from abroad. What do they care if they get a bad name? The Faroe Islands (through politically a "Home Rule" government) are actually part of Denmark. The islands are remote enough that international protest is ignored.

The International Wildlife Coalition has worked on this for almost three years now, and I am convinced the few changes that have been made are not in the way the slaughter is conducted is insignificant compared to the pain and suffering involved.

We have to do more. And our Wildlife Coalition will do more. We have devised a plan that will hurt the Faroese financially. We have launched a campaign aimed directly at the Faroese fish sales to the United Kingdom. We have done our research and we know that millions of dollars worth of Faroese fish imported by Great Britain can be targeted for an effective boycott.

People in the United States and Canada can help. Not content with limiting their harbor sale to pilot whales, the Faroese fishermen have included dolphins in the list of marine mammals they now slaughter. An eyewitness reports on the recent attack by the Faroese on a pod of ten dolphins.

"The boatmen had a massive net and drew it in until the dolphins were forced ashore, then the gaff — a vicious iron hook — went in. Even the children were holding their own gaffs. This dolphin was then attacked by two very drunk men. One of them tried to cut its throat with a pen knife."

URGENT UPDATE
Sunday Mirror, December 13, 1987

Headline: THE DAY A DOLPHIN DIED FOR A BIT OF SPORT...

Byline: Steve Double

Not content with limiting their harbor sale to pilot whales, the Faroese fishermen have included dolphins in the list of marine mammals they now slaughter.

An eyewitness reports on the recent attack by the Faroese on a pod of ten dolphins.

"The boatmen had a massive net and drew it in until the dolphins were forced ashore, then the gaff — a vicious iron hook — went in. Even the children were holding their own gaffs. This dolphin was then attacked by two very drunk men. One of them tried to cut its throat with a pen knife."

International Wildlife Coalition

Will you please help with a donation for our Pilot Whale Campaign? Please send your gift to:

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320 Gifford Street, Falmouth, MA 02540

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Euthanasia is a Euphemism

BY LESLIE PARDUE

Euthanasia, as we apply the term to human beings, is a merciful killing. It is bringing a painless end to lives which have been reduced to either a permanent unconscious state or an endless state of suffering, under those circumstances, euthanasia is frequently encountered by conflicting legal, medical, and familial considerations—with the result that many terminally ill individuals who would prefer a quick and painless death are forced to languish for years in hospital beds, waiting to win the legal right to put an end to their own suffering. There is still no clear consensus in our society about when and how euthanasia on humans should be carried out—at all.

By contrast, public and private animal shelters in the U.S. kill some 20 million dogs and cats each year. The vast majority of these animals are not suffering from any painful or terminal ailments. Instead, each cat or dog must be thought of as "euthanized" in the way that we apply that term to humans: their lives are taken not out of mercy, but out of convenience.

Most of the people who do this work are caring individuals who deplore killing healthy animals, and consequently suffer considerable stress and anxiety about this aspect of their jobs. Most work hard to educate the public about dogs and cat overpopulation and sterilization surgery, hoping to stem the tide of animals born into a world which has no room for them. A growing number of shelter workers are animal rights advocates, and may suffer even greater anguish than their less-enslaved col-workers, in part because they have to deal with the added burden of criticism from their fellow activists.

Animal shelter work is strenuous, chaotic, and stressful—and carries little in the way of monetary reward or status. We respect those who place themselves in this pressure cooker environment out of a desire to make a meaningful difference in animal lives. I realize that if all the killing stopped tomorrow, we'd have a huge problem on our hands. Nevertheless, I'm concerned that the sheer magnitude of the problem and the repetitious nature of the process numbs many shelter workers into a kind of complacency which, in the end, only helps to perpetuate the problem.

The majority of animals killed in shelters are relinquished by "owners" who complain that they already have too many animals, or that their apartment complexes won't allow dogs, or that the animals make noises or bark too much. All of these are solvable problems if a little thought is applied, yet they are the majority reason given for relinquishing pets. It's not often the case that a pet is euthanized because of its behavior, or lack thereof, in a near-certain death. Someone who abandoned a child for similar reasons would likely be locked up—yet shelters readily accept these pets without question. We should at least help the pet find a new home, not the owner.

People who relinquish animals are, on the whole, probably not heartless individuals. They have problems they don't know how to deal with, and feel that euthanizing animals is one way of solving the problem. They are not able to find happy new homes for their pets, and are forced to give up their pets. We need to help find homes for these pets, not euthanize them.

In Defense of Animal Shelters

BY MITCHELL FOX

Though they may be polarized on the issue of animal rights, some animal researchers and animal activists do share common ground. Both groups are concerned about the suffering of animals, and both groups are concerned about the development of new technologies that will allow us to solve many of the problems that currently plague our society.

In my capacity as an animal rights activist, I have often sparred with a researcher who directed cardiovascular physiology experiments on dogs. He finds it unbearable that, while working for a facility that kills so many animals, I object to his use of dogs. As he sees it, at least something good comes from his killing. I also hear grumbling about shelter work from the other direction—from respected and effective animal rights activists. For instance, a month ago, an activist friend mentioned that his right-month-old, unspayed, unneutered dog was missing. Our computerized list and found system located his dog. Though appreciative that we provided such services, he just couldn't understand why someone else didn't offer this, at a cost, without triggering the "pain and suffering" he gets from animal rights organizations.

If we could solve medical research problems using lab animals instead of humans, wouldn't we? It seems like this pit bull is about to become somebody's new best friend. Would we give this cat to someone who doesn't intend to keep her, but promises to find somebody else who will? Animal shelters must decide whether they want to rescue animals, or just put them to a new home. If it may entail suffering, if the number of animals coming in to a shelter exceeds the number going out, then the shelter must either start killing animals or restrict animals coming in from shelters.

There is a very real danger that some of these animals, who are supposed to be helping us, are actually helping animals. If we are going to stop using animals in research, we must be able to do so without causing unnecessary pain and suffering. The only way to do this is to create a system that is transparent and accountable to the public. We need to be able to see what is going on, and to be able to change the system if it is not working.

Mitchell Fox is director of animal rights issues for The Progressive Animal Welfare Society (PAWS).
ACTIVISTS' AGENDA

PART II

The Media: Making the News

BY RENEE BLAKE

Your first chance to work with the media comes a few days after the animal activist arrives with a demonstration planned at a local animal research laboratory.

Before you contact anyone with your story, try to determine the best angle. Is this a story of bureaucracy and red tape, a story of cruelty, of infiltration and intrigue, of wasted tax money, or one of animals betrayed by a system that does not value life? There are many ways to present the same story. Tell it the way you think it will have the most impact on the audience. For example, the story of the Silver Spting Monkeys could be told to a financial editor in this way: "No wonder the United States can't balance its budget. And it can't hope to in the future if it is keeping skinking thousands of dollars a year into housing monkeys for no particular reason, when there is an organization ready and willing to care for them humanely at no cost to the taxpayer."

If it's intrigue you're after: "The investigation of animal activist Pacheco to help out with laboratory experiments in 1983. Although Pacheco had no prior training in the field, it was only a short time before he was let alone in the lab with the animals to conduct experiments by himself. Instead, he took pictures and documented the behavior of the monkeys in the experiments. In a few months, he took his material to the police and had the monkeys confiscated and removed.""

If the desired angle is medical: "Conditions in the laboratory were unsanitary. Rodent for the monkeys was simply thrown into the cages where it fell amidst fecal matter. Because the animals did not have feeling in some parts of their limbs after surgery, they had accidents that caused severe wounds. Even wounds were bandaged, they were never checked for infection. No cleaning or changing of dressing was performed.""

While such publications as The ANIMALS' AGENDA will respond to the human issues, other publications and broadcasters will be looking for a different approach—one that doesn't portray them as soft-minded with a "lost cause" story.

An example of a weak news angle would be something like: "A German Shepherd living on Maple Street is starving."

The same story can be made "newsworthy" with some description and details—perhaps information about the animal's relationship to people: "The German Shepherd who always greets the children at a bus stop appears to be starving."

When you write it up, you can either edit or expand it, or you can use it as is, but be sure that no copyright prevents its use. Tape for television is better than a newspaper story or typed at 7½ ips. Tape for television is most useful on video at 6" inch. If you have it at some other speed, mention this before dropping it off. Some facilities can make the transfer for you, others may need you to do it yourself.

The following guidelines should be helpful in improving your media release writing:

News releases should be short—preferably less than 300 words, which is the approximate length of a news story.

Local angles for national stories

How to get the attention of the national story that your local media isn't planning to cover? By creating a local angle that relates to the national story, you can draw the national trade in and stray companion animals, or those who "disappear" entering at night are sold into laboratories for experimentation, and you might try locating someone whose dog or cat may have been stolen—perhaps through a local "lost pet" service or humane society.

Practically everything that happens in Washington, DC, has some local application. A story that is happening legislatively on a particular issue can be localized by researching how that issue is being handled in your area. Does the legislation have the support of the local animal defense community? Would group leaders like to talk about the issue on your local radio or TV air? Perhaps you can appoint yourself their press agent and try scheduling some appearances for them on community programs.

Ongoing and extended stories

Some stories that extend over a long period of time need more angles and new information in order to remain newsworthy in a reporter's eyes. The same information won't work when you write it. One way to renew an old story is to present it in two basically different ways. You may have begun with the ethical question that surrounds the issue. That question doesn't disappear, but since it won't bring you fresh coverage, focus on current activities surrounding the ethical question.

If you begin with the pursuit of justice, for instance, and two months later your story is "worn out," the issue isn't resolved, report a recent demonstration, the comments of a Congressperson on the new legislation, the skilled targeting practice, or freshly stirred-up activity at your local animal shelter. And remember, hard facts make news stories.

You may choose to update the story monthly until the issue is resolved. Each time, you write it up or call it in, offer something new—not a more in-depth study of the ethical question, but a new community response to the issue.

Timing makes a difference

For television coverage, contact the assignment editor far enough ahead of time that he or she can put the story on the schedule for reporters in the field. In staging an event, time it so that it can be broadcast as soon as possible. For news, the 6:00 P.M. news, hold the event in the morning. For the 11:00 A.M. news, the 6:00 P.M., the 10:00 A.M., and the 6:00 A.M. news, hold the event early in the morning. For the 11:00 A.M. and the 6:00 A.M. news, and again from 9:00 to 11:00 P.M., it's generally better to make the 6:00 P.M. news, or the 11:00 A.M. news, the 6:00 A.M. news, or the late broadcast.

The best time to get a story aired on radio is about an hour before the 11:00 A.M. news, and between the hours of 4:00 and 6:00 P.M., which is prime time for radio. If it's rush hour and people are on their radion on something good, they give it extra attention and promotion. The negative side is that the story is shared with only one media audience. In addition, if the outlet to which you grant the exclusive decides to "hit it on," you may find out too late that the story was squelched—too late to pass it along to someone else (and if the outlet paid for the story, you won't get it back at all). Or you may find that after all the trouble, the story wasn't handled the way you thought it should have been and now there's nowhere else to turn without violating the agreement. Never tell anyone that he or she has an exclusive and then proceed to give the story to someone else. If you do, you aren't likely to get a friendly reception the next time you call.

Exclusives can be wonderful with the right outlet, but deadly with the wrong one. The first consideration is the size and composition of the audience you will reach. But even with a major network or newspaper, the story can be dropped or "burned." Don't consider granting an exclusive unless you feel certain your contact will promote it.

Renee Blake has been a professional radio broadcaster since 1971. She is presently Program Director of WXL1-FM in Concord, N.H. Specific questions may be directed to her at PO Box 6574, Concord, NH 03303. Include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for reply.
On Whales and Humans
The Natural History of Whales and Dolphins
By Peter Evans
Facts on File Publications, 1987
$21.95, cloth, 343 pages

The Whale War
By David Day
Sierra Club Books, 1987
$9.95, paperback, 168 pages

In The Natural History of Whales and Dolphins, Peter Evans, research Population geneticist at the University of Oxford and founder of the Cetacean Group at the United Kingdom Mammal Society, has compiled an impressive dossier on the ecology of the world's cetaceans. Offering a description of all members of the order cetaceans, the volume includes information on their size, feeding habits, appearance, and doing behavior. Even the enigmatic beaked whales, who are poorly understood and usually ignored in other books on the subject, have a place in Evans' natural history. Evans does not omit detail in his analysis of these complex mammals. He gradually details how a blue whale uses its tongue, balanced, and expendable throat to capture krill. Grey whales scrape the ocean bottom one to five meters deep for their food, and to so doing may effectively be "plowing" the bottom and increasing a region's productivity. These sections are so thorough that the author rightly suggests that they are intended more as references than passages to be read in their entirety. It touched my fantasy to learn that the first cetaceans lived “fifty million years ago in a world of tropical vegetation, swamp and advancing seas.”

After scanning through many of the academic fine points in previous chapters, I turned my full attention to chapters covering social organization and life histories. The current status of communication research is presented. It is now generally accepted that the "songs" of the humpback whale are usually produced by lone males in search of a mate. Some odonocetes (toothed whales) produce sounds beam out as a sonic laser powerful enough to stun their fish and squid prey. Each pod (family group) of orcas living in the Pacific northwest has a distinct vocal dialect. One study of dolphins has shown they can comprehend "sentences" with up to five words or visual symbols in a particular syntax. Though Evans has deep appreciation for cetaceans, he does not offer support for any of the controversial hypotheses on the intelligence and communication abilities of cetaceans.

Evans' concluding chapters on the past and present relationships between humans and whales are well done summaries on the subjects, but the author’s dependence on academic sources leaves the text with the reader on the subject in question. Evans is an accomplished author and has a great deal of information that he has to present in a limited space. However, he has not been able to present it in a way that is easy to understand.

The Whale War by David Day is a unique chronicle of the diverse groups of people who have devoted themselves to stopping the whale slaughter. Day, a Canadian poet and naturalist, aptly charts the genesis of the "Save the Whales" movement from 1972, when the United Nations Conference on the Environment first called for a ten-year moratorium on whaling. Whaling, together many of the complimentary facts of the movement to a close. The book mentions the monovoluntary direct actions of Greenpeace, the documentation and linking of rogue whaler, the new wave of scientists who "broke the back" of the old management models, and the political machinations that finally led the IWC to pass a moratorium on commercial whaling in 1982. What's more, Day describes the legal and illegal actions that conservationists have taken to try to make the moratorium a reality. As readers of this magazine may know, the whale war is not over. The world continues to hunt hundreds of whales under the guise of "scientific research."

In an illuminating passage, Day presents an interesting analysis of how and why the political maneuverings in Japan have gone all out to defend a dwindling

still estimates, readers should compare (by studying Evans' valuable chart) the populations of the great whales prior to their exploitation with their numbers today. It is frustrating to note that blue, humpback, and right whales have all been hunted to less than ten percent of their original levels. The "Save the Whales" movement began to see. While The Natural History of Whales and Dolphins depicts the rich diversity of cetaceans, The Whale War by David Day is a unique chronicle of the diverse groups of people who have devoted themselves to stopping the whale slaughter. Day, a Canadian poet and naturalist, aptly charts the genesis of the "Save the Whales" movement from 1972, when the United Nations Conference on the Environment first called for a ten-year moratorium on whaling. Whaling, together many of the complimentary facts of the movement to a close. The book mentions the monovoluntary direct actions of Greenpeace, the documentation and linking of rogue whaler, the new wave of scientists who "broke the back" of the old management models, and the political machinations that finally led the IWC to pass a moratorium on commercial whaling in 1982. What's more, Day describes the legal and illegal actions that conservationists have taken to try to make the moratorium a reality. As readers of this magazine may know, the whale war is not over. The world continues to hunt hundreds of whales under the guise of "scientific research."

In an illuminating passage, Day presents an interesting analysis of how and why the political maneuverings in Japan have gone all out to defend a dwindling

and economically insignificant industry. Unfortunately, I found his attempts to counter the arguments of those Japanese apologists somewhat unconvincing. The book is fast-paced, and the thumbnail sketches of some of the main players in this drama are on target. Still, I was left hungry for more. If you've never read a short book could argue, perhaps because this book encapsulates a story that I and so many of my friends have lived since 1977. It was difficult to read about the toils and stresses of two-month undercover in investigations and direct actions condensed to single paragraphs. With the help of some poetic license, however, the story is good reading and fits together comfortably. It is a solid introduction to the strategies of one of the most successful environmental crusades of the past two decades.

—Campbell Plowden
Campbell Plowden is Whale Campaign Coordinator for Greenpeace in Washington, D.C.

Maternal or Moral Deprivation?
By Martin L. Stephens, Ph.D.
The American Anti-Vivisection Society (AAVS), The National Anti-Vivisection Society (NAVS), and The New England Anti-Vivisection Society (NEAVS); 1986
softcover, 93 pages

D r. Stephen's monograph is a critical review of maternal deprivation research that has been conducted in this country since the late 1950s. Explicitly, the critique points out the empirical and rational problems that underlie this research; implicitly, it shows an embarrassing deprivity of human nature for which we are all responsible—not just the scientists. Every person concerned with animal welfare in research should consult this monograph—a well-documented study of basic research run amok. With over 450 references, Stephens examines a research area that has, for over thirty years, used over 7000 animals and cost our society over $57 million (primarily in Federal grants). Out of the 250 experiments on the topic, Stephens found only one study that had any relevance to human welfare.

continued on next page
MEAT MACHINES

Factory Farming: The Experiment That Failed

Animal Welfare Institute, (P.O. Box 3650), Washington, D.C. 20067, 1987
$3.00, paperback, 86 pages

Well designed and organized, Factory Farming: The Experiment That Failed presents a comprehensive survey of the grave cruelties in eating animals in intensive husbandry systems. It is a compilation of articles reprinted from The Animal Welfare Institute Quarterly, beginning with a succinct analysis of the historic, social, and economic factors that led to the advent of factory farming. Written in styles that allow those unfamiliar with present-day animal husbandry methods to understand, chapters deal with species-specific husbandry techniques such as the raising of calves, pigs, and hens. Rather than offer simple generalities, the authors focus on specific abuses, such as poor quality flooring that damages animals' feet, and coping with overcrowding, straining that animals cannot even make normal postural adjustments. Of particular note, Brian Klug's "Language, Science, and the Abuse of Farm Animals," exposes agronomists and technologists to the public as objective science.

The thorough and easily understood presentation of factory farming and related issues is consistently accompanied throughout the book by a generous collection of excellent photographs and drawings. The congruity of text and illustration is the book's most potent attribute. The words are supplemented by images of extreme suffering that should elicit not just a sympathetic response with all the "excess" people. The fact that no human rights protection is available for farm animals such an idea seems to give us pause. Since the idea of killing mass numbers of humans to achieve population control is so reprehensible, why are we so quick to apply this method to nonhumans?

Survival instincts run strong. Most people (and animals) will suffer extraordinary agony and deprivation before choosing death over life. When we see humans suffering from starvation, we don't kill them. Perhaps through our present aid programs do little to address the root causes of poverty and malnutrition, people of conscience still send emergency food and medical supplies, stage demonstrations, and advocate measures designed to improve the lives of suffering people. We need to apply a similar ethic in dealing with dogs and cat overpopulation - not one which values length of life over quality of life, but one which fights for both over premature death. It's tragic that 20 million dogs and 80 million cats each year are accepted as a given - not only by society at large, but by the bureaucratic system and the pharmaceutical industry. Without unified support from local communities, governments, veterinarians, and owners of rental housing, the animal control initiative, newly updated and simplified by the national approach, one with the clear goal in mind of eliminating one and for all the killing of unwanted dogs and cats, is sorely needed. Toward this end, animal shelters should adopt on-site programs to spay or neuter; spaying and neutering - and should begin to devote a substantial portion of their time, energy, and resources to achieving a truly life-affirming solution to this tragedy.

- Lawrence Carola

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Some scientists say that we should not judge every instance of basic research by its immediate benefit to human welfare. Instead they claim that a considerable amount of scientific knowledge is derived from serendipitous results. However, as we can see from Stephens' monograph, the outcomes of the repetitive deprivation experiments, justified by only slight changes from the animals' previous well-established status. And upon understanding the dim hope of new discovery, the bare discovery to so many animals seems all the more senseless.

Stephens may miss the point here and there in terms of individual scientists' pedigrees, but by and large he is on target. Certainly all of the scientists who did this sort of research were not students of Harry Harlow, but it could be argued that most of them were. Certainly not all scientists.

Alas, Stephens may not have been completely correct when he said the deprivation experiments began with Harlow. Indeed, they have a historical origin in other Harlow-type cages. For example, ethology has used the deprivation experiment to distinguish between an instinctual and learned behavior. What is ironic is that ethology has a list of very specific prerequisites for doing any deprivation experiments correctly, and much of the cited research violates those prerequisites. For example, in a deprivation experiment the researcher must only disrupt the adaptation being studied. In much of this research, scientists wiped out huge chunks of experimental stimuli. A monkey locked in a small cage is deprived of much more than just a mother. As one of Harlow's peers pointed out, Harlow, in his experiments, used schedule-hammer blows when a few taps would have been sufficient. Had Harlow and others paid better attention to ethology much of the harm could have been avoided.

Finally, Stephens' careful work is a warning to us all. We must carefully examine the place and power our culture assigns to scientists. To paraphrase from a novel I recently read, our modern scientists are the most overweening, pious, and powerful in the history of humankind. We must be careful of the arrogant attitude that seems to come with the attainment of an academic degree - particularly when that is interpreted as a license to stand above morality.

The economist E.F. Schumacher in his "A Guide for the Perplexed" adds to those ideas very well:

"In modern man's consciousness is wearing thin... Many and more people are beginning to realize that 'the modern man' is a failure... and closed the gates of Heaven against himself and tried, with immense energy and ingenuity, to confine himself to the earth. He is now discovering that such a notion of Heaven means an inevitable descent into Hell."

Since we have brought this descent into Hell upon ourselves, it may be fitting that we should suffer the consequences. But to think we have the right to drag unthinking, unreflecting beings like us into an entirely different matter.

- Roger Franks, Ph.D.

Dr. Franks is professor of psychology at Corn

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The ANIMALS' AGENDA

MAY 1988

THE ANIMALS' AGENDA

Continued from page 45

The Final Wait

EUTHANASIA

Waiting Waiting Waiting

Fingers poke through giving a caress on the forehead
Waiting Waiting Waiting

The cage door opens offering a sign of hope
Waiting Waiting Waiting

Feeling the prick of the needle

- Veronica De Maggio
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ANIMAL SHELTERS:
Continued from page 22

given the right information in the right way, most people can become good guardians to their companion animals.

• Once people decide to get a companion animal, they are liable to get one somewhere else if they are denied at the shelter.

• Anyone taking the time to come to an animal shelter to adopt, when so many animals are available free in the community, deserves to be given every consideration.

More and more shelters are providing adoption services, too. Group events, like obedience training for dogs or classes in animal care, are made available to adopters at discount prices—sometimes for free. Individual attention is given by adoption counselors who make follow-up phone calls to adopters every week or two until the success of the adoption seems assured. Post-adoption services make it possible to approve adoption applications with negative factors that would have to be rejected if there were no way to follow up.

But even these measures aren’t likely to position the shelter as the main source of companion animals in town. In the future, shelters must expand their scope beyond shelter animals, and find a way to play a role in every “pet” acquisition in the community. This may mean getting pet store owners to agree to give an adoption package from the shelter to every purchaser, and offering people who are advertising dogs or cats for sale in the newspaper adoption packages to give away with the animals. The adoption package should contain information on animal care and sterilization, along with the message that the shelter is available to counsel the “owner” on how to solve the animal problems at the shelter or not to the animal came from the shelter. Optimally, the package might include a certificate for the free health exam and a free or low-cost spay or neuter.

Humane education for children is

Setting Up Spay-Neuter Clinics

The Peoples Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) has published a handbook on all facets of spay-neuter programs. The Politics of Animal Control examines and answers the arguments used by the veterinary establishment and some humane societies to oppose low-cost sterilization clinics. PAWS recommends an animal control “package” including a municipally operated clinic with modest fees, a licensing fee differential, pet store regulation, and an aggressive public education program. The book is available for $8 (U.S.) or $5 (Can.) postpaid from PAWS, Box 127, Station D, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada M1B 4T7.
ANIMAL FACTORIES
By Jim Mason & Peter Singer

Animal Shelters
Continued from previous page

the source of much hope for long-term results in ending overpopulation. In
fact, the scope of humane education goes beyond any one issue—the goal
being nothing less than a basic society-wide change in attitudes
towards animals. It respect for all life were truly felt and held as a cultural
value, it would not be too optimistic to believe that all types of animal abuse
would end.

Getting it together

A line from the song “Putting It Together” says, “The art of
making art is putting it together, bit by bit...” That also
goes for the art of making progress. We know some of the methods to
reduce overpopulation, but we need a plan that synthesizes all the
approaches so that all can be used in each
community. Again, there is a pioneer program. In central Ohio, 19
organizations have joined forces with a goal of reducing by half the
number of homeless, unwanted, and abandoned
dogs and cats in their part of the
country by 1992. As reported in the
August/September 1987 issue of the
NACA News, the group includes humane
societies, health departments,
Veterinary associations, animal rights
groups, and animal control agencies.
Used to working independently, these
organizations are combining forces in
this cooperative effort.
The group plans to put all the
resources of the community to work
on the overpopulation problem—from
city and county governments, to
the media, to marketing and advertis-
ing experts. The goal-oriented group
even has a “historian” to record its
progress, both for evaluation purposes
and so that other groups around the
country can learn from its experience.
Ending dog and cat overpopulation
is not only a desirable goal in itself; it
would release the talent
and energy of shelter personnel to
concentrate on other animal
problems.

An ANIMAL FACTORIES story...a
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lives of consumers, farmers, and the
animals themselves.

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Continued from page 6

destruction of habitats (thus the lives of) other animals to create living space for the
evoc human population has been com-
pounded in industrialized societies by
pollution, massacre on roadsides, etc. The
numbers of animals suffering and dying
due to the impact of humanity on the
environment is, quite possibly, far greater
than the numbers tortured and killed during oth-
er forms of persecution.

Therefore, it is not enough for animal
liberationists merely to campaign for an end
to the more obvious forms of animal
persecution. We must also demand a
massive reduction in the human popu-
lation (through humane methods such as
birth control, obviously), the protection of
all wild places, and an end to in-
dustrialized society.

-Rumen Lee
H.M. Prinm Long Larriin
South Littleton, Evesham
Wors. WRi 5TL, England

Milk and Honey

I'd like to raise a couple of points of in-
formation regarding the article by Victoria
Moran that appeared in the March 1988 issue.
Moran argues that to avoid ex-
ploration, milk production should shift from
eating honey to eating such other natural
sugs as rice syrup, molasses, sorghum, barley malt, pure maple syrup, date sugar, dried fructis, and fruct juice concen-
trate. Moran also claims that milk production
without exploitation is possible, but
seems to think feeding bees a syrup substitute for their own natural sugar will
make the winter's exploitation possible. First of all, it's not: it's simply a question of
extending the bees' sugar gathering season, which in warmer climates goes on year-round anyway. Bees aren't particularly interested in using their
own honey when they can be bringing in
sugar from any other source, as any beekeeper can show you with a five-
minute demonstration. Second, the
pesticide applications used in growing rice,
sugar cane, sorghum, barley, dates, and
other crops used in making these angry	
bees to as well as to birds, mammals,
fish, reptiles, amphibians, and
other insects—those any practicve of bee-
kere, large or small. I've witnessed
dequate applications that wiped out
every bee within a radius of several miles.
I don't know of any harm that comes to
animals as a result of maple sugaring, but
with 71 percent of the Quebec and
northern New England sugarbushes now
dead, these animals are at risk of extinc-
tion, and 87 percent of trees showing symptoms, make this risk not be around as
much longer.

Moran's analysis of the dairy industry also contains questionable statements. The advantage of automatic milking machines over hand milking isn't just that they cost less than milksides; it's also that the machines completely drain the teats if properly used, thus preventing mastitis. That's a double-edged argu-
ment, of course, in the old days, mastitis
was typically caused by weedy and dis-
tracted milkers. Today mastitis is typically caused by farmers who don't use their
milking machines properly, who don't carefully inspect each cow's teats before and after milking, or who give each too
much less attention because their herds are much larger with far fewer people looking after them. Too much irritation from
milking machines with cold or worn-out rubber cups is common, however, in fairness to the machines, at least as many actual teat injuries come from other
causes: teats accidentally dragged over rough concrete barn floors, bitten by in-
sects, even stepped upon (much more
common in this era of cows bred for super-large bagy than any city dweller
might suspect).

Then there's the disposal of surplus
male calves. No doubt about it, the veal
industry is growing—displacing the old
"baby beef" market—and it is a horror.
However, contrary to popular belief, not
all surplus males become veal, either through immediate butchering or keep-
ment in veal crates. A great many, if a
dwindling percentage, are still castrated
and put out to pasture for slaughter as
adults at age two or three. The determin-
ing factor in breeding. A Holstein heifer
joining a milk herd is typically bred first
with Hereford semen, yielding a smaller, easily barbed calf. Herefords and Here-
ford crosses always go for beef, usually
mature beef, regardless of sex. Depending
on the farmer's feed for replacement
stock, the Holstein may or may not be
fed with Holstein semen in the future.
Veal calves from her will be Holstein males, whose beef value relative to a
Hereford declines as they age.

Most milk herds in the U.S., Canada, and northern Europe are now Holsteins, and most beef herds Herefords. Other milk
cow varieties include Jerseys, Guernseys, Ayrshires, and Brown Swiss. I believe their breeding and disposal prob-
lems are similar, except that Jersey, being
smaller than the others, are more likely
to be bred exclusively with their own
kind.

-Merrill Clifton
Brigham, Quebec, Canada

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your help we can further shriveln the human
race.

In the end, the letters, legislation, and
compromises will work. But, like all other
struggles against oppression, it may take
ten decades—if not centuries. Something
must be done now to lessen the suffer-
ing, to somehow cause the oppressors to

Purina Poison

Purina Mills, an animal food company, is
producing a pesticide to kill starlings and
shrikes who eat grain intended for
chickens. Made of thiolene, a broad-spe-
ctrum, painful, and slow poison, the com-

dound will also kill the pigeons, jays, magpies, crows, and ravens who eat poisoned feed intended for
starlings. Non-target predatory birds (hawks, falcons, eagles) may accumulate the lethal compound, and mammalian scavengers will also be killed. Purina has a good name in animal feed production, and will surely feel his major drop in profit by
ceasing production of Staricide. If this re-

quire a boycott of Purina products, so be it.

-Jan Kay Lisle
Wildlife Rehabilitation
Denver, CO

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