

Wily Coyotes: A Survival Story

# the ANIMALS' AGENDA

THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE OF ANIMAL RIGHTS AND ECOLOGY • MAY 1990



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## The Myth of the Good Shepherd



Bowhunting: A Primitive Pursuit



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# The ANIMALS' AGENDA

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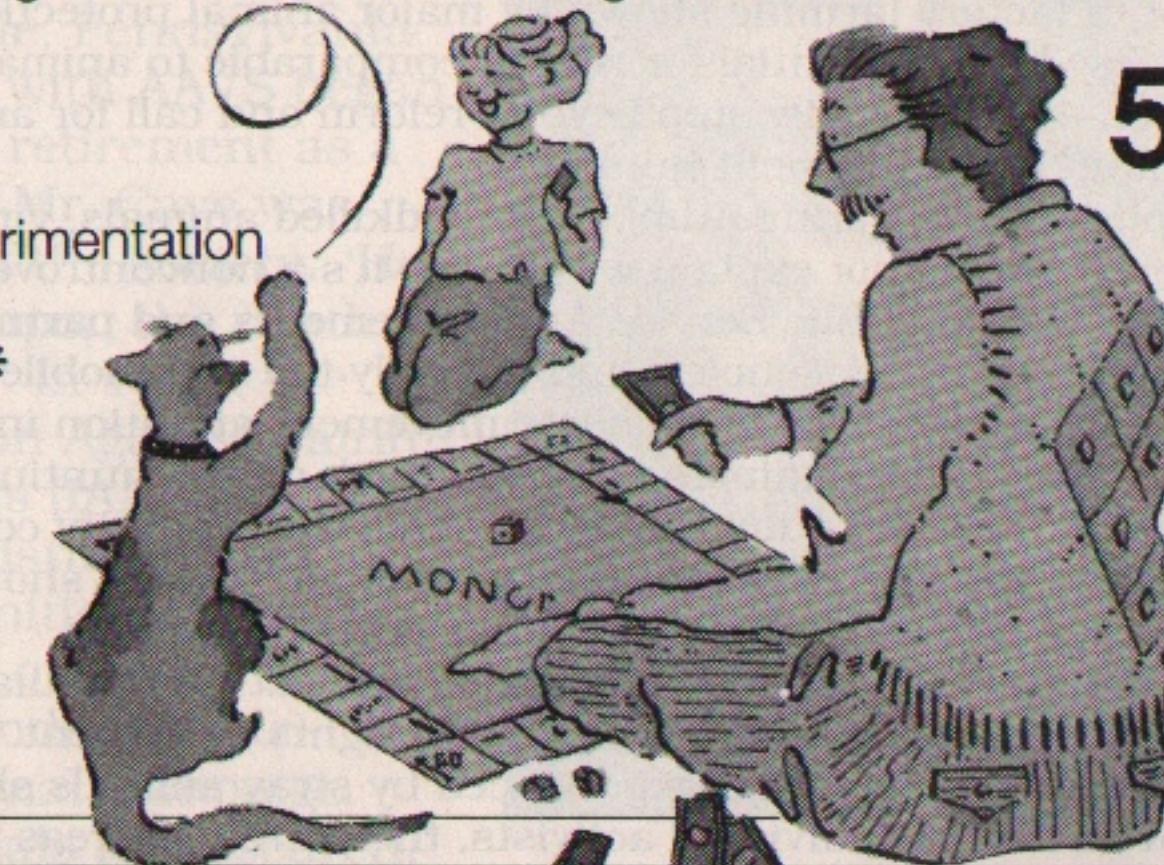


Mark & Sandra Butkovsky



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# Means and Ends

We receive a considerable number of phone calls here at The ANIMALS' AGENDA from reporters wanting to talk to someone about "animal rights." We take the calls enthusiastically, imagining that we will be asked to briefly explain basic humane philosophy and then discuss the major issues. Four times out of five, however, it turns out that all the reporter wants to talk about is the debate over animal experimentation.

To the media, animal experimentation is the issue that defines the animal rights movement, and, in fact, it did seem to be the focus of movement attention during most of the '80s. Towards the end of the decade, however, many activists and organizations began to redirect their energy at other areas of animal abuse. There were many reasons for this shift in priorities, but the main ones seemed to be organizational personnel changes (new people with different perspectives), a realization that vivisection is not the most significant category of animal exploitation (though it may have provided the most dramatic examples of cruelty), and a feeling that other issues may hold greater potential for victory or at least more rapid alleviation of major animal suffering.

Though numbers of animals used in laboratories may not have diminished overall, there has been gain in terms of regulation and refinement of experiments. Some types of research projects common ten years ago, which inflicted intense pain and suffering to animals, are now being deemed unacceptable by many institutional regulators. When grotesque and painful experiments are discovered and exposed, it is much easier to muster public support in campaigns to shut them down. The increasing public scrutiny of biomedical researchers is bound to result in continued lessening of animal suffering, and this will, of course, require vigilance on the part of animal advocates. It may be, however, that better treatment of lab animals, less pain in experiments, and a gradual substitution of nonanimal alternatives is all we can hope to achieve in this area in the foreseeable future. Complete abolition of vivisection—other than for blatantly unnecessary cosmetic and household product testing or student exercises—does not seem, at present, a realistic goal.

Estimates in all the categories of animal use vary widely, but it's probably safe to say that every year in the U.S.: six billion warmblooded animals are slaughtered for food; 365 million animals die on roads and highways; 200 million wild creatures are killed by sport hunters; 50 million are consumed in laboratories; 25 million die for the fur industry; and somewhere between 10 and 20 million dogs and cats are destroyed in pounds and shelters for lack of homes.

After animal research, fur has received the most animal rights interest. Unlike vivisection, however, the demise of the fur industry seems close at hand. It does not seem overly optimistic to expect an end to furwearing in Europe and North America over the next decade. Given that there's no perceived human "need" to wear animal skins, calling for the abolition of the fur trade doesn't conflict with prevailing social values; on the fur issue, the movement needn't limit its expectations.

Much less attention has been given to the other four top categories, yet successes can be achieved in each. During the past few years, we have been heartened at the growing interest in factory farming shown by major animal protection organizations. This area of animal use has a potential for reform comparable to animal experimentation ten years ago. Moreover, one can easily step beyond reform and call for an end to meat-eating as something that will benefit humans.

Despite the staggering number of roadkilled animals, virtually nothing is being done on this front. We cannot explain why, since it's a noncontroversial topic that would lend itself especially well to Public Service Announcements and partnerships with conservation groups, government agencies, and possibly the automobile and insurance industries.

Sport hunting has received some movement attention in the past, but until recently, there has been no sustained, focused attack on the hunting fraternity. Hunters may be powerful, but they're vulnerable, too. This tiny minority controls government wildlife agencies throughout North America; animal advocates should be successful in challenging their disproportional influence on democratic principles.

Last but not least, the tragedy of dog and cat overpopulation has been all but ignored by the more radical segments of the animal rights movement. The enormity of the numbers and the degree of suffering experienced by stray animals should make this a priority for the movement; for individual activists, there are few areas in which one's personal efforts can have as great an impact.

These are the issues that affect the greatest number of animals, and as such they deserve to receive a significant portion of movement attention and resources. There are a myriad of other worthy topics that demand action as well. Through an ongoing process of success/failure analysis and constant reprioritization of issues, we can make the most of our time, energy, and assets, and thus make the greatest difference for animals.

—The Editor

## THE ANIMALS' AGENDA

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## Combine Empathy with Ethics

I was pleased to read the *Page Two* editorial (Nov. 1989) questioning the concept of animal "rights." Activists blundered mightily when they permitted terms like "sentimentality" and "humaneness" to assume almost negative connotations, for these are the very core of what we are about if we had but the courage to admit it.

The Nazi Holocaust is viewed with revulsion not because of the infringement of victims' abstract rights, but because of the routine violation of their physical beings and sensibilities. We must rekindle an emphasis of the same in our relationship toward animals, underscoring not illusory rights, but innocence and real suffering in the far greater holocaust we callously impose upon them.

What is required is a broader ecological ethic that sees the planet and its species as victims meriting moral consideration and respect. Only from a nonanthropocentric ethic stressing interdependence and moral stewardship over utilitarian benefits, can we formulate cogent future arguments (and I applaud The ANIMALS' AGENDA's recently enlarged focus to include ecological concerns).

As a battle cry, "animal rights" has been useful, but as a concept it is narrow, misguided, and a flimsy house of cards to build on. If we myopically focus on it, we risk failing to instill in people a needed "sentimental" recognition of the intrinsic beauty, complexity, and individuality of animals, and their evolved niche in a shared biosphere. In that event, we may end up winning a few battles but losing the war.

—Rob Gluck  
Chapel Hill, NC

## Scientific Suppression

As one following the parallel immoralities of science fraud and

## LETTERS

vivisection, I note your article "Look Out for Libel" in the Dec. '89 issue.

Not surprisingly, both antivivisection activism and fraud exposure are being deterred by the same tactic of litigation.

Publication of a recent article titled "The Integrity of the Scientific Literature," by NIH investigators W. Stewart and N. Feder, was delayed for three and a half years by the threat of a lawsuit from the scientists whose dubious work was exposed. The article appeared in *Nature* #325 (1/15/87) only after the civil rights aspect of the case was aired before Congress. (Such Congressional oversight is being fought by the accused scientists in the current David Baltimore

case, where Baltimore, a Nobel laureate, co-signed a paper possibly based on data misrepresented by another author.)

I think it's more than interesting that scientists are responding to both fraud exposure and vivisection exposure with the same strategy of cover-up. It could serve our strategy of defense to expose how the side with by far the most power and wealth feels compelled to suppress the truth.

—Lorraine  
Blake Roth  
Brookline, MA

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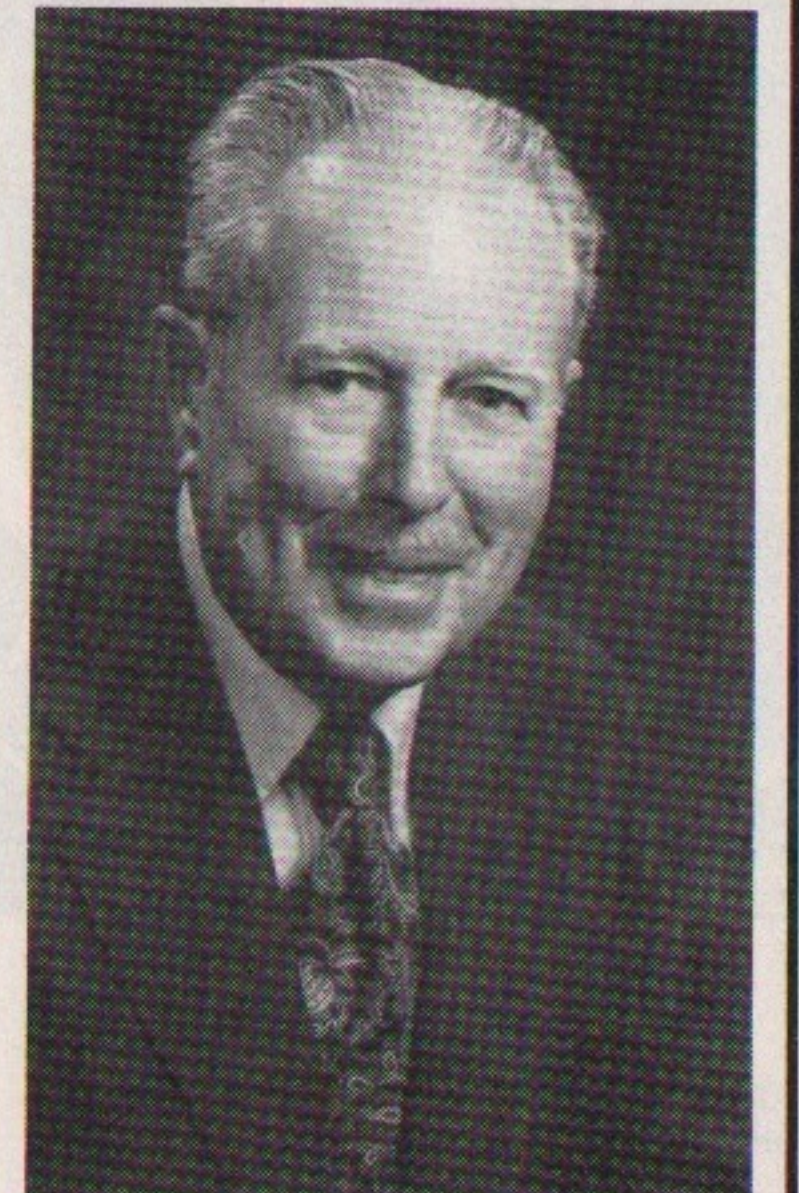
Thanks also to our 1990 **Sustainers**. For information on becoming a **Benefactor, Patron, Sponsor, or Sustainer**, please see page 60 of this issue.

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## In Memoriam

William A. Cave, 85, president of the American Anti-Vivisection Society and one of The ANIMALS' AGENDA's strongest supporters, died February 23 at his home in Gladwyne, Pennsylvania. Mr. Cave's involvement with AAVS began in the 1950s. After his retirement as a sales engineer in 1968, Mr. Cave was elected vice president of the society. He took over as president upon the death of Owen B. Hunt in 1978. In 1989, the International Association Against Painful Experiments on Animals (IAAPEA) awarded Mr. Cave its Distinguished Service Order "in recognition of his dedication to the cause of justice for animals and his outstanding contribution to the international campaign against the use of animals for research."

Mr. Cave was a soft-spoken man whose life reflected his belief that "It is the responsibility of humanity to care for and protect the lesser creatures who inhabit this planet with us." His memory will long be honored at The ANIMALS' AGENDA and throughout the animal rights movement.





## LETTERS

Continued from page 3

### Strays Low Priority?

As I was reading the two letters published under the heading "Strays Need More Help" in the March issue, it occurred to me that there is a similarity between the attitudes of some animal rights activists and a significant proportion of antiabortion advocates. "Save the whales!" "Carry that fetus to term!" The suffering of feral/stray dogs and cats appears to be as low on the list of priorities as the welfare of unwanted children and prevention of their abuse.

Having headed our local county animal shelter board for four years, I know only too well how indifferently animal activists can behave toward companion animals. Like cast-off children, these creatures have few advocates. Those people who do try to help can be overwhelmed by the task unless they keep reminding themselves that

they're making a difference just by setting an example. However, the reality of the situation is a day-to-day struggle to decide how best to cope with the flood of homeless animals as humanely as possible.

Where are animal rightists' "front lines" drawn? We must, of course, show concern for headline-grabbing animal issues. But we must also remember to campaign for spay-neuter programs and do what we can to help those cats and dogs who too often remain invisible to many of the loudest attackers of fur-wearers. Indifference to the "least of these" reflects an underlying malaise that will undercut the best-intentioned campaign for animals' rights.

—Shirley A. Glade  
North Manchester, IN

### Tourist Activism

Mexico and all other countries deriving income from tourism are trying as never before to promote it.

Tourism is, after oil, the second biggest industry in Mexico. Many times tourists visiting here or elsewhere see animals being tormented, exploited, or neglected. Not knowing what to do, they think they'll try to get in touch with a humane society in that country or town once they're back home. The fact is, there are hardly any humane societies in the developing countries.

As a visitor, one can perform a valuable service to animals. When one sees, for example, two lion cubs (upper teeth knocked out, claws removed) attached to a post by a short chain in front of a hotel bar in the burning sun, first go the public relations director of the hotel. Inquire about the name and address of the state/federal directors of tourism, the governor of the state, and the newspapers (the English newspaper, *The News*, is read all over Mexico and always publishes letters from readers). Next, ask to see the manager of the

More Letters Page 7

### FOR PEOPLE WHO CARE



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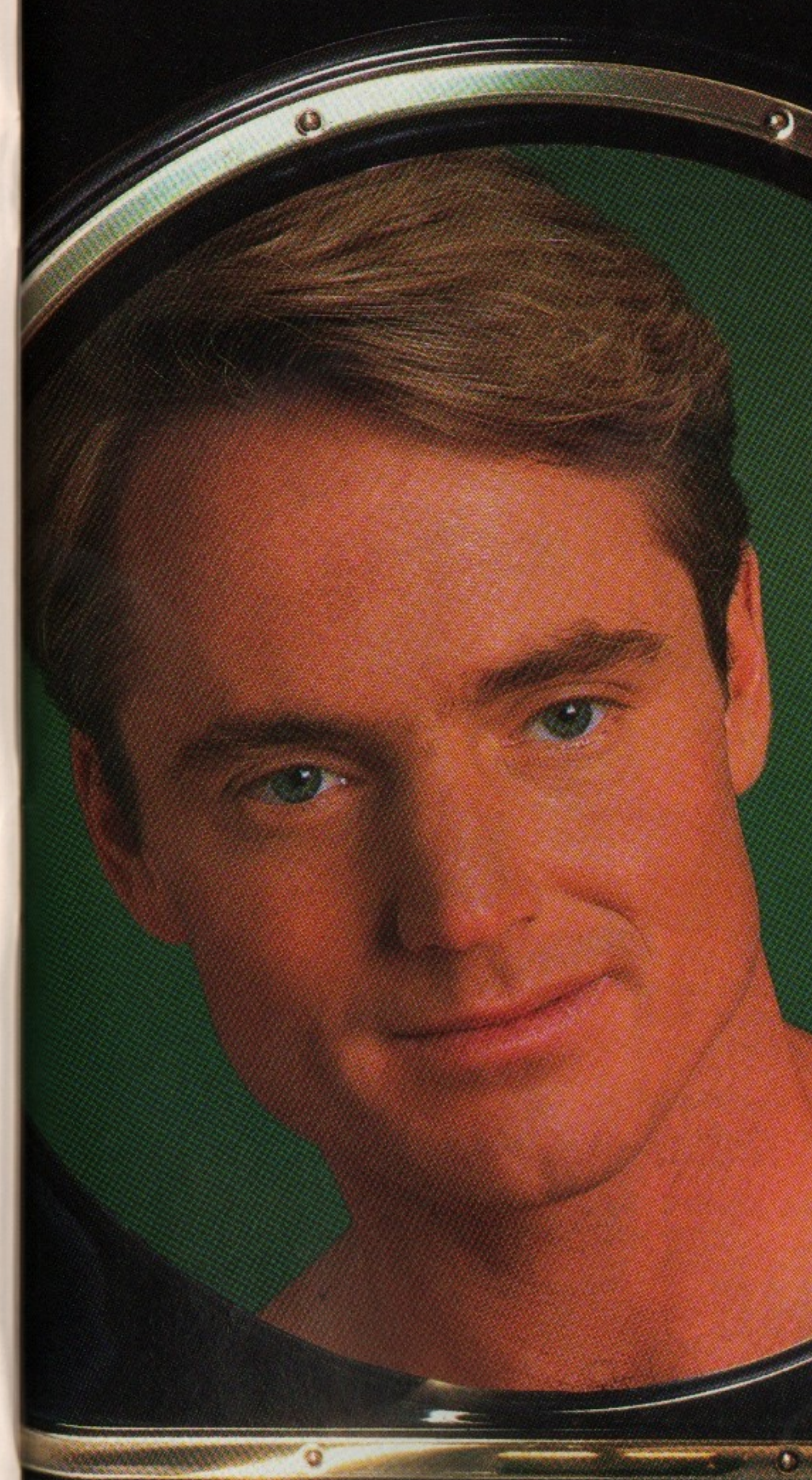
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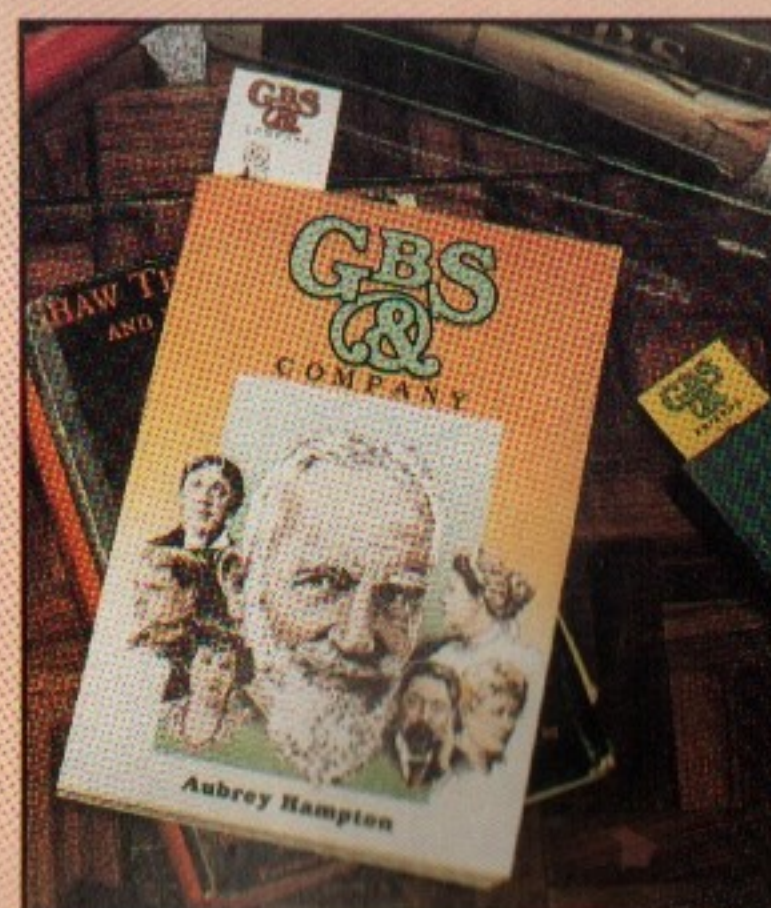
# MEET SHAW THE ANIMAL ACTIVIST

No cause was closer to the heart of George Bernard Shaw than animal activism. A lifelong vegetarian, Shaw also wrote against vivisection and factory farming—yet his efforts on behalf of the animals have been virtually ignored. Aubrey Hampton's biographical play, *GBS & Company*, shows how one of the world's great playwrights integrated animal activism into his long and productive life. Roger Galvin, attorney and animal rights advocate, finds that it "powerfully reminds us that the growing animal rights movement has not been woven from whole cloth in the last decade." Gretchen Wyler, vice-chairperson for The Fund for Animals, says "*GBS & Company*...provides...inspiration and vision. Bravo!" Join the crowd who has read and loved *GBS & Company*. Send \$10.95 for each copy, plus \$3.00 for shipping to the address below.

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## LETTERS

Continued from page 4

hotel. Explain to him that there were many lovely things about your stay, but that you were affected profoundly by the sight of animal suffering. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred, he will look at you and realize, for the first time, that cruelty to animals impacts negatively on tourism.

Tourists should never be timid about expressing their opinions on bullfights, cockfights, carriage horses, roadside zoos, or any abusive practice or event. The people of Latin America like to help if they can, and usually go out of their way to oblige provided one is very polite and resolute. The noted Venezuelan criminologist and founder of the humane society in that country, Victor Mileo, said in his book *The Hispanic Syndrome*, "People simply do not see animal suffering unless it is pointed out to them."

—Peggy Monning Porteau  
Mexico City

### Research Motivations

Hans Ruesch and his followers claim that animal research has never resulted in any human health benefits. Most antivivisectionists, regardless of whether they support this claim or not, tend to avoid discussing the issue out of fear that it will damage the cause. Some have even called such discussions "foolish squabbles."

The question is too important to evade. The truth of the matter is that many animal researchers are motivated by compassionate desires to protect the health of man and beast and to alleviate their suffering—and that some of their experiments on animals have helped to save human and animal lives, prevent or cure their diseases, and soften their pain. But such admissions in no way invalidate our basic claim that animal experimentation has to be phased out by a civilized society bent on abolishing injustice and violence.

The ultimate success of antivivisectionism will require that our

opponents be treated with scrupulous fairness. If we deny the existence of the health benefits they have given us or the ethical motivation that lies behind them, we do animal researchers an injustice that retards our evolution and weakens our cause. Were antivivisectionists to confront head-on the truth about health benefits, the movement would acquire more of the spiritual

strength required to bring to a halt the further abuse of animals by researchers.

—Catherine Roberts  
Berkeley, CA

### Why March?

I read your *Page Two* editorial expressing both reservations and applause for the June 10th March

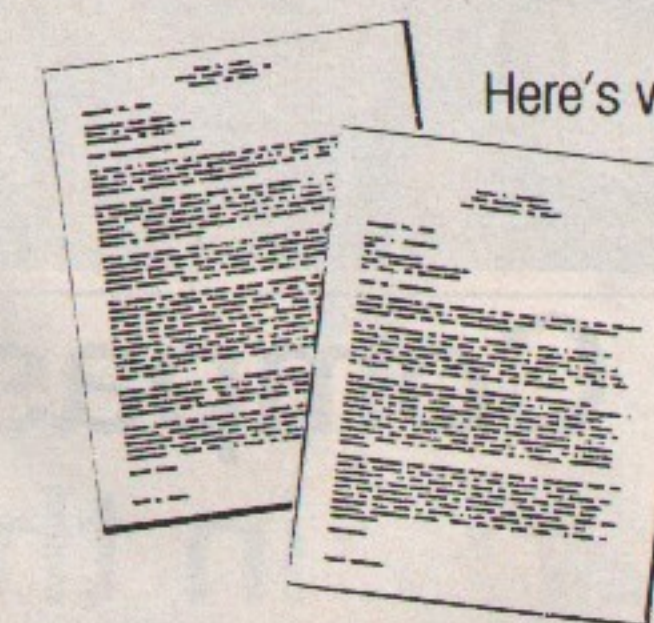
Continued on page 53

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R.B. / Amelia, OH

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## PROFILE

When Susan Rich was nine years old, she went one afternoon to a playground near her Washington, D.C. home. There she found a boy roughly her size being roughed up by a bully of greater proportions. "I interceded," Susan recalls, "so the bully went after me. He grabbed me by my hair, dragged me down the hill, and left me crying in the gutter."

Later, Susan and her father went knocking on her attacker's door, but Mr. Rich was unable to speak to the bully's father because there was no father living at home to speak to. At that point, says Susan, "even though this kid had beaten me up, I felt sorry for him. I thought I understood why he had behaved the way he did."

The incident at the playground did nothing to diminish Susan's inclination "to step in wherever things are wrong," but a talk with the bully convinced her that "within those who do evil there is still the capacity for good" and that "trying to understand what motivates people gives you a better chance of overcoming your differences with them."

The lessons of her youth—and a lifelong zeal for justice inspired by role models such as Martin Luther King, Jr., Robert Kennedy, and her attorney father—inform Susan's strategies as coordinator of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals' Compassion Campaign, directed against animal testing in the cosmetics industry.

"I definitely think large corporations are capable of doing good," Susan insists, "but many of them are locked into old habits. Corporations are just like people: they often need to be jolted out of comfortable practices. That's what we're doing with cosmetic companies that test their products on animals—increasing their discomfort level."

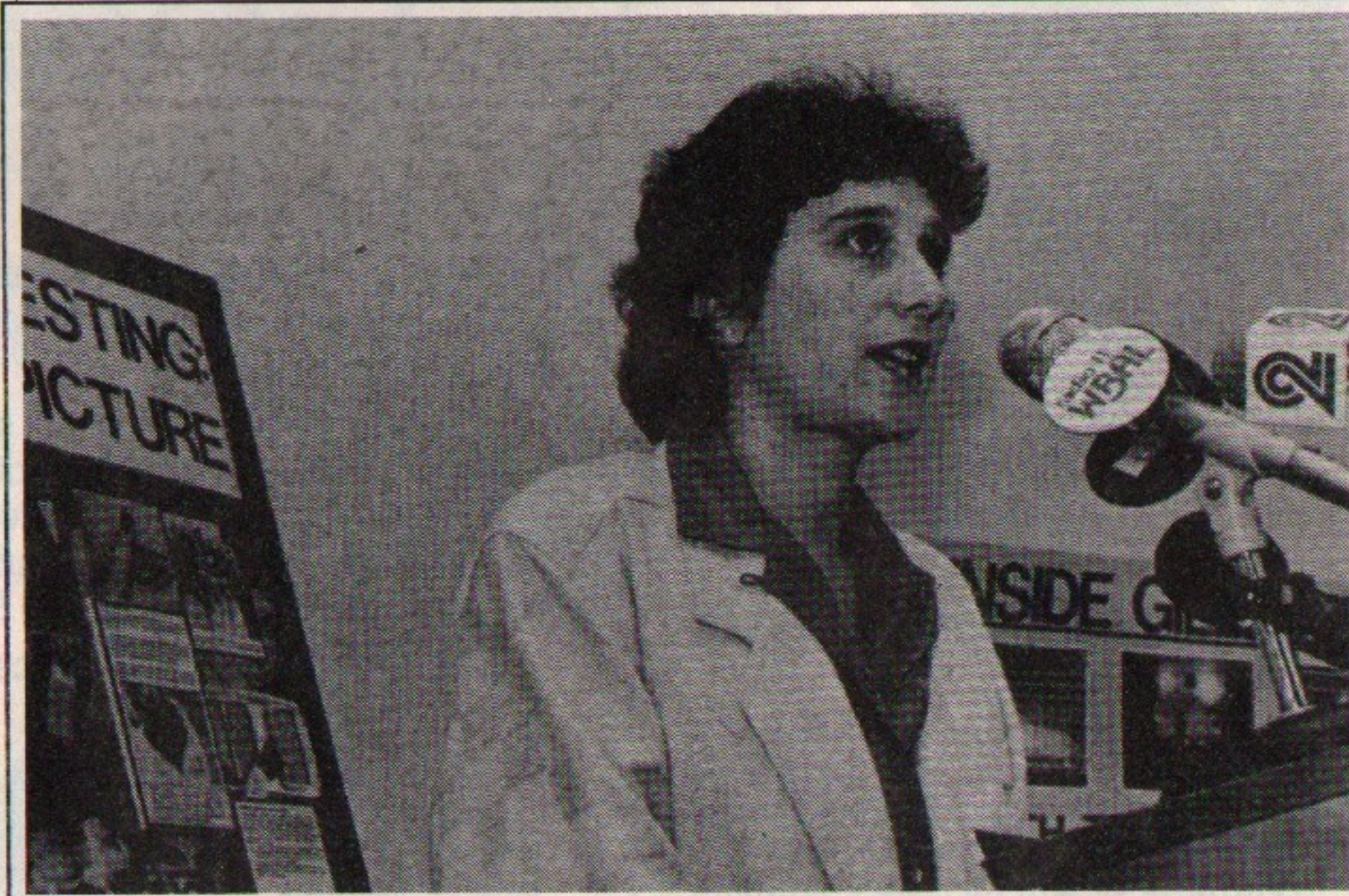
The efficiency of this approach—which included distributing three million "Avon Killing" doorhangers throughout several countries, demonstrating at manufacturing and distribution plants, introducing resolutions at annual shareholder meetings, and leafletting in the neighborhoods of corporate

executives—led to animal-testing bans by Avon, Benetton, and Revlon last year. Yet much remains to be done.

In addition to "having cosmetic companies discontinue animal testing," says Susan, "we want to stop tests performed by the companies that manufacture the ingredients used in cosmetics. The

occurred less than a year before that. A former elementary-school French teacher with a master's degree in social work who had also managed a gift shop for a couple of years, Susan was "doing some temporary secretarial work" in a hospital when she "stumbled across" a notice in the *Washington Post* advertising a World Day for

## Susan Rich:



## Compassion begins in the Home

suppliers of those ingredients have given no guarantees that they won't test on animals. Once we see the major cosmetics companies swear off testing at the product level, we're going to see a filter-down to the ingredient level, but that's going to take time because we're not able to exert the kind of pressure on ingredient manufacturers that we are on product manufacturers."

When Susan Rich was chosen to direct the Compassion Campaign in October 1985, she had been on salary at PETA for scarcely more than a year, and her conversion to the animal rights cause had

Laboratory Animals event in Lafayette Park in April 1984. "Completely ignorant" about animal rights issues, Susan attended the rally and went home with an armful of information about the barbarisms committed against laboratory animals in the name of progress.

As she had in the neighborhood playground—and in later years when she took part in anti-war and anti-nuclear-energy demonstrations—Susan determined "to do something directly" about the mistreatment of animals in the lab. She "plowed right in," doing volunteer work for PETA and

taking part in local events. Five months later she was hired to coordinate PETA volunteers in the Washington, D.C. area. She was quickly promoted to national volunteer coordinator and was then selected to direct the Compassion Campaign.

Her swift ascent through the ranks did not surprise Bernard Unti, vice president for public relations at the American Anti-Vivisection Society, who met Susan shortly after she had joined PETA. "Susan brings tremendous enthusiasm and competence to her job," says Unti. "She's very thorough in her approach. She knows company

policy better than most corporate chairmen do, and she's often more familiar with research implications than scientists themselves are. What's more, she has a good sense of humor, which is an important quality in animal rights activists, given the sobering nature of the work we do."

From playground to corporate chambers, the little girl who was "always poking my nose where it didn't belong" has realized her dream of "working in some capacity connected with social justice and change." Let the bullies of the world beware.

—Phil Maggitti

## Sandy Larson: Humane Educator

She has been to hundreds of classrooms and lecture halls throughout New England—traveling to Massachusetts one day, New Hampshire or Rhode Island the next, from her home in eastern Connecticut. Blending her zest for teaching with a passion for animals, Sandy Larson has served as Education Coordinator for the New England Anti-Vivisection Society (NEAVS) since 1984.

Sandy has introduced thousands of students—from grade school through college—to animal rights. She accomplishes this with a four-part presentation, tailored to the age group. For gradeschoolers, the emphasis is on the care of companion animals and endangered species, along with some talk on basic animal rights philosophy. For older students, the scope is broadened to include videos and discussions on the grim reality of animal abuse.



"It [the program] doesn't pull any punches," explains Sandy, who says her main goal is to "teach them that animals have the ultimate right to exist on this planet." Usually Sandy brings along a cat or a rabbit who has been subjected to gruesome experiments. "When they hear the story of how the animal was abused, it stays with them for many years."

Yet Sandy tries to "end each

*Continued on next page*

## PROFILE

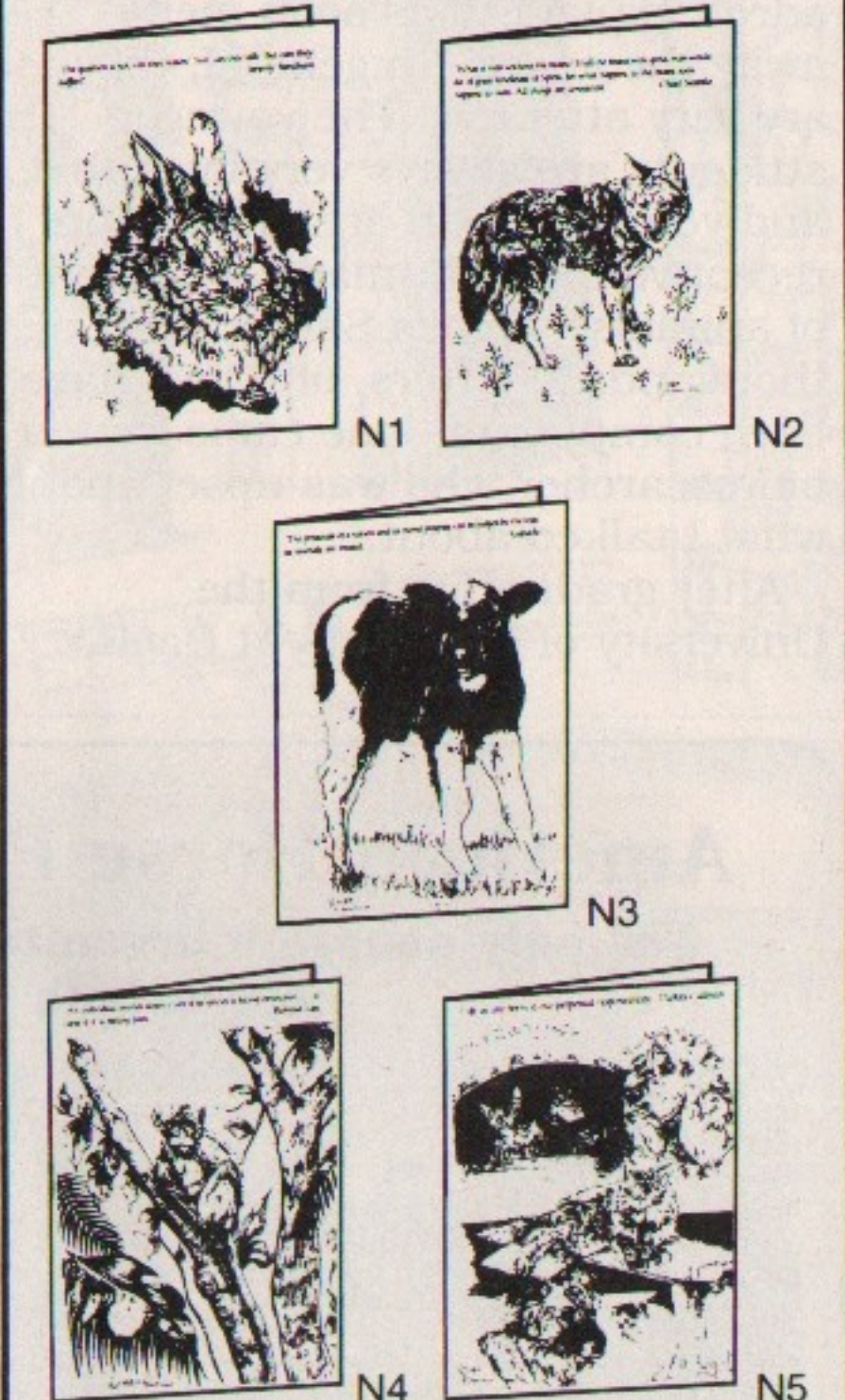
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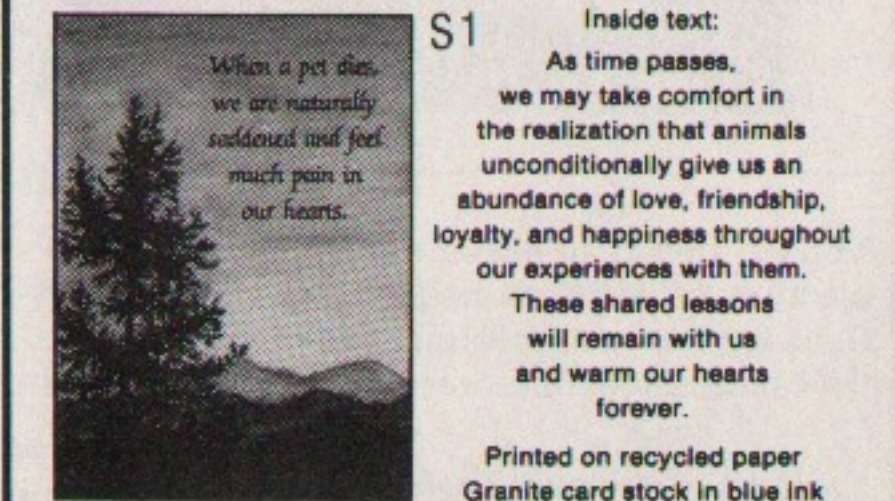
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## PROFILE

Continued from previous page

program on a positive note," by encouraging the students to recycle, buy cruelty-free products, shun exotic pets, join animal rights organizations, and write to their legislators.

How do the students react to the presentation? Some cry. Others stare ahead in disbelief. Occasionally a student becomes argumentative, even hostile. But Sandy is not intimidated. Her professionalism, sensitivity, and knack for adroit explanations soon melts away the anger. "In general, they are very attentive. The younger students are always very favorable, and young women are much more receptive to the humane treatment of animals," recalls Sandy. "Out of thousands of letters, only two have been complaints—one came from a bioresearcher who was upset about what I talked about."

After graduating from the University of California at Davis

with a degree in biology, Sandy lived in a number of states, teaching comparative anatomy. Her first encounter with animal rights came while working for a veterinarian in Arkansas. "That's when I learned of the reality of factory farming."

In the early '80s she moved to Massachusetts, and was hired by Harvard as a research assistant in a medical laboratory. One day she came across a newspaper ad placed by CEASE—the Boston-based Coalition to End Animal Suffering and Exploitation—revealing the horrors of the Draize test. She wrote for information, received it, and joined the organization.

At work, she began to ask questions. "Although I worked with tissue cultures, I knew animals were being used, animals who knew tricks like how to roll-over. I asked where the dogs were coming from. The answer was that they came from pounds." She began to "snoop

around and see how the animals were treated," and what she saw wasn't to her liking. Sandy eventually quit her job and joined the staff of NEAVS. "People at Harvard were well aware of my feelings. They were glad to see me go." Nowadays, Sandy's work for



animals never ends. Located on her seven acres of property in rural Connecticut is Kitty Angels, a refuge she runs for some 70 to 80 cats who were either abandoned or in need of homes. The conditions are ideal: a clean, modern barn with an adjacent pen for feral cats who will "probably be here forever." The cats are free to roam the woods and the Larson home.

Sharing the duties at Kitty Angels is her husband David, a high school biology teacher who also believes in animal rights. Recently David was locked into a prolonged battle with his school's administration over dissection, which resulted in free choice for the students.

Sandy feels it's critical to start discussing animal rights as early as possible in the schools. "We must combat society's indoctrination that portrays animals as things without rights. We must make young people aware. It's surprising what they can do with the right information. They are our future."

—Karen and Michael Iacobbo

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# NETWORK

Edited By Merritt Clifton

## Excuses

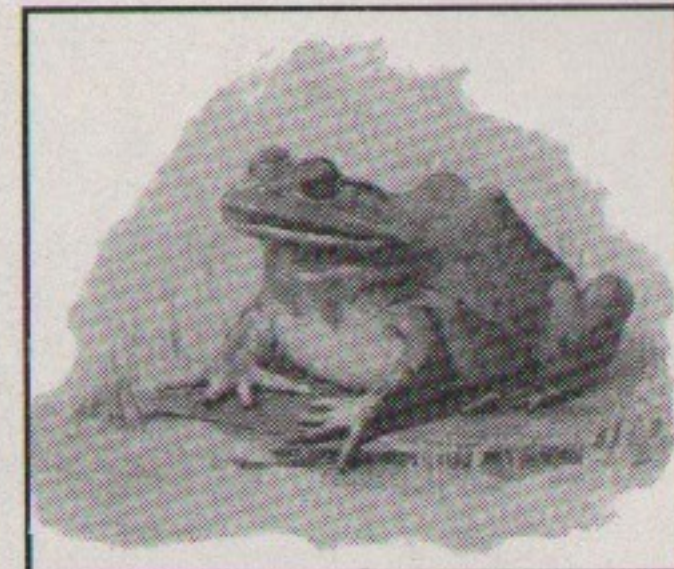
Boycotted for supporting the American Kennel Club's Nite Coon Hound Award, Ralston Purina says competitive raccoon hunting helps raccoons because hunters save them for the contests (in which raccoons aren't killed—if they can get to a tree before the dogs get them). Protest to Checkerboard Square, St. Louis, MO 63164.

## AHA Not Pro-Hunting and Trapping

PETA wrongly included the American Humane Assn. in a list of pro-hunting and trapping groups recently sent to members. AHA policy states that "American Humane considers sport hunting a violation of the inherent integrity of animals," and that "American Humane opposes the production and wearing of fur garments." AHA has long promoted anti-hunting and anti-trapping legislation.

## Victories

Wasatch Humane shut down the Pet Connection franchise in Clearfield, Utah, for neglect of animals. The group offers a variety of humane education materials from P.O. Box 59, Farmington, UT 84025-0059. ♦ Mayfield, Ohio school superintendent Robert Stabile agreed to exempt student Jennifer Engel from dissecting frogs after she took her case to

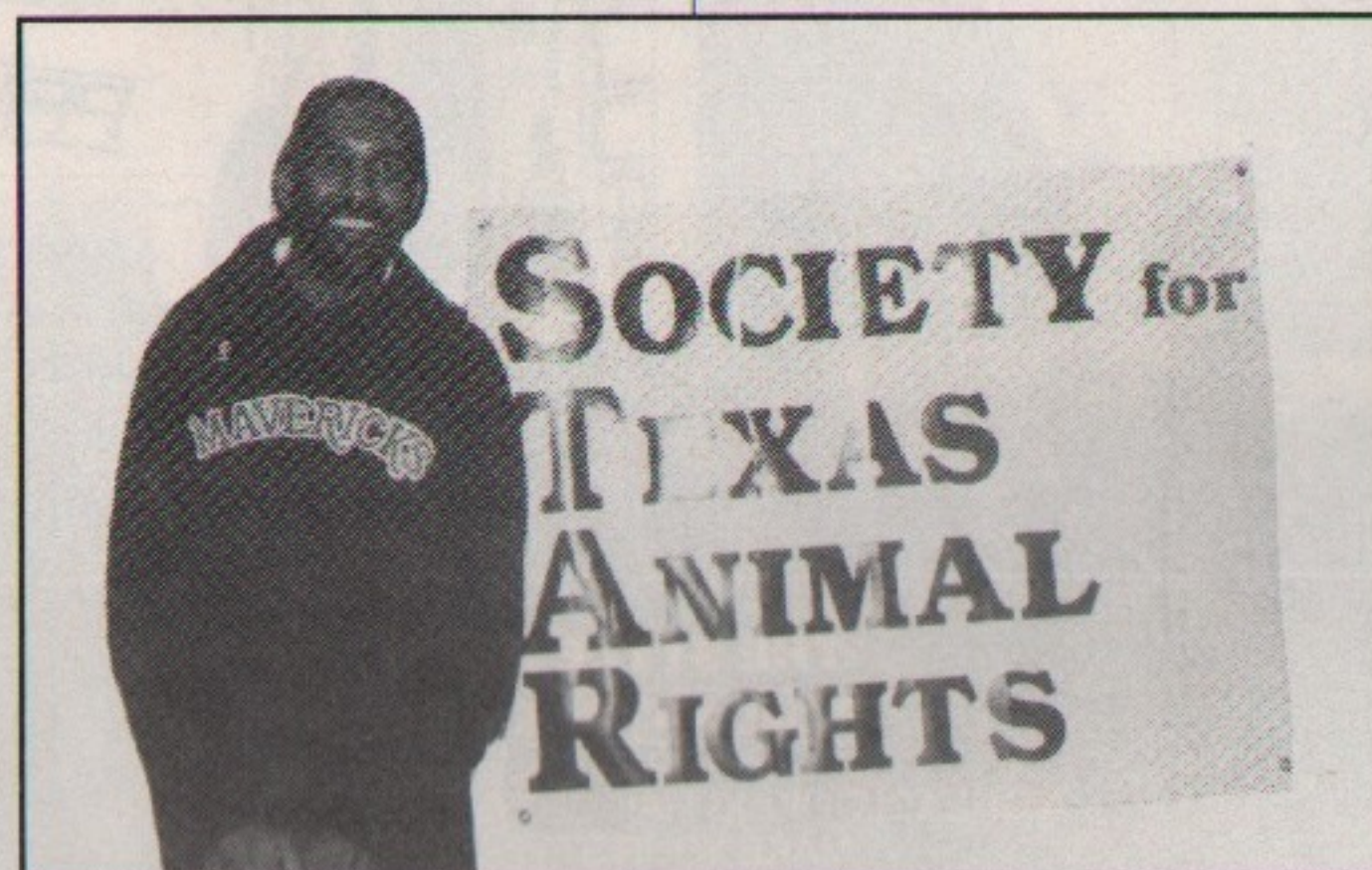


the district board. The Network for Ohio Animal Action has offered Mayfield computer software that simulates dissections. ♦ Pressured by NOAH, the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources has released a tame buck into an area where he won't be hunted. ♦ Reminded that roadkills aren't funny, the

Washington D.C. District Ford Dealers Assn. pulled a commercial that showed a truck crushing the battery-powered Energizer Bunny. ♦ The U.S. Dept. of Education has decided not to distribute Ohio State University professor Phillip Hollander's videos of animals injected with illegal drugs. Hollander has used the videos to fight drug abuse—and promote animal-based research—in some Ohio schools.

## People

Bob Barker refused to host the 1990 Miss USA pageant when the promoters insisted on including videos promoting the Wichita zoo and rodeo. Barker once hosted both the Miss USA and Miss Universe pageants, but quit to protest the use of furs as prizes. ♦ Basketball star James Donaldson of the Dallas Mavericks heads the Society for Texas Animal Rights' Responsible



Animal Stewardship campaign. ♦ New York artist Julian Schnabel recently held a show on the theme "There's no place more horrible on the planet than a fox farm during pelting season." ♦ Activist Bill Rosenberg, 20, died Jan. 25 of an unexplained fall from a Manhattan highrise. FARM has set up a fund in his name to honor outstanding teenaged activists. Contributions are welcome at P.O. Box 30654, Bethesda, MD 20824. ♦ Jimmy Gilbert, 28, dove into the fast-flowing, icy Ohio River Jan. 4 to save a cat someone threw in after breaking her hind legs and backbone. The cat died anyway. The suspect was acquitted of cruelty, but lost his job and had to pay legal fees. ♦ PETA invest-

igator Michael Winikoff faced trial in April for taking two rats from a Univ. of Pennsylvania psychology lab to save them from experiments. Winikoff ate only bread and water in jail from lack of vegan alternatives.

## Achievements

The Saratoga County Animal Welfare League of upstate N.Y. recently celebrated 17 years of doing humane education and pursuing animal abusers. President Phyllis Shulman said the four SCAWL peace officers probe 450 abuse cases a year, 10-15 percent of which are prosecuted.

## Animals and Children

The Humane Coalition Against Violence explored the links between animal abuse and child abuse at a Feb. 2 conference in

## Demonstrations

ISAR picketed Bloomsburg Univ. in Pennsylvania after 71 lab rats first ate each other, then starved to death when left unattended over a three-week Christmas break. ♦ CEASE protested a daylong bowhunt of rabbits Feb. 17 at Martha's Vineyard, Mass. ♦ Coloradoans Against Pound Seizure and the Rocky Mountain Humane Society have gathered 6,000 signatures protesting the Denver Municipal Animal Shelter's sale of dogs to labs at Colorado State Univ. ♦ Braving hostile local media and a pro-fur demo by trappers, the Alaska Animal Welfare Society picketed the Anchorage Fur Rendezvous auction Feb. 17. One trapper's sign read, "10 billion fleas can't be wrong. Get into a fur."

## New Groups

The Earth First! Biodiversity Project "intervenes through educational, grassroots, and legal channels on behalf of sensitive, rare, threatened, and endangered wildlife." Inquire at 2365 Willard Rd., Parkersburg, WV 26101-9269. ♦ The South Carolina Assn. for Marine Mammal Protection protests the capture of whales and dolphins for amusement parks; write P.O. Box 3233, Myrtle Beach, S.C. 29578. ♦ The Legion of Vegetarian Enthusiasts has formed at P.O. Box 7382, Austin, TX 78713-7382; 512-467-8371. ♦ Delaware Valley for Animal Rights has organized at P.O. Box 29332, Philadelphia, PA 19125. ♦ The St. Mary's Univ. Animal Life Assn. may be reached at 300 Palmero, Corpus Christi, TX 78404. ♦ People to End Animal Suffering and Exploitation seeks contact with other groups at 1329 6th Ave. #3, Beaver Falls, PA 15010. ♦ The Student Animal Welfare Group has opened an office at P.O. Box 81255, Las Vegas, NV 89102; 701-251-9558.

## Campaigns

The Animal Rights Resource Group seeks tips on fundraising and getting tax-exempt status, to include in a handbook for activists. Write or call Marianne Roberts, 1000 Linden Ave., Suite 108, Charlottesville, VA

# NOTES

22901; 804-979-0890. ♦ A coalition including PETA, NEAVS, CEASE, the Alliance for Animals, Mobilization for Survival-Boston, the Greens, and the National Toxics Campaign has asked Gillette Corp. to end animal testing, sell South African holdings, and adopt recyclable packaging. ♦ FoA is fighting efforts to dilute a Connecticut law barring betting on animal contests. The law is opposed by promoters of "cow chip bingo", in which a field is divided into numbered squares; the winning number is the square where a cow first defecates. Other opponents could include dog-racing, horseracing, and cock-fighting interests. ♦ The American Humane Assn. has accused the producers of *The Abyss* of "apparent dishonesty" for claiming no animals would be used; a live rat was submerged for some time in an oxygenated liquid to prove it is possible to breathe such a substance. ♦ Pennsylvania activists are urging the Kensington Cty. district attorney to prosecute over 100 cruelty allegations filed against Biosearch Laboratories in June 1988 by former technician Cheryl Baker and PETA. The statute of limitations expires this June. ♦ In Louisiana, the Slidell Community Humane Society and Legislation in Support of Animals seek prosecution of people who abandon livestock—a growing problem as aging small farmers lose ability to cope. ♦ Evidence gathered by the Toledo Humane Society resulted in cruelty charges against the International World Classic Championship Rodeo.

## Coming Events

Feminists for Animal Rights will present a panel discussion at the National Women's Studies Assn. Conference, June 20-24 at the University of Akron, Ohio. For details write FAR, P.O. Box 694, Cathedral Station, New York, NY 10025. ♦ The Schweitzer Center is coordinating U.S. participation in a march on Rome to ask the Pope to declare that animals have souls. The event will begin with a conference in Colchester, England on June 25. The march itself begins June 27 in Strasbourg, West Germany, reaching Zurich on July 3, Milan on July 19, Assisi on July 21, and Rome

on July 23, with a stay of up to four days projected. Call 415-526-5346 for details. ♦ The Jewish Vegetarians of North America 1990 conference will be July 26-29 in Swan Lake, N.Y. For details, call 1-800-431-3858. ♦ The 30th annual convention of the American Vegan Society will be held August 1-5 in Geneseo, N.Y.; get info from P.O. Box 72, Dolgeville, NY 13329 or call 518-568-7970. ♦ The Scientists Center for Animal Welfare is holding a meeting on "Effective Animal Care and Use Committees" at UCLA June 1. For info, call 301-654-6390.

## Protest

The U.S. Dept. of the Interior's proposed National Wildlife Refuge Reform Act omits specific bans on recreational hunting and trapping. Write your Senators and Representatives.



♦ The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service wants to round up the last 18-20 wild Florida panthers in hopes of breeding them in captivity. Opposing groups argue captive breeding hasn't saved other highly endangered species, and that panthers raised in captivity won't survive reintroduction to the wild. Write James Pulliam Jr., Regional Director, USFS, 75 Spring St. SW, Atlanta, GA 30303. ♦ Protest scenes of injuries to rodeo animals in recent episodes of *America's Funniest Home Videos*, to P.O. Box 433, Hollywood, CA 90078. ♦ Protest Feb. and March

Yankee features promoting coyote hunting and trapping to the editors, 33 Union St., Boston, MA 02108. ♦ Find out what you can do to help save the wildlife-rich Tatshenini Wilderness of British Columbia, c/o the Western Canada Wilderness Committee, 20 Water St., Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1A4 Canada. ♦ Object to the Montana law requiring that bison who enter the state from Yellowstone be shot, to Governor Stan Stephens, Capital Station, Room 204, Helena, MT 39620.

## Offerings

*Rescue*, a bimonthly magazine for animal owners, is published by The National Dog Registry, P.O. Box 116, Woodstock, NY 12498-0116. The NDR tattoo system helps reunite lost animals with their humans. ♦ Voices for Animals recently won "Best Pro-

Committee for Laboratory Animal Liberation has issued "Basic" *Animal Experimentation: Your Tax Dollars At Work*, a compilation of protocols for recent federally funded projects. Inquire at 2686 Broadway, #44-6, New York, NY 10025. ♦ NAVEL, a newsletter for Naturists Advocating Vegetarian and Ecological Lifestyles, is \$6.00/year from P.O. Box 7382, Austin, TX 78713. ♦ Get current info on federal legislation from the National Alliance for Animal Legislation, P.O. Box 75116, Washington, DC 20013, and the Society for Animal Protective Legislation, P.O. Box 3719, Georgetown Station, Washington, DC 20007. ♦ DELTA offers *Safe House*, an 80-minute video on finding a safe new home for a companion animal, for \$29.95 from P.O. Box 9, Glendale, CA 91209-9832. ♦ Non-leather weightlifting belts and gloves are made by Atlas Fitness Products, 7121 Commercial Park Dr., Knoxville, TN 37918.

## Good Trips

Wolf Haven, a 60-acre sanctuary, welcomes visitors. Inquire at 3111 Offut Lake Rd., Tenino, WA 98589. ♦ Inquire about attending the Vegetarian Society Cookery School on English holidays c/o Parkdale, Dunham Rd., Altrincham, Cheshire, WA14 4QG, United Kingdom. ♦ The Utah Wilderness Assn. is hosting a river run June 21-25, cost \$330 apiece. Call 801-359-1337. ♦ The Cetacean Society International's 1990 whale-watching weekend will be June 2-3 at Provincetown, Mass., price \$60 for non-members; reserve c/o CSI Whale Watch, 25 Johnson Ave., Plainville, CT 06062 by May 19. ♦ The Rainforest Action Network is hosting an "ecotour" of Hawaiian rainforests, May 26-June 5. For details call Leslie Jarvey, 1-800-777-7939.

## Provide For Your Animals

Provide realistically for your companion animals in your will. A Rosemead, Calif. woman who died without assets recently left 35 dogs to people on fixed incomes who could only accept or otherwise place nine of them. □



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## Bow Hunting: A Most ~~PRIMITIVE~~ Sport

By Wayne Pacelle

**E**xcept for the movie character Rambo, modern armies make war with sophisticated firearms, not bows and arrows. Yet bows and arrows, which have been zipping around in some form for at least 25,000 years, are perhaps more commonly used now than at any time since the invention of firearms in the 14th century.

Today bows and arrows are used not for war, but play. Though some archers are satisfied to aim only at a cloth or paper bull's eye, the vast majority aim at the eyes and other body parts of real animals. In fact, today's 2.3 million bowhunters account for more than 90 percent of all sales of archery products.

As bowhunting goes, so goes the archery industry. With bowhunting becoming increasingly popular in the last two decades, archery sales have taken off more like a rocket than an arrow. In 1970, sales totaled \$53.1 million; in 1975, \$121.5 million; in 1980, \$148.6 million; in 1985, \$212.6 million; and

*Continued on next page*



—Illustrations by Walt Taylor

May 1990

The Animals' Agenda



Continued from previous page

in 1988, an all-time high of \$238 million.

A variety of reasons have encouraged the growth of bowhunting. Bowhunting seasons are longer, earlier in the year, and quieter than firearms season. Thus archers get a shot at animals who are less spooked, more approachable, and more plentiful. Also, most states allow bowhunters to shoot deer of either sex, not just bucks. Because there are fewer bowhunters than gun-hunters, archers may have a more private experience in the woods. What's more, there's also the macho mystique associated with the activity. It's the rough-and-tumble Rambo, not the refined Robin Hood, who's the bowhunters' icon. That's why, with their full camouflage and black face paint, they seem more prepared for battle than hunting harmless animals.

But while these elements help lure hunters to bows and arrows, improved technology has been principally responsible for the sustained and dramatic rise in bowhunting. Prior to 1970, the bowhunter's arsenal consisted of the longbow (a shaft whose top and bottom ends are bound by a string);

the recurve bow (which maintains the same design, except that the top and bottom end of the shaft curve away from the hunter); and where legal, the crossbow (a military invention of the late middle ages, which uses pulleys to bend a stiffer shaft than can be bent by unaided muscle power, and thus throws a heavier projectile farther). In 1970 though, bowhunting was forever changed with the advent of the compound bow.

Whereas the longbow and the recurve require significant strength to draw the string and hold it in place, the compound borrowed and adapted the crossbow concept to achieve full draw without much strain. Since a sophisticated siting system was added to the compound, archers could hold the weapon at full draw for an extended period and better aim at their prey. The compound, being both primitive and modern, expanded the appeal of bow and arrow hunting to those who had been unwilling or unable to use the cruder weapons.

In the broadest sense, the effect of the compound bow was both a boon and a bane. To the archery industry and the bowhunting fraternity, the compound bow was a shot in the arm. To the deer and other big-game targets of archers, the compound bow only compounded their suffering.

### The crippling problem



Besides affecting bowhunters and wild animals, developments in the bowhunting world also affect state wildlife agencies. As a rule, the state wildlife managers are in the business of selling hunting licenses, and bowhunting allows them to cash in on sales of special licenses. To promote this primitive pursuit, state wildlife agencies from California to Connecticut have established separate and lengthy bowhunting seasons prior to the firearms seasons, have begun bowhunter education classes, and have disseminated information on bowhunting to the public. In their public relations efforts, wildlife managers echo their oft-cited rationale for more conventional forms of hunting, claiming bowhunting helps prevent animals from overpopulating, and is thereby a useful tool of wildlife management. But some wildlife

managers are changing their minds. For instance, in a February 1988 report on bowhunting at Rock Cut State Park in Illinois, Department of Conservation biologist Tom Beissel states, "...this report recognizes that bowhunting has never been an effective tool for deer control..." In Texas, which has more deer than any other state, Parks and Wildlife biologist Horace Gore comments, "You cannot call bowhunting a population control measure; it is a recreational pursuit." In fact, he adds, "We do not advocate bowhunting when the objective is controlling the population."

With recreation as their primary justification, bowhunting enthusiasts, including wildlife managers, find it increasingly necessary to defend themselves from the verbal barbs of criticism. As of late, the person most responsible for shaking up the arrow-shooting world has been Texan Adrian Benke. A still-active gun hunter who laid down his bow more than a decade ago, Benke has written a broadside attack against broadhead bowhunting in *The Bowhunting Alternative* (1989).

Benke charges fraud on the part of the archery industry and bowhunting "elitists," claiming they have lied to bowhunters and the public about the killing capabilities of broadheads, suppressed information about the inefficiency of the weapon, and manufactured studies that conclude broadheads kill reliably.

According to Benke, "Archery wounding is the most denied problem in bowhunting and the most ignored problem in wildlife science." He cites empirical studies and hunter surveys that consist-

ently indicate bowhunters wound at least as many animals as they kill. In one 1989 study that backs Benke's contention, Horace Gore and Glen Boydston, also a biologist with Texas Parks and Wildlife, compare data on archery and gun wounding loss gathered at four Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) in Texas from 1972 through 1985. During this period, archers bagged 128 deer and wounded and failed to retrieve 130 others, for a crippling loss exceeding 50 percent. Gunners killed 2,266 deer and wounded 150 others, for a crippling loss of 7 percent.

The Texas study is by no means unrepresentative. In 1989, during a bowhunt at Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge, hunters killed 8 deer and left 9 wounded. At Illinois' Rock Cut State Park in 1988, hunters killed 53 deer and left at least 42 others injured. Deer aren't the only casualties: a report to the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks indicated that of 2,370 bowhunters who hit an elk with an arrow, only 49 percent actually retrieved it.

The difficulty of shooting arrows accurately offers a partial explanation for the high crippling loss. Unlike bullets, which fly a linear path, arrows loop. Whereas a gun hunter takes dead aim at an animal, an archer must estimate the distance from the target and adjust the shot to compensate for the rainbow trajectory of the arrow. A poor range estimate inevitably leads to a poor shot. Benke summarizes a study by D. Sage in *Archery* magazine: "At 35 yards, he found, a mere 2-1/2 yard error in range estimation was enough to cause a complete miss on a deer-size target."

When one considers that bowhunters often shoot from tree stands, position themselves on sloped terrain, and are anxious when an animal is finally within range, the difficulty is further magnified. If that's not enough, animals often "reflexively move" upon hearing the release of the shot—referred to as "jumping the string." Benke says, "According to experts, animals can completely evade an arrow at a distance of 15 to 'less than 20 yards.'" With those factors to contend with, archers should restrict their shooting to float animals and leave the fleet animals alone.

But, of course, they don't. The sad fact is, they not only fail miserably at hitting live animal targets, but also at hitting stationary paper targets. In a shooting proficiency test, "only 12 percent of some 500 bowhunters managed to hit a 12-inch target at least three out of five shots at a distance of 25 yards." When it comes to the real thing, where stress and terrain factors are present, the results are atrocious. At the Texas WMAs, Boydston reported that bowhunters fired 2,637 shots to hit 258 deer. Thus, for every 11 shots, they hit one deer; and for every 21 shots, they killed one deer. Boydston concludes, "Shot placement is, for all practical purposes, random." In short, if you're wise, you won't let any would-be William Tell shoot an apple off your head.

Archery advocates rebut that bowhunter education is the not-so-secret weapon that will end wounding loss. According to Benke, however, several studies document that the best bowhunters wound more animals than the worst. While novice archers usually miss animals entirely, better shooters connect more often, wounding high percentages of them with random hits. In a study of wounding loss in Iowa, H.L. Gladfelter, confirming Benke's contention, reports that "crippling is not correctable by increased training or field experience and is a by-product of the sport."

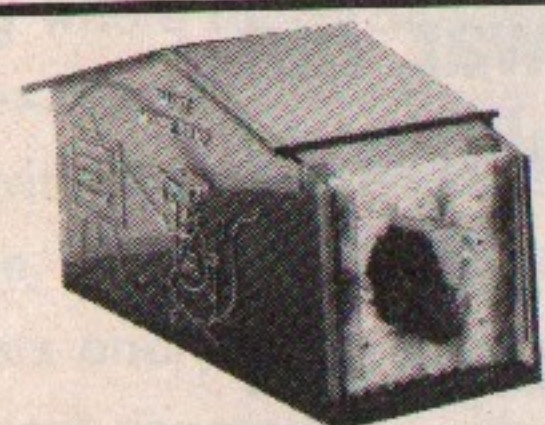
When that rebuttal misses the mark, bowhunters pull a similarly ludicrous rationalization from their quiver. They contend that though crippling is undesirable, most wounded animals do not die agonizing deaths but quickly recover. Of course, this argument is contradictory. On the one hand, bowhunters suggest that a broadhead arrow is

an efficient killing tool, able to "stop all body functions with incredible speed—within 30 seconds in most cases" (The Complete Book of Bowhunting). On the other hand, arrow wounds, being so nonlethal, allow most crippled animals to make speedy recoveries.

Contradictions aside, most crippled animals do not recover from their wounds; rather, they routinely contract peritonitis or a septic infection. The main cause of infection, according to Benke, is the modern multibladed broadhead arrow, which clips the hairs of an animal as it penetrates the skin, all but insuring that the wound channel is infected with bacteria. Commenting that more than 80 percent of unretrieved animals die from arrow wounds, Benke asserts, "...the average killing time of hunting arrows must be measured in days rather than hours or minutes."

Sadly, it's not just the crippled animals who suffer, but those successfully hit and retrieved as well. According to experts, "clean" kills are a rarity. The following comment, from an experienced

Continued on next page



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# George Bernard

## and the Animals

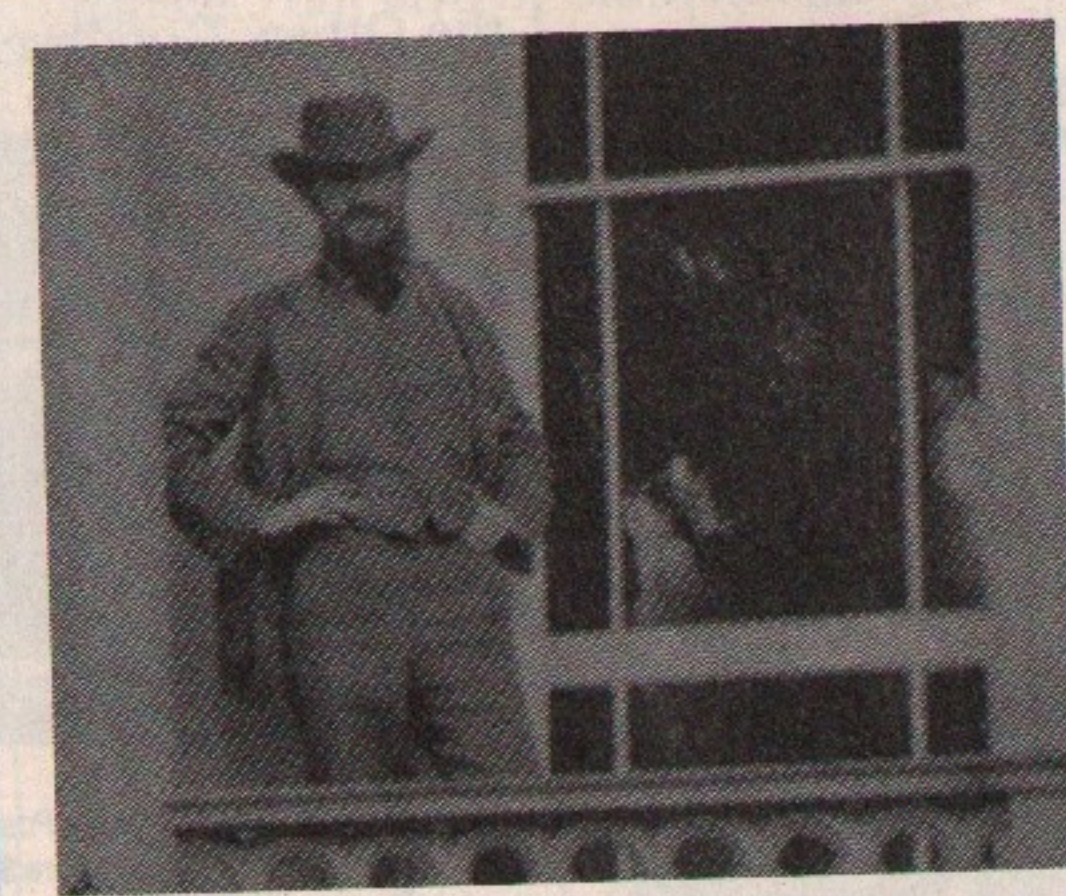
**G**eorge Bernard Shaw wrote a review in the *Pall Mall Gazette* in December 1887 of the book *Tertium Quid* by Edmund Gurney. This review by a novice critical journalist was an attack on vivisection, and it introduced what would become known as "the Shavian method." Wrote Shaw: *Mr. Gurney's view is that when the specific suffering inflicted on an animal by a vivisection is out weighed by the abstract suffering saved to human beings, vivisection is justified. But as vivisection is experimental, it is not always or even often certain that the results of an operation will save any suffering at all. The question is really one of acknowledgments of a moral relation between man and beast.*

Though Bertrand Russell called Shaw's attitude on biological matters "antiscientific," it would be more accurate to say that Shaw was "antimechanistic." In his essay, "The Conflict Between Science and Common Sense" (*Humane Review* April, 1900), Shaw lays out the various statements made by physicists during his own lifetime about the shape of the earth: *First they said it was spherical, later that it was an oblate spheroid, still later that it was not symmetrical at all but rather like a two-penny loaf of bread.*

In typical Shavian method, he uses humor to show that an awareness of the history of science

dispels the delusion that the findings of science are absolute. He questions

the whole principle of what is called the "scientific method": *You can prove anything. Proving a thing will not establish it, either with you or anybody else, for this reason, when you have proved a thing up to the hilt...you will not have established the thing. You will have to say to yourself, "Either this thing is true, or*



*what I have achieved is a reductio ad absurdum. That is to say, the conclusion is so entirely unacceptable to me, that I prefer to say my logical process has either been wrong or else I shall have to set to work to overthrow the whole scheme of logic and all the laws of evidence, and to scrap them, rather than accept this thing that I have proved."*

Shaw's jokes may have been maddening, but his arguments

were sane. Scientific opinion was, and is, always changing and so it was a matter of indulgence in fashion rather than recognition of fact. Within the scientific appearance of biology and medicine were hidden the delusions and superstitious cruelties of a primitive cult, and Shaw pointed out that animal experiments were based on this primitivism. Wrote Shaw in the preface to his play *The Doctor's Dilemma*: *Not one doctor in a thousand is a vivisector. It is true that the doctor complies with the professional fashion of defending vivisection, and assuring you that people like Shakespeare and Dr. Johnson and Ruskin and Mark Twain are ignorant sentimentalists, just as he complies with any other silly fashion; the mystery is, how it became the fashion in spite of being so injurious to those who follow it.*

Though doctors may be required to utilize vivisection in the course of their training, just as many a child in school must cut open a frog to get an "A", it is supposedly left behind when the doctor goes into practice and the child into the business of life. But is it left behind?

Shaw makes the connection of modern science and vivisection with the primitive savage motive, and in so doing he compares the doctor and the vivisector to the tribal chief: *Every savage chief who is not a Mohomet learns that if he wishes to strike the imagination of the tribe, and without doing that he cannot rule them, he must terrify or revolt them from time to time by acts*

# Shaw

By Aubrey Hampton

*of hideous cruelty or disgusting unnaturalness. We are far from being as superior to such tribes as we imagine. It is in this way that the vivisector pays the doctor.*

Shaw suggests that there is a lust for cruelty in humans that infects even the passion of pity and makes it savage: *A craze for cruelty can be developed just as a craze for drink can, and nobody who attempts to ignore cruelty as a possible factor in the attraction of vivisection and even of antivivisection, or in the credulity with which we accept its excuses, can be regarded as a scientific investigator of it.*

Shaw believed that history would repeat itself: the "vitalist" school would return, and that the chemical and mechanical schools would decline. It has been suggested that vitalism today has been translated into alternative forms of medicine.

Homeopathic remedies have been in use since Shaw's time, but recently this healing method has increased in popularity. The neurophysiological and endocrine associations of chakras and nadis have been studied and affirmed by Western scientists, and acupuncture has been defined as "tapping the body's energy centers." Of

course, Shaw would say that these validations by science are not needed. If people have been utilizing the chakras for thousands of years in India, does approval by Western scientists make the practice more viable?

Vitalism is a separate school of medical opinion which began with Georg Ernst Stahl (*Theoria medica*

indifferent, merely obeying the activity that distributes and organizes it in a given structure. The vitalist believes that life cannot be explained in terms of non-life, though non-life may be explained in terms of life. It is the opposite of mechanism which says that the body is simply a mechanical, chemical mixture. Vitalism holds

that the various forms of life are simply the consequences of molecular and environmental chance.

At the age of 25 Shaw assumed a meatless diet. He stated that he did it for Shelleyan—not nutritional—reasons. Shaw, like Shelley, was a socialist, an atheist, a vegetarian, an iconoclast, a teetotaler, and a realist. Shelley's great poem, *Queen Mab*, spoke against cruelty to animals, asserted the dominance of



GBS and wife shortly after their marriage

vera 1707) who thought that there was a "vital principle" within the body. This was a reaction against the dominant opinion that disease could be explained entirely in terms of physics or chemistry. In Hans Driesch's *The History and Theory of Vitalism*, it is stated that the basis of life is activity, not matter—and of activity not in matter but operating on it in such a manner that the matter remains purely passive and

the will over matter, and railed against capitalism. Several of the passages could have been written by Shaw if he were a poet.

Shelley tells us that the smallest being has a sacred right to live: *I tell thee that those viewless beings/ Whose mansion is the smallest particle/ Of the impassive atmosphere/ Think, feel, and live like man.—Queen Mab (II, 231-234)*

Continued on next page

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Continued from previous page

Shelley writes about famine and disease in the same way as Shaw proclaimed poverty a crime: Commerce! beneath whose poison-breathing shade/No solitary virtue dares to spring/But poverty and wealth with equal hand/Scatter their withering curses, and unfold/The doors of premature and violent death/To pining famine and full-fed disease/To all that shares the lot of human life/ Which, poisoned body and soul, scarce drags the chain/That lengthens as it goes and clanks behind.

—Queen Mab (V, 44-52)

When the famous Russian vivisector Ivan Pavlov was eulogized in a broadcast, the only man to counter the praise was Shaw: For 25 years he experimented on dogs to find out...whether their mouths watered, and if so how much (counted in drops of saliva), when they had certain sensations... He set bells ringing at them, metronomes ticking at them, buzzers buzzing at them at meal times, with the result that they came to associate these sensations so invariably with food that soon their mouths watered when, without any

offer of food, they were rung at, buzzed at, ticked at, played at, glowed at, or tickled. The natural mouth-watering at the actual sight of food he called an unconditioned reflex. The watering provoked by some sensation formerly connected with food in the dog's experience he called a conditioned reflex.

All the experiments involved tapping the salivary ducts by boring a hole in the dog's cheek, and establishing a permanent fistula there; for the very delicate apparatus needed to measure saliva cannot be attached to the dog's tongue, its natural channel.

On page 255 we learn that "the dogs lived from one to six months after operation: death occurred in all cases on account of severe attacks of convulsions." On other pages we read of dogs living for three or four years with their brains mutilated.

I, an artist-biologist, mistrust laboratory methods because what happens in a laboratory is contrived and dictated by its controllers. The evidence can be manufactured...

The artist's workshop is the whole universe as far as he can comprehend it. He can neither contrive nor dictate what happens there: he can

only observe and interpret events that are beyond his control. A laboratory may be a fool's paradise or a pessimist's inferno: made to order either way. Its doors may be shut against metaphysics, including consciousness, purpose, mind, evolution, creation, choice (free will), staring us in the face all over the real world...It may rule out as metaphysical delusion every fact that is incompatible with the determinist creed, practically official in professional science, that everything that has yet happened or ever can happen on earth is inevitable and unalterable no matter how human will and conscience may desire and strive to alter it.

In short, it is manifest nonsense. The most simple-minded parish priest in Ireland or Fundamentalist missionary in Zululand must, on the evidence, prefer the Communion of Saints to the Conspiracy of Vivisectors.

Again and again Shaw used literature and plays to drive home the importance of animal rights. In his fable, *The Black Girl in Search of God*, Shaw has a character named The Myop, which is actually Dr. Pavlov, and once again Shaw presents the folly of vivisectionism.

Shaw, in this fable, not only discusses animal rights, but also the rights of black people. He wrote this in South Africa in 1932 and was able, in those early days, to see the problems that would plague South Africa in the 1980s. Dan H. Laurence, who adapted a reading performance version of the fable for Samuel French, Inc., says of the work, "In a time of interracial crisis, this profound and compassionate religious fable of Creative Evolution...in which Shaw ardently carries his curiosity into those areas of thought which deal with man's relation to God, the universe, and his fellow man—emerging, to the delight of the women's movement, with a concept of a female deity—provides a message which should invoke our earnest contemplation."

Bernard Shaw through his plays, essays, and speeches reminds us that we are all connected and, therefore, though we may not be our "brother's keeper," we are responsible to each other. We have the same responsibility to an animal as we do to a man or woman. If a group of beings from another planet were to land on earth, beings who considered themselves as superior to you as you feel yourself to be to other animals, would you concede them the rights over you that you assume over other animals?

When he composed his own epitaph, Shaw wrote eloquently about his feelings for his fellow creatures: *My hearse will be followed not by mourning coaches but by herds of oxen, sheep, swine, flocks of poultry and a small traveling aquarium of fish, all wearing white scarves in honor of the man who perished rather than eat his fellow creatures.*

From the time I was 12-years-old and saw the antiwar play *Arms and the Man*, I began a journey with Shaw which taught me the rights of men, women, children, and animals, and how they relate to the earth. Shaw, the vitalist, is just as vital today as he was over a hundred years ago. □

Aubrey Hampton has written the highly acclaimed biographical play *GBS & Company*, about George Bernard Shaw (Organica Press, 1989), and is currently working on his next book *Wolf Trilogy*.

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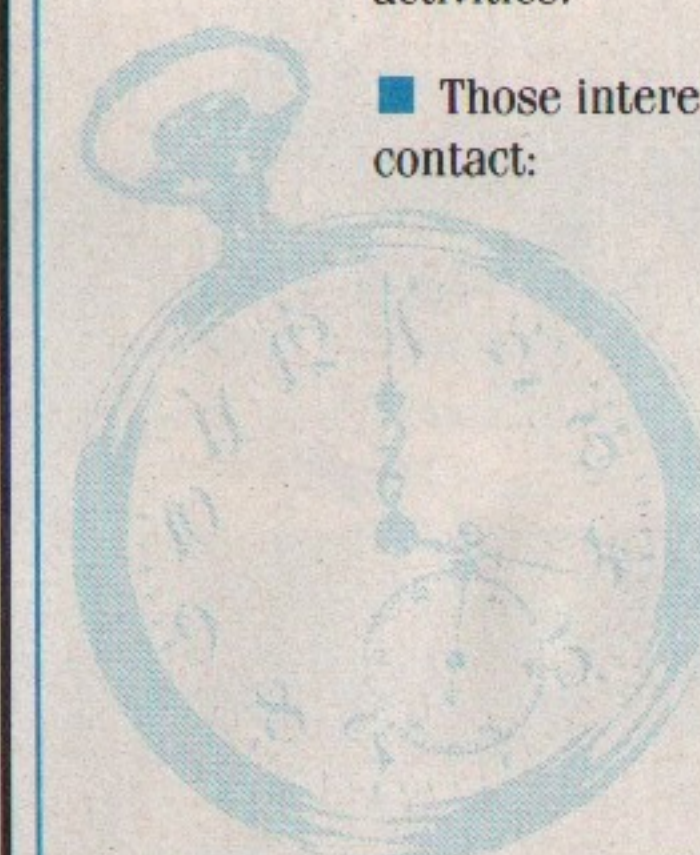
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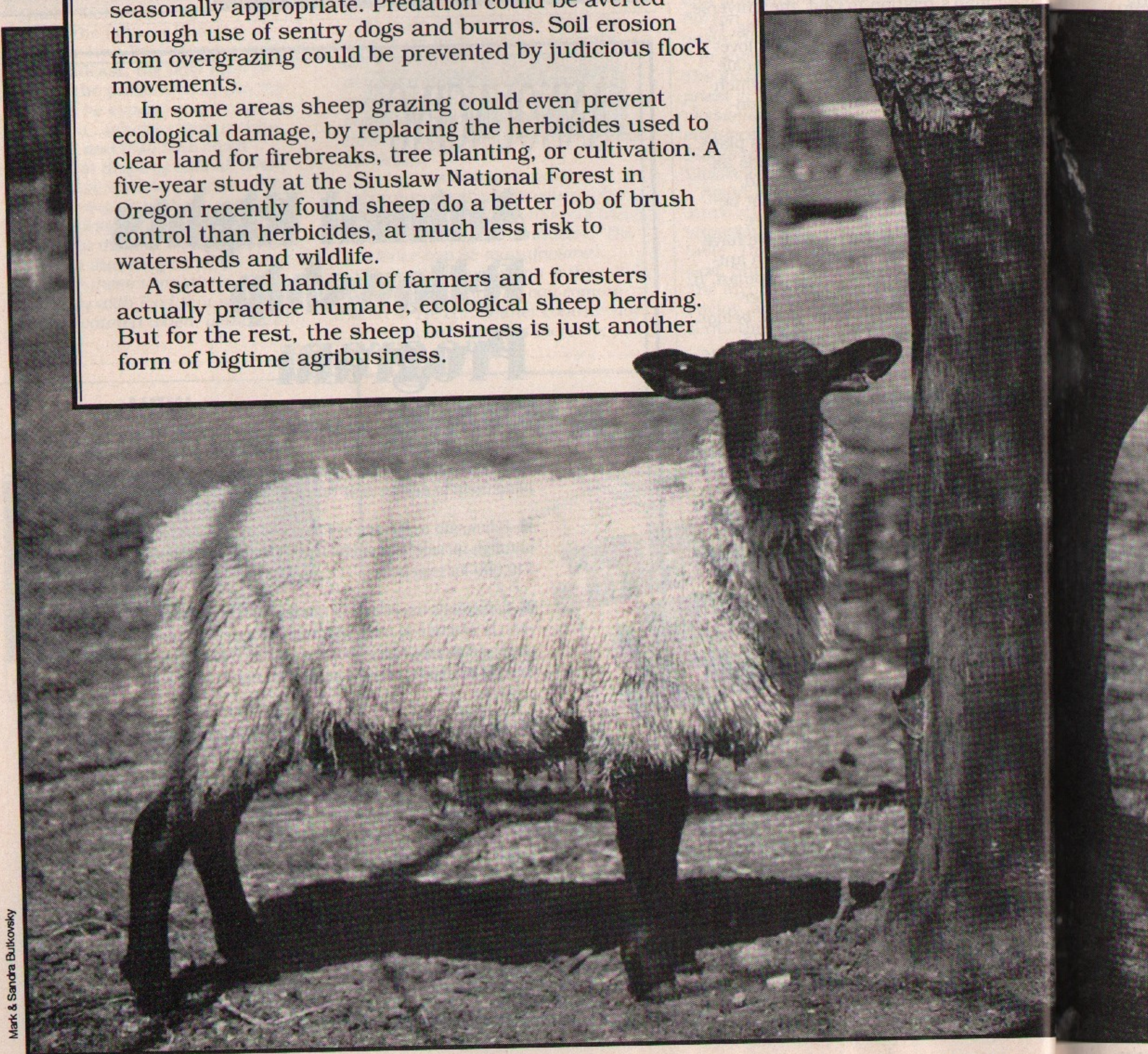


**S**tanding in a dimly lit wooden barn on a cold winter night beneath a star-filled sky, it's easy to watch my shepherd neighbor bottle-feed runt lambs and remember Bible stories. Then I think of the boxed racks of spring lamb sold in supermarkets with jars of mint jelly at Easter.

Sheep herding could be the most humane, ecological branch of animal husbandry, if all the animals got the painstaking care my shepherd neighbor's runt lambs do, and if they were raised for wool only, not meat. Shearing would be gentle and seasonally appropriate. Predation could be averted through use of sentry dogs and burros. Soil erosion from overgrazing could be prevented by judicious flock movements.

In some areas sheep grazing could even prevent ecological damage, by replacing the herbicides used to clear land for firebreaks, tree planting, or cultivation. A five-year study at the Siuslaw National Forest in Oregon recently found sheep do a better job of brush control than herbicides, at much less risk to watersheds and wildlife.

A scattered handful of farmers and foresters actually practice humane, ecological sheep herding. But for the rest, the sheep business is just another form of bigtime agribusiness.



Mark & Sandra Bulkovsky

**T**he degree to which commercial breeders view sheep as commodities appears most vividly in preslaughter mortality data. Preslaughter mortality includes deaths from exposure, disease, predation, and starvation. Preslaughter mortality rates most reflect the health of young animals, in turn reflecting the amount of care given to each individual. Even when lambs are slaughtered at weaning, like those sold at Easter, the sheep industry has a preslaughter mortality rate three to five times greater than that of the cattle industry. According to the U.S. Department

of Agriculture, preslaughter mortality claims up to 30 percent of all lambs born in the U.S., or about 2.5 million each year. In Australia, where 158 million sheep outnumber the human population, preslaughter mortality runs 20 to 26 percent: up to 40 million sheep per year, including as many as 27 million lambs and from eight to 15 million adult sheep.

This isn't because so many deaths are inevitable. British sheep farmers claim a production ratio of 1.43 lambs per ewe per year, nearly double the U.S. and Australian rates. The less severe British climate and a paucity of predators help, along with more use of Cambridge sheep, who bear twins more often than single lambs. But the biggest difference is that each British shepherd tends an average of 200 to 400 animals. Pregnant and nursing ewes are sheltered against rough weather, along with their lambs. Lambs rejected by their mothers, usually the smallest of twins, are promptly found and bottle-fed. Sick sheep get veterinary care.

Because the British investment in labor is high, cutting profits, U.S. and Australian sheep ranchers go the other way. Instead of concentrating on reducing losses, Americans and Australians typically try to offset the loss rate by simply breeding more sheep. U.S. and Australian shepherds often look after 2,000 to 5,000 sheep apiece, far too many for

most to get any individual attention whatever.

Ranchers argue that leaving sheep alone for months at a time on the range or in the outback makes them healthier, more self-reliant and intelligent. Certainly U.S. and Australian sheep do live more like their wild ancestors, the mouflon of Europe and the urial of Asia, than their more closely attended European and Middle Eastern counterparts. Many shepherds also believe that while bringing pregnant ewes indoors for the winter does prevent lamb deaths from exposure and predation, the rate of maternal rejection climbs, as the

artificial environment seems to erode the nursing instinct. Rejected lambs who aren't bottle-fed within hours of birth usually die, if not of starvation then of infection, since they lack the immunities they should receive with their mothers' colostrum.

Sheep who lose their nursing instinct so easily are clearly not wild sheep, nor are they bred for the traits enabling wild sheep to survive. Only dogs and possibly goats have been domesticated longer than sheep, who have been tended in flocks for some 7,000 years of the 2.5 million years the species has existed. Wool-spinning began about 4,000 years ago. Distinct breeds began emerging with the Roman sheep, direct ancestors of today's Merinos, Rambouillets, and Columbias. The first modern breed, the Shropshire, was described as early as 1340 A.D.

None of today's major domestic breeds much resemble their wild ancestors. How

different they have become is apparent in Hawaii, where circa 1962 the state introduced mouflons to a flock of domestic sheep who had been feral since the 1930s. The idea was for the flock to revert to mouflon appearance, producing a species attractive to big game hunters. But nearly 30 sheep generations later, the Hawaiian sheep are still obviously not mouflons.

# The Myth of the Good Shepherd

**Merritt Clifton**

*Continued on next page*



Continued from previous page

Among the major domestic varieties, only Dorset rams and ewes both still have horns. Merino and Rambouillet rams have horns; the other breeds are wholly hornless. All are fat, short-legged, short-sighted, and slow compared to their rangy, keen-eyed, swift forebears. The blocky Hampshire, Leicester,



—Mark C. Butkovsky

Shropshire, Southdown, and Suffolk were first bred for meat, though the Leicester also yields fine wool. Cheviots, Cotswolds, Merinos, and Rambouillets are heavy-coated wool breeds. Columbias, Lincolns, and Oxfords combine qualities of both the meat and wool breeds. Karakuls are bred exclusively for the curly-furred pelts of newborn or aborted lambs, which are made into the "Persian lamb" and "broadtail" garments promoted by the fur trade. Lately the British have also begun experimenting with breeding sheep for milk production, in competition with goats, but as yet the market is more theoretical than actual.

## Blood of the lambs

**A**t two to eight weeks of age, lambs' tails are docked so that droppings won't cling to their wool to draw flies. Rams are castrated to permit easy handling. Young rams escape docking and castration in a few of the most traditional Moslem nations—because they still sacrifice about three million rams a year, and religious custom requires that sacrificial animals be "unblemished."

In North America, docking and castration are

usually done by constricting the flow of blood to the organs to be amputated with a strong rubber band. The organs eventually atrophy and drop off. Elsewhere—and more often in North America than the industry admits—the operations may be done with knives, shears, and if necessary, a hot cauterizing iron. Some Australian shepherds take pride in their ability to castrate lambs with their teeth, as described by L.D. Ryan in his 1973 handbook *Sheep In Australia*.

In Australia, where Merinos predominate, sheep also suffer an operation called mulesing. Since the density of wool depends upon the number of hair follicles a sheep has, Merinos were once bred for deeply wrinkled skin, supposedly yielding more follicles per square inch of body surface. Unfortunately the deep wrinkles collect body fluids, tending to become infested with maggots. The maggots then eat their way into the skin, causing lingering, painful deaths of "flystrike" as the hosts are literally eaten alive. Mulesing is widely thought to discourage maggots. The loose folds of skin around the young sheep's anus are cut or scraped away, eliminating the areas where flies can most easily lay the eggs that hatch into maggots. Mulesing is unquestionably bloody and painful—and before the anal wounds heal, millions of sheep suffer flystrike anyway, as flies swarm over the festering scabs. Developed in the 1930s, the practice was pushed by the Australian government during the 1960s. Many shepherds resisted mulesing as cruelty, but where only 60 percent of the national flock were mulesed before the government campaign, 80 percent were mulesed by 1973. The government has not encouraged mulesing around the face and pizzle, but this is also done by some farmers. Alternatives such as insecticide treatments and breeding out the skin folds have gradually fallen into disuse.

Mulesing is unique to Australia, where ranchers claim the intense summer heat makes the risk from flies especially acute. Yet Merinos don't suffer mulesing in comparably hot Spain, their homeland, or South Africa. In Spain and South Africa, where labor is cheap, the average number of sheep per shepherd is 400 to 500. Flystrike is prevented by "crutching," or shaving the animals' crotches to prevent build-ups of fecal matter, followed by insecticide dusting as necessary.

After all that comes ear-notching or perforation for identification purposes.

Virtually all of these operations are performed without anesthetic. According to former Australian Law Reform Commission chairman M.D. Kirby, Australian sheep alone suffer over 50 million operations a year that would constitute criminal cruelty if done to dogs or cats.

## At pasture

**D**epending on sex and variety, sheep who survive infancy spend anywhere from one to ten years at pasture. Sheep raised for meat are usually slaughtered at one year old, though females chosen for breeding may not be killed for several years. Ewes raised for wool may not be slaughtered until they reach old age. Neutered rams, called wethers, produce as much wool as ewes, and can be kept in a flock if wool yield is the only object. However, even most farmers who raise wool varieties try to maximize income by breeding every ewe, every year, sending all their wethers to slaughter whether they fetch a premium price or not. The usual strategy is to try to balance the seasonal income from wool collecting with income from shipments to slaughter. If a farmer already has a stable flock of wool-bearing ewes, he may wish them to bear mostly rams, which grow larger and thus bring a higher price at the slaughterhouse. Accommodating this wish, the USDA has found a way to change fetal ewes into sterile rams, by injecting the male hormone testosterone into the mother ewes about four weeks after breeding. The technique is not yet in widespread commercial use.

Because sheep tend to be raised on land hostile to other kinds of agriculture, relatively few are kept in confinement: confinement barns would raise, not reduce production costs. This may change, at least for prime breeding stock. As of 1985, about 70 farmers were reportedly keeping top-quality Sharlea and Saxons (varieties of Merino) indoors year-round in Victoria and New South Wales, Australia. As embryo transplants and artificial insemination present the possibility that only a few rams and ewes could conceive whole flocks, it's possible that breeding may separate from the pasturing industry, as it has in cattle husbandry. Wool and mutton would come from pasture stock; breeders would only breed. Liverpool University has recently developed an artificial rearing system to replace bottle-feeding runts. While inventor

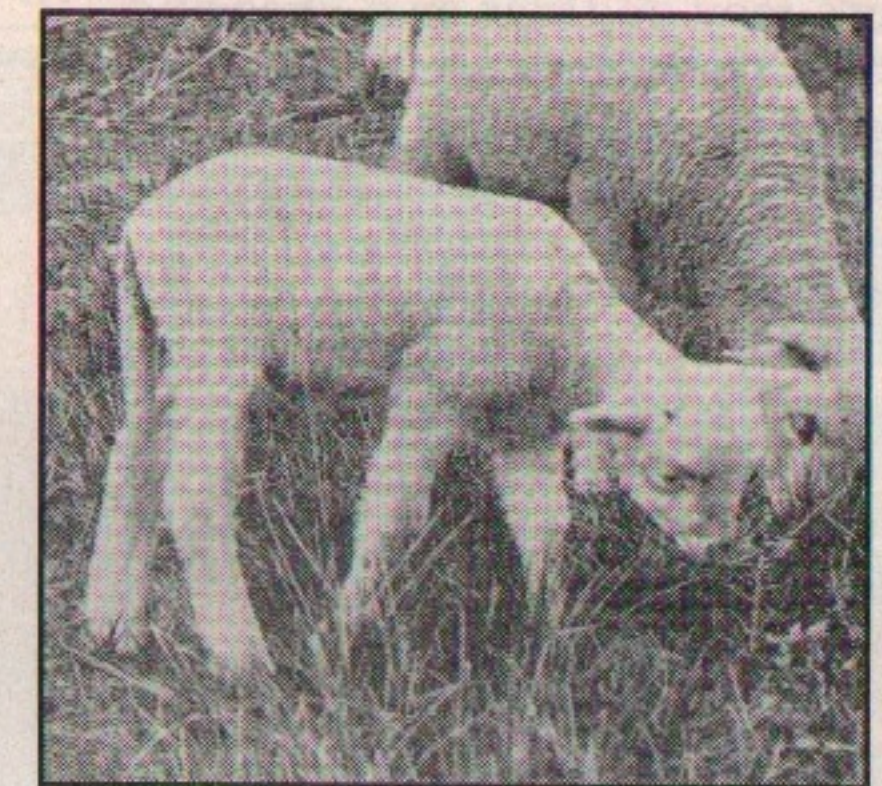
Alun [sic] Davies claims his intention is not to raise lambs "in large battery-like conditions," Compassion in World Farming has expressed concern that the technology could be adapted to do just that.

Though pasture life appears idyllic, sheep remain at constant risk. Because sheep have four digestive chambers, they can draw nutrition from even the poorest feed; but too much of any rich food, like corn,

causes fatal bloat. Common deadly diseases include sheep pox, blackleg, footrot, bluetongue, sheep scab, and scrapie.

Predation losses tend to be overestimated, as ranchers blame wild carrion-eaters for killing sheep who

actually died of other causes. In the U.S. alone, ranchers accuse coyotes of killing over 900,000 sheep a year, worth \$83 million. Yet the massacre of up to 300,000 coyotes a year, beginning in 1932, hasn't noticeably cut losses. Losses have fallen more or less in proportion with the sheep population, which peaked at 56 million in 1942 and is now down to 10



million. Seeking a quick technical fix, U.S. and Australian ranchers and animal damage control agents continue trapping, poisoning, and shooting alleged sheep-killers by the ten thousand. However, the USDA also now promotes the use of sheep-herding dogs, long since adopted in most

other nations. A 1989 USDA survey found that "over 80 percent of the 399 ranchers who reported back said a guard dog was well worth its initial cost of about \$500, plus the dollar or two a day it takes to maintain them," according to the department's press release. On one Colorado ranch, with a flock of 2,200, three dogs cut predation losses from 450 a year to 10 or 12. As many as 4,000 U.S. sheep ranches now employ dogs. Burros too are gaining favor where coyotes are the only problem. A guard burro costs less to buy and train, routs coyotes, and eats what the sheep eat. However, while dogs also deter bears and raptors, burros don't.

After cold, which menaces both newborn lambs and freshly sheared adults, drought probably kills the most sheep. As the current global warming trend brings longer, hotter dry spells to both the U.S. and Australia, drought-related losses will only increase. Sheep who don't die of thirst may die of starvation—and as flocks walk farther to find food, their hooves add to soil erosion. Although historically sheep have been raised in many arid regions, only wetter regions such as Scotland, Wales, and northern India have been able to keep large flocks without losing topsoil.

Fires sweeping dry plains pose yet another threat to sheep. Once rare, such fires are increasingly frequent in both the U.S. and Australia. Nearly 335,000 sheep died in grassfires that roared across Victoria, Australia on Ash Wednesday, 1983; smaller tolls go unreckoned.

## Shearing

**S**heep are sheared each spring, after lambing, just a few weeks before they would naturally begin molting, shedding their winter coats in small clumps hither and yon. Recently explained the Compassion in World Farming newsletter *Agscene*, "Shearing... is a race against time and for the dollar." Waiting too long means loss of wool. But pneumonia due to early shearing fells a million Australian sheep a year. The

Continued on next page



—Mark C. Butkovsky



Continued from previous page

U.S. pneumonia toll is unknown. As Eric Dunayer of the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights explains, "Pneumonia is sort of a catch-all term" that may cover a variety of infections afflicting sheep as a result of either exposure or shipping and feedlot stress.

Although small farmers may do their own shearing, most sheep are sheared by traveling specialists. "Piece rate contract shearers are not inclined to handle sheep with respect," according to *Agscene*. "Tales about mistreatment and downright cruelty abound. One person who has worked as a wool classer in Australia for many years is on record as saying, 'the shearing shed must be one of the worst places in the world for cruelty to animals. I have seen shearers punch sheep with their shears or their fists until the sheep's nose bled. I have seen sheep with half their faces shorn off, no stitches ever being applied, not even as much as an antiseptic. Wethers have had their pizzles shorn straight off.'" This tends to be as true in the U.S. and other major wool-producing nations as in Australia, but it doesn't have to



be. Handled gently by familiar persons, who aren't in a hurry to shear another thousand animals by sun-down, most sheep will submit to shearing just as other animals submit to other forms of grooming.

Along with shearing, good wool producers may be subjected to tooth-grinding each spring, an operation some shepherds think might extend the productive life of sheep by improving their ability to crop short grass. Traditionally shepherds clip an elderly sheep's teeth with pliers. In Australian-style tooth grinding, a high-speed disc cutter saws the teeth off near the gums, exposing the pulp cavities, causing bleeding, and obvious extreme pain. This method was banned in Britain in 1986. British farmers now use battery-driven buffers. In any method, the sheep must be gagged and tied, but anesthetics are not used. According to biologist Malcolm Smith in a recent issue of *New Scientist*, "There is no evidence that grinding teeth down actually delays tooth loss and so keeps sheep eating—and living—longer. Normal grazing should prevent their teeth from growing longer." Smith cited research by John Spence of the Moredun Research Institute in Edinburgh, Scotland.

"His view," Smith summarized, "is that it can cause the animal discomfort and that even careful grinding can expose the sensitive pulp cavity. He knows of no evidence of any benefit to the animal." Yet the practice persists.

Only animals slated for return to the pasture or breeding pens are sheared alive. Sheep sent to slaughter are killed and skinned first. The wool is then plucked from their hides. Such "pulled" wool tends to be of poor quality, since the kinds of sheep raised for meat tend to have shorter, coarser hair. However, sheepskin or "shearling" coats with the fleece left on are now highly touted by the fur industry, as furriers gamble that the public won't be as revolted by the slaughter of sheep as by the slaughter of furbearers.

## Transport

**T**he penultimate agony inflicted on sheep who survive all the foregoing is transport to slaughter. In Europe, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East, most sheep are still slaughtered within a few miles of their pastures. Many still walk to slaughter. In North America and Australia, however, sheep-slaughtering plants are few and far between. Like poultry, hogs, cattle, and horses, sheep going to slaughter routinely spend up to four days aboard double-decked trucks or railroad cars, often with inadequate water, food, sanitation, and protection from heat or cold. Deaths are frequent. More die in feedlots while awaiting slaughter. An Australian study found that 29 percent of sheep have difficulty digesting the grain pellets that replace their normal diet of grass or hay in most feedlots. Of the sheep who die, 38 percent succumb to salmonella poisoning, spread by the crowded conditions; 12 percent die of traumatic injury inflicted during loading and unloading; and 12 percent die of bloat. Most of the rest die from the elements. In 1983, 15,000 sheep died in the feedlots of Portland, Australia during a single cold weekend.

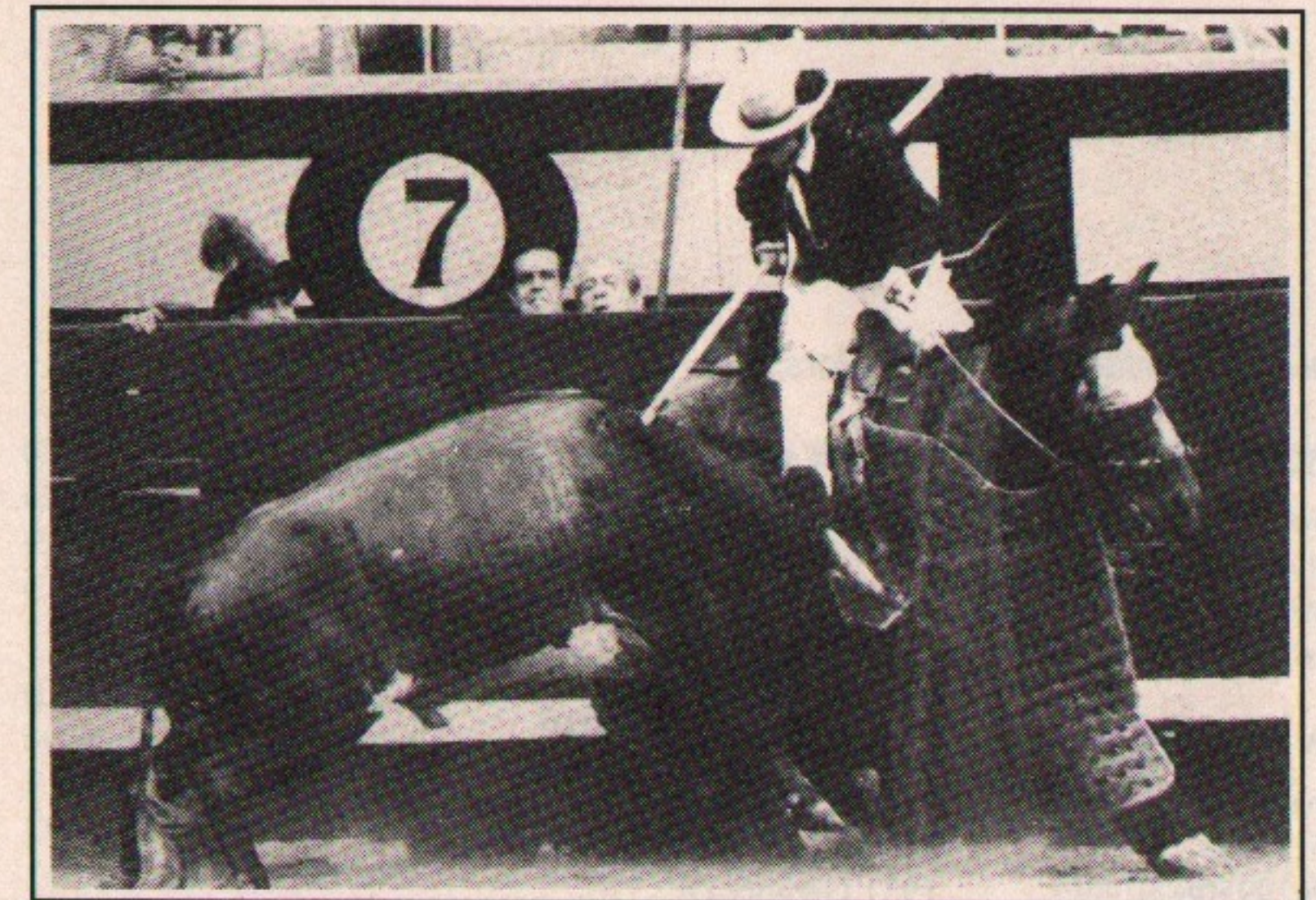
Yet the stress of domestic transport and feedlot conditions are only the beginning for the millions of live sheep shipped each year from Australia and New Zealand to the Middle East. Such a shipment drew media attention last summer, when 10,000 sheep spent three months aboard the Italian-owned, Panamanian-registered *El Cordero*, as owners and crew sought a place to unload them.

The story really began after World War II, when Australia began sending sheep to Saudi Arabia as a return cargo on oil tankers. As Middle Eastern shepherds left their flocks to take oil field jobs, Australian sheep ranchers took up the slack in the market. By 1985, Australian shipments to the Middle East totalled 7.2 million sheep a year. Live sheep were shipped, not carcasses, because Islamic law demands that slaughtering be done with a sharp knife, without pre-stunning, while the victim faces Mecca. In recent years, Australia has persuaded the Middle East to accept more and more carcasses, while Saudi sheep ranchers have boosted production, reclaiming the market for live sheep.

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# DATELINE: INTERNATIONAL

**Telm Zaragoza, Tossa's Mayor, and one of Costa Brava's senior municipal officials, knows that concern for animals and ecological causes is on the rise and wants to be a pioneer in implementing measures in tune with the new spirit of the times.**



SPAIN (I)—

### Catalonian Town Enacts First Bullfight Ban

By banning bullfights and related advertising, Tossa de Mar has earned the title of First Anti-Bullfight Town in Spain. And thanks to the support and encouragement received, the Mayor of this resort town has now asked the city council to make it official at the next plenary session.

Had this happened 20 years ago, when the Costa Brava tourism boom began, Tossa's move would have incurred the wrath of most people, including that of tourists, who—as a rule—had at least one bullfight in their programs. Now the news not only brings praise from animal protection institutions around the world, but may even attract more tourists.

Telm Zaragoza, Tossa's Mayor, and one of Costa Brava's senior municipal officials, knows that concern for animals and ecological causes is on the rise and wants to be a pioneer in implementing measures in tune with the new spirit of the times.

This is not Tossa's only distinction. The town has also played a leading role in the cleaning of its shoreline waters with a new device invented by the Mayor, and the approach has

proved so efficient that it is now serving as a model for other resorts on the Catalonian coast.

The Mayor is promoting the town's pioneering status with a new brochure of the resort highlighting its ban on bullfights. For nature enthusiasts, the brochure also describes 40 km of forest trails, plus a vast acreage of woods and beaches fully protected by the municipality.

Last September, at the request of the Society for the Protection of Animals and Plants of Tossa de Mar, the city hall voted to ban the "corridas" and any other form of entertainment involving bulls. Any public promotion of such spectacles was also proscribed. The resolution is to take effect by the beginning of the next tourist season.

Over the last two months, Tossa has received more than 1500 letters of support, mainly from Italy, the U.S., Argentina, Great Britain, and France. The Mayor is backed by the President of the Generalitat (similar to a state governor in the U.S.), and by its department of agriculture.

Telm Zaragoza wants to expand the protection of animals beyond the boundaries currently set by the Catalonian Parliament. He is convinced that, in the not too

BY DAVID P. GREANVILLE

distant future, Tossa's decision will touch the conscience of the Spanish people, even of many involved in bullfighting, and persuade them of the need to show compassion to their fellow creatures. Whether or not the Mayor's expectations are fully warranted, in light of so many barbaric spectacles still being practiced in the peninsula, is likely to be decided not only by Spanish public opinion, but by the attitudes of foreign tourists on which the Spanish economy so heavily depends. Letters of support may be sent to: Sr. Don Telm Zaragoza, Ayuntamiento de Tossa de Mar, Gerona, Spain. Main sources: Vicky Moore (FAACE), Elianne Ros (La Vanguardia).

SPAIN (II)—

### Brutal Fiestas Continue

(Special Report) Jose Garcia-Monge, Field Coordinator of the Spanish ANDA (Asociacion Nacional para la Defensa de los Animales), and Vicky Moore, head of FAACE, a British group devoted to the defense of animals in the Iberian peninsula, report that the following "celebrations" took place in

Spain during the week of 20-24 January, 1990, in honor of St. Vincent:

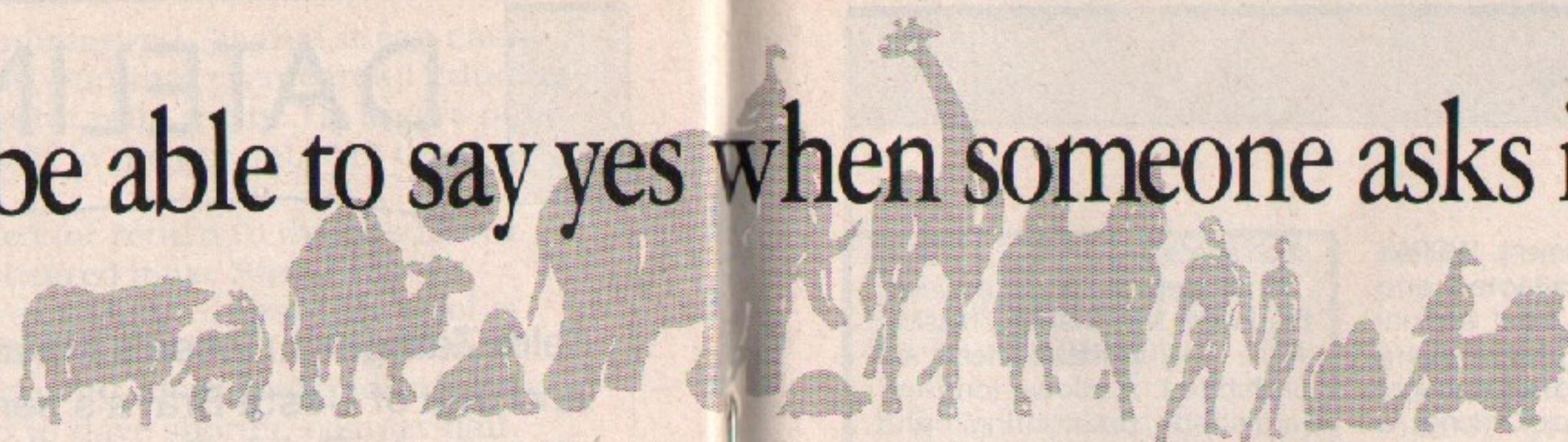
- Saturday, Jan. 20: At the village of Tordesillas, approximately 150 miles north of Madrid, the populace hanged 7 live chickens by their legs from a rope, one at a time. Village children were then blindfolded and given a sword with which to aim at the birds, slashing them, beating the animals to death, and finally showering their blood and feathers on a crowd of jeering nearby expectators, most of them children.

- Wednesday, Jan. 24: The fiesta takes place in Mangeses, 175 miles north of Madrid. The village revelers promenaded Juanita, a tan nanny-goat, in a mock religious parade featuring a fake Pope blessing the crowds from a "Popemobile" driven by jest nuns. Eventually the celebrants took Juanita to the church belfry, from where they proceeded to squirt the crowds below with her milk. They kept shoving her off onto the railless windowsill, taking great pleasure in Juanita's terror. After half an hour of playing with Juanita, letting her dangle from a rope, they finally kicked her off. The animal crashed on the pavement below, but she was still miraculously alive, although breathing laboriously and vomiting blood.

Continued on page 32



# Don't you want to be able to say yes when someone asks if you were there?



JUNE 10, 1990

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This apparently wasn't enough for the village bullies, who then proceeded—in "good, clean fun"—to drag the animal to another place, where she was raffled and then barbecued.

The above incidents, far from rare, underscore the pitiful state of animal protection in Spain. Our readers are encouraged to protest such brutality by communicating to the Spanish ambassador that Spain will not be chosen as a tourist destination as long as such blatantly uncivilized behavior is allowed to continue. Further, it is recommended that writers stress their intention to boycott all Spanish goods and services circulating in the United States, while urging other Americans to do the same. The big question, however, is where is the Catholic church in all this? After all, that institution still wields a tremendous amount of influence in the peninsula, and most fiestas have an ostensible religious background. Perhaps the time has come to let the Vatican know that the church's notorious indifference to the suffering of animals will no longer be tolerated. Main sources: Vicky Moore (FAACE), and ANDA (Asoc. Nacional para la Defensa de los Animales).

## COLOMBIA—

### Landmark Animal Protection Law Passed

As drugs and political wars raged on all sides, Colombian officials passed and signed into law what may be the most comprehensive animal protection law in the world.

The National Statute for the Protection of Animals stresses humane, economic, and social values; recognizes the intrinsic value of all animals—domestic, wild, and wild-in-captivity—and seeks to protect them from pain, suffering, injury, and disease "caused directly or indirectly by man."

The law also requires clean, comfortable, safe, and well-ventilated housing and transportation; proper feed, rest, and veterinary care. It discourages the use of animals in

research, and prohibits the use of live animals for medical purposes where alternatives are available.

The law establishes an agency to enforce its provisions as well as coordinate all animal defense efforts, public and private. It sets forth fines from \$1000 to \$1 million (Colombian pesos); mandatory jail terms from 72 hours to five years, depending on the degree and frequency of the violations; loss of licenses and business suspensions up to six months in extreme cases.

The statute calls for the setting up, within a year, of a pilot humane animal protection

Colombian government, WSPA's Boston office collected and categorized the best animal protection laws from every country in the world, and brought to Boston Dr. Antonio Ordonez, a leading constitutional lawyer with the Colombian legislature, and Yolanda Azouth Roa, Colombia's Director General for Technical Assistance to the Senate.

The statute, described by Walsh as embracing the best aspects of animal protection laws from Europe, the U.S., and Canada, is already being used as a model for other Latin American nations contemplating similar legislation. It has been translated

such species.

In the area of sports, however, the law is less than impressive. While most animal contests are prohibited, it allows long-established bullfighting and cockfighting to continue. On the other hand, it does denounce in the most vigorous terms and sets severe penalties for the drugging and numbing of race horses. "Colombian legislators deserve much credit for enacting this landmark document, particularly in a country of 30 million people, rampant with human poverty and suffering and a tradition for tolerating many forms of animal abuse," said Walsh.

Will this new law really make a difference? That's the question local and international activists will have to sort out in the years ahead. For one thing, given the paltry budgets devoted to implementation, many provisions may never be enforced. Second, in one of the greatest ironies of our time, it is not unusual for Third World nations to draft and adopt extremely advanced legislation in regard to various topics—legislation which then becomes a source of national pride—but which is never put into effect for a variety of social, cultural, political, and economic reasons. Because of this, decisive international support and collaboration will be necessary if this new law is to have a chance to lay the groundwork for a new consciousness toward animals. Main sources: WSPA (Boston).



program for schools to encourage appreciation for the economic benefits of animal husbandry through prevention of meat wastage caused by animal sickness, injury, or death resulting from stress, dehydration, and starvation.

More than 100 pages long, the statute is the result of five years' collaboration between some of Colombia's leading lawyers, biologists, legislators, and animal protection experts with members of the staff of the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA), led by John Walsh, WSPA's Assistant Director General. At the request of the

into Portuguese for use by the Minister of Justice of Brazil.

The law regulates humane procedures for transport and slaughter of livestock; control of domestic stray animals; sale and care of commercial animals; and animals used in medical research. It also sets special provisions covering all threatened and endangered species, including marine and coastal wildlife. Transportation within the country of threatened or endangered species is forbidden by the bill, which also requires that immediate steps be taken to protect the natural habitats, rookeries, and breeding areas of

## EDITOR'S NOTE

In our last issue we reported favorably on a Chinese decision to set up a huge ecoanimal sanctuary in the Tibet. (See "Huge Reserve Set Aside for Tibet Wildlife," p. 31, April 1990). Since then, further information has come to our attention questioning both the actual intent and background of this project. We are currently investigating the matter, including a recent critical article published in Greenpeace's newsletter, and will convey our findings to our readers as soon as all major parties have had a chance to contribute their versions.

## Death In The Swamps

Turtles have existed for 200 million years and frogs and salamanders for 70 million years each, but all are now in global decline due to hunting and habitat loss.

Of the turtles, 39 species are declining but apparently not yet at risk; 52 species are at risk from diminished range; and 16 species have been hunted close to extinction, including the plow-share tortoise of Madagascar, of whom only 15 are left.

While turtles survive through both prolific egg-laying and individual longevity, frogs and salamanders survive by just being prolific. But droughts and wetland drainage in much of the world have dried up the shallow ponds amphibians need to reproduce.

Hunting for froglegs and lab specimens has further hurt, cutting the frog populations of Bangladesh and Quebec so badly that the former banned frogleg exports for a year in 1988 while the latter now requires licenses of frog-hunters.

A recent conference on the frog decline at the Irvine campus of the University of Calif. noted that some species are near extinction on every continent and in almost every nation.

Fossils of a 338-million-year-old reptile, 40 years older than the oldest formerly known, have been found in a Scottish quarry.

British cruelty-free cosmetics firms are fighting a European Economic Community proposal that would cut the number of ingredients they can use without doing animal testing, in the name of standardizing trade rules.

The British Agriculture Ministry is prosecuting a major lab breeder for the deaths of 79 beagles out of a shipment of 100 sent to Sweden last September. Fired for rehoming 42 puppies who had been crammed into a pen meant to hold 20, a former kennel worker won \$2,500 compensation in a wrongful dismissal suit. A rival breeder meanwhile threatened to sue

activists who picketed another shipment of beagles to Sweden.

British shelters now house more dogs than ever, euthanize 350,000 dogs a year, and estimate 500,000 strays remain at large. The British dog population, now at 7.3 million, is growing at 500,000 a year. About 250,000 Britons are treated each year for dogbites.

British biomedical researchers have set up the Research Defense Society to sue their critics.

The British antifur group Lynx has been sued for trespass and damages after publishing photos taken inside the Swalesmoor Mink Factory.

The Animal Welfare Board of India has asked police to enforce the nation's often ignored 1960 ban on animal sacrifice.

India has refused to license new zoos, to focus resources on improving the 44 zoos already recognized.

India's tiger population is up from 1,800 to 4,500 since 1970. Panthers are rebounding at a comparable rate. But India's human population of 840 million is also growing by two percent per year, threatening depletion of all natural resources, including tiger habitat. Prime Minister V.P. Singh is renewing efforts to cut population growth. Indian women, including those who risk sterilization in often unsanitary public clinics, have an average of five to six children apiece.

World population will grow from 5.2 billion to six billion within this decade, the U.N. Population Fund predicts—the equivalent of adding an extra China to the earth.

Since the advent of mechanized civilization, wildlife habitat has diminished by 68 percent in Southeast Asia, 65 percent in sub-Saharan Africa, 70 to 78 percent in western Africa, and 90 to 98 percent along the Caribbean coast. Of the 44 Southeast Asian primate species, 33 have lost at least half their range. But wildlife is returning to Vietnam, where half

a million acres of rainforest leveled by U.S. bombing 20 years ago are being replanted. Even so, Vietnam is still losing 200,000 hectares of forest a year to farm use.

Notorious animal dealer Walter Sensen has been jailed without bail in Nuremberg, West Germany, charged with smuggling at least six gorillas from the Cameroun and Equatorial Guinea. Only days before his arrest, Sensen reportedly tried to sell two baby tigers to IPPL.

The Cancer Research Center at Heidelberg, West Germany reports that vegetarians' white blood cells fight tumors twice as effectively as those of meat eaters.

Over opposition of biomedical researchers, a provincial government has named journalist Ilya Weiss to oversee application of West Germany's new animal protection law. Weiss once



locked himself in a cage in a Frankfurt plaza to protest vivisection.

A baby humpbacked whale escaped drowning recently thanks to an Omani fisherman who saw her tangled in a net and called in an American diver to cut her loose.

Concern for Helping Animals in Israel is underwriting the switch from use of strychnine to sodium pentobarbital for euthanasia in Israeli pounds, easing the death throes of the animals.

Israeli legislators are drafting the nation's first animal protection act.

After a seven-year delay, Portugal is considering adopting an animal protection act promoted by the Liga Portuguesa Dos Direitos Do Animal. The act would bar children under 14 from attending bullfights, and would also ban fights where the bull is killed.

Thirty cows pastured at the Vatican supply milk to papal employees and three local coffee bars.

Despite the CITES ban on ivory trading, the U.S. allows safari hunters to import ivory from elephants they shoot in Zimbabwe, "and possibly South Africa," according to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife service release, if they get permits first. This could enable the poachers who have nearly wiped out African elephants to stay in business, if they have Great White Hunter friends and can get fake Zimbabwean or South African papers. Washington Univ.

researcher John Patton argues DNA tracing can be used to link tusks with specific carcasses, but the technique is still in development.

Rhino poaching is up in Namibia with the end of a wartime economy fueled by 23 years of South African occupation.

Brazilian president Fernando Collor de Mello has improved his environmental credentials by naming longtime rainforest defender Jose Lutzenberger as Secretary of the Environment. Lutzenberger vowed to stop a road that Japanese timber firms

More Briefs next page



Continued from previous page  
want to build from the western Amazon to Peruvian ports.



**The Soviet Assn. for Ecology and Peace** has asked the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to protect sandhill crane habitat near the Kingsley Dam on Nebraska's Platte River. Reciprocating, Friends of the Earth has agreed to help the Soviet group fight a dam planned for the Katun Valley, near Mongolia, as well as pollution of the Volga River and Aral Sea.

**Only 17 Siberian cranes** reached western India last winter, down from 24 in 1988-1989 and 31 in 1987-1988. Drought and the war in Afghanistan have reduced the species to an estimated 50 to 200 birds.

**Brazil has ordered** the state of Santa Catarina to "take legal and police actions" to curb farra do boi, the ritual torture-killing of cattle during Easter week. Santa Catarina is the last state where the practice persists.

**Demanding that the U.S. help peasants** grow other crops instead, Bolivia and Peru have refused to let American drug agents infest cocaine-producing regions with non-indigenous caterpillars who might eat the coca leaves.

**Canada's Parliament voted Feb. 5 against** adopting the World Commission on Environment and Development's 1987 recommendation that 12 percent of Canadian lands and marine systems be protected from development. Only six percent

are now protected in Canada's national parks, which represent only 21 of the nation's 39 bioregions and only two of 29 marine systems.

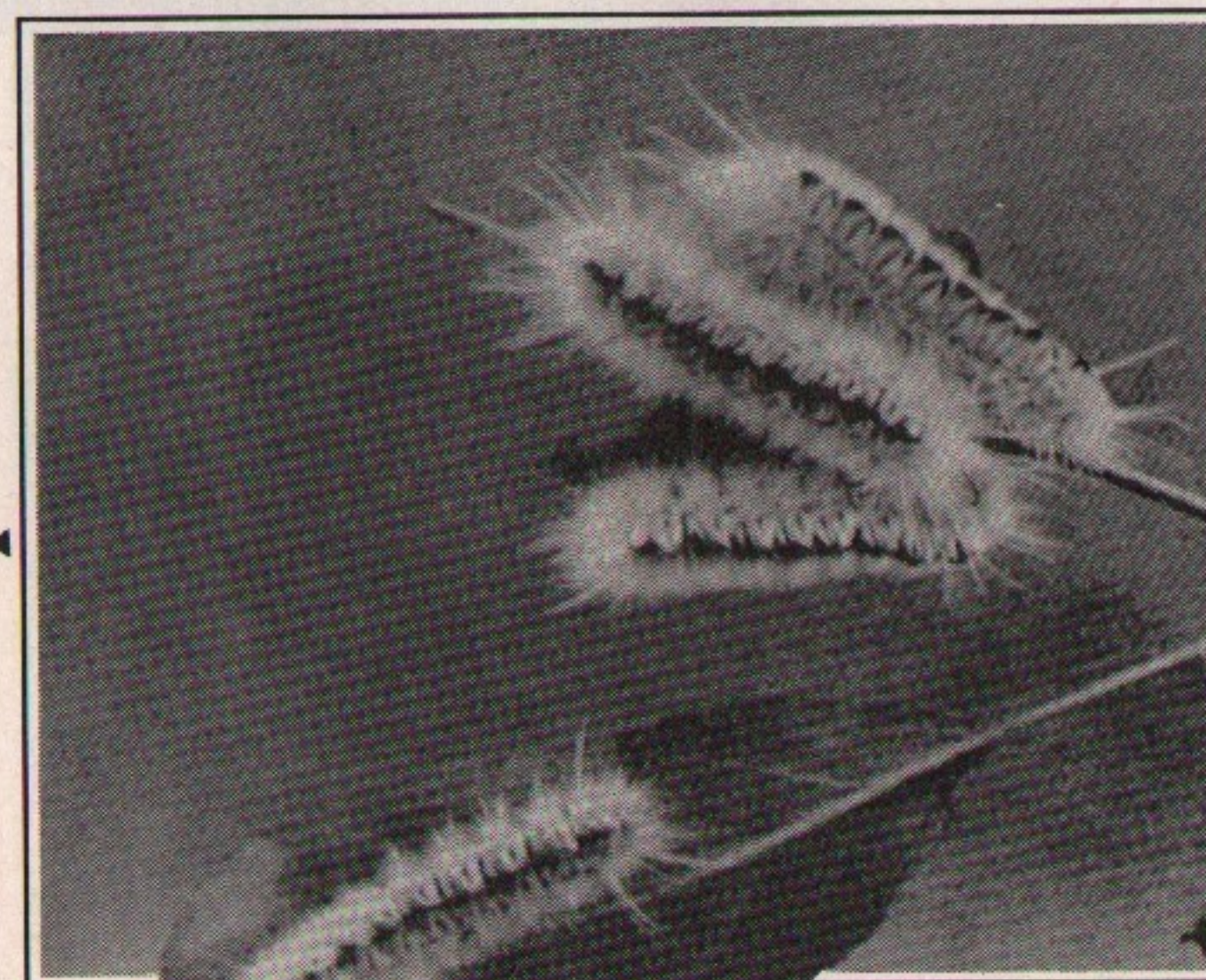
**Hamilton, Ontario has banned rodeo** from city property at behest of Allies for Animal Rights.

**Emulating rat-free Alberta,** Saskatchewan has committed \$14.5 million and hired 100 fulltime rat killers to try to wipe out the species.

**Agriculture Canada wants to kill** the 4,200 bison in Wood Buffalo National Park, on the Alberta/Northwest Territories border, because half to a third may carry brucellosis or tuberculosis which might spread to domestic cattle if the animals ever met. Canada killed 14,000 cattle over the past decade to fight brucellosis and TB, at cost of \$11 million.

**A Saskatchewan farmer says** he misregistered the crossbreed mother of several of Canada's top Hereford breeding bulls back in 1977. This would cut the number of purebred Herefords in Canada by a third (63,000)—but the Canadian Hereford Assn., with a lot to lose, doesn't buy the claim.

**Quebec and Newfoundland sport fishermen** want a five-year ban on commercial fishing for Atlantic salmon, whose spawning streams have been poisoned by acid rain.



**Kentucky Fried Chicken cancelled** an Atlantic Canada ad campaign using the phrase "devilish good" because locals said it promoted Satanism.

**Canada gave 22 foreign ministers** and their wives fur coats at a recent Ottawa summit—made in Poland and Finland.

**All Quebec hunters will have to pass a shooting test** by 1994. Firing one shot each from five positions in five minutes, hunters will have to hit vital areas on silhouette deer three times to pass. No warm-up shots will be allowed. Each test will cost \$5.00. Rifle hunters will shoot from 100 meters; shotgun and crossbow hunters, 50 meters. Voluntary testing starts this year. Compulsory testing will be phased in by regions.

**Donald Zernert of Fairview, Alberta** says he fought off a sexually excited white-tailed buck for two hours before someone else shot it.

**Paraguay gave visiting Vice President Dan Quayle** two five-month-old jaguar cubs—but citing CITES, U.S. zoos insisted they be returned to the wild.

**Evading the U.S. ban on lethally polluting lead shot** and low bag limits set to stop a sharp decline in migratory ducks, U.S. bird hunters are flocking to Mexico, where they can kill up to 45 ducks apiece at the southern end of their range, plus unlimited

numbers of doves. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates 93 to 99 percent of those who hunt in Mexico are Americans.

**The Moscow Circus animal acts** have again drawn protest at every U.S. and Canadian stop. Veterinarian Holly Cheever, who inspected some of the animals



and interviewed circus officials in Albany, N.Y., reported that "the tigers were greatly overcrowded in their exercise cage; the horses suffered a serious viral disease outbreak in Canada, and four died from colic; and the bears were diagnosed as vitamin-deficient" by another vet. Cheever wasn't allowed to see the bears offstage.

## International Networking:

WSPA's 1990 World Conference will be May 22-25 in Basle, Switzerland. May 23 will focus on genetic engineering; May 24 on animal experiments. To register, contact Schweizer Tierschutz STS, Birkfelderst. 45, CH-4052, Basle, Switzerland. ♦ The Animal Welfare Board of India has moved to No. 60, Fourth St., Abiramapuram, Madras-600018. ♦ The Anti Diergebruik Komitee wants to swap information on zoos and circuses. Write Postbus 53266, 1007 RG Amsterdam, The Netherlands. ♦ The Vancouver Museum is hosting a major exhibit on "Wolves and Humans: Coexistence, Competition, and Conflict," through Oct. 15.

## Beneath The Skins

About 27 percent of the trapped fur on the market may be trapped or sold illegally. California Dept. of Fish and Game wardens found in an 18-month undercover probe. Animal defenders have long suspected trappers of flagrant poaching, but the California sting was the first to produce statistics. If applicable nationwide, the California figures would mean last year's actual trapping take was closer to 20 million animals than the 16 million trappers reported.

The probe led to the arrest of 19 trappers and fur dealers, who sold the undercover wardens the pelts of 160 bobcats, 171 raccoons, 94 foxes, 20 muskrats, eight gray squirrels, seven domestic rabbits, six deer, five river otters, five coyotes, four domestic cats, and one each of bear, opossum, badger, and ringtailed cat. Total price: \$23,000.

The wardens also nabbed two Oriental medicine merchants.

While California cracked down on illegal trapping, the Massachusetts Dept. of Fish and Game evaded honoring the intent of an injunction obtained by a consortium of seven animal protection groups that was supposed to prevent land use of so-called padded leghold traps. The animal protection groups contend that the state law banning steel-jawed leghold traps also applies to other cruel trapping methods. The Mass. Dept. of Fish and Game has honored the letter of the injunction by not licensing padded traps, but a Nov. 1 memo from staffer Patricia Moreno also directed the department's Division of Law Enforcement to "take no action" against those who used the traps—a significant number, tagging records indicate. □

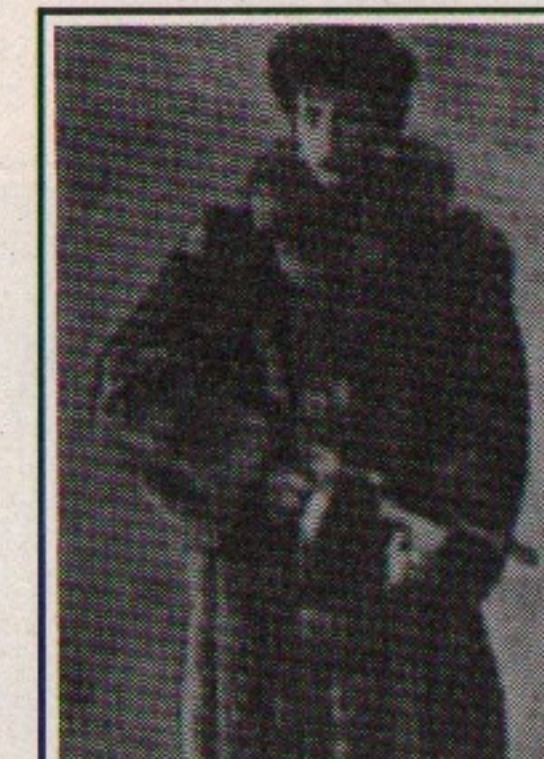
—M.C.

## Bad Taste

A fur ad from Coutures Ltd. of New York has been nominated for *Advertising Age's* "ads we can do without" collection. "No matter what side of the fur wars you're on," wrote Bruce Felton, vice president of the ad firm D'Arcy Masius Benton and Bowles, "you're guaranteed to find

something offensive in this ad. It's got sexism, homicidal violence, crassness, and ugliness." The ad featured a machine gun-wielding model who offered to give away her husband but threatened to kill anti-fur protesters.

Kakas Furs of Boston showed com-



*'You can take my money.  
You can have my husband.  
But touch my fur,  
and you're dead!'  
The fashion industry's direct source of  
designer furs. You are invited to  
present this ad and receive a 10%  
discount on any one purchase you make.*

**Coutures Ltd.**

307 7th Avenue, New York, NY 10001  
Tel: (212) 243-8245

### Bonnie and coat

No matter what side of the fur wars you're on, you're guaranteed to find something offensive in this ad. It's got sexism, homicidal violence, crassness and ugliness—and my vote for *Ad Age's* "ads we can do without" collection.

**Bruce Felton**

VP-editorial services

D'Arcy Masius Benton & Bowles  
New York

parably bad taste with a Dec. 20 letter to old clients, promoting furs by playing on public sympathy for then-store manager Charles Stuart. Stuart was hospitalized, claiming a black man shot him after killing his pregnant wife. Apparently Stuart

killed his wife himself with the Kakas store pistol to collect insurance, then shot himself to support his alibi. He jumped off a bridge to his death when police caught on.

Hired last fall by the Fur Information Council of America to fight antifur activism, the ad firm Burson-Marsteller Inc. was embarrassed in late February when their name appeared on a list of 1988 donors to the anti-trapping group Defenders of Wildlife. A Burson-Marsteller rep said the \$500 donation was payment for an op-ed newspaper piece authored by DoW president Rupert Cutler in connection with an earlier, unrelated campaign. □

—M.C.

## Public Opinion

Fully 60 percent of 1,000 shoppers surveyed by Gallup recently for *Advertising Age* say they oppose testing cosmetics and toiletries on animals, while 89 percent say they would buy such products that hadn't been tested on animals. However, only 5.2 percent said they could name a cruelty-free cosmetics marketer—a big opening for ANIMALS' AGENDA advertisers!

Animal testing of over-the-counter medications was opposed by 43 percent, while 20 percent opposed animal testing of prescription drugs.

A January poll of 532 Wisconsin residents by the *Milwaukee Journal* showed an even stronger number, 74 percent, opposed to animal testing of cosmetics. Even more encouraging, 75 percent agreed animals have rights, with support for animal rights strongest in rural areas where people have more contact with animals. Ten percent disapproved of meat-eating, although only three percent were

vegetarians, suggesting a need for greater awareness of food alternatives. Although 73 percent endorsed use of animals in essential medical research, 61 percent opposed killing animals to make fur coats and half opposed killing animals for leather. Men were twice as likely as women to approve of fur and leather, and also significantly more likely to support medical use of animals (81 percent to 65 percent).

Polls of Coloradans taken during the campaign over Aspen's proposed fur sales ban showed similar strong residual support for animal rights, mixed with confusion over the issues. Barry Selberg & Associates polled 407 voters in November for Coloradans Against Pound Seizure, while the *Denver Post/News* polled 512 Coloradans at large Feb. 3-6.

Most encouraging, the *Post/News* found 32 percent disagreed that "humans are morally superior to other

Continued on next page



# Hiding Behind Dead Babies

**D**efending animal research advocate Adrian Morrison, whose offices the Animal Liberation Front raided Jan. 14, the University of Pennsylvania claimed Morrison's cat research "has led to information that may yield insights into disorders such as sleep apnea, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), and epilepsy."

Morrison was the second recent ALF target to claim a raid had disrupted SIDS research. After ALF raided Texas Tech physiologist John Orem's office and labs last July 4, taking five cats and destroying equipment, Orem also insisted his work was valuable to the understanding of sleep apnea and SIDS, which each year kills 15,000 to 25,000 infants in the U.S., 1,500 to 5,000 in England, and 2,000 to 4,000 in West Germany.

In 1975 Congress funded an ongoing national SIDS research program. By 1982 studies done by Peter Schwartz of the Stanford Research Institute, Dr. Toke Hoppenbrouwer of the Los Angeles Women's Hospital, and West German physicians Dr. Helmut Althoff, Dr. Wolfgang Bauer, and Dr. Berthold Mersmann had established a link between SIDS and high levels of atmospheric sulfur dioxide, a primary component of acid

rain. Politically unpopular, their findings have been almost totally ignored.

Orem, meanwhile, has spent his time and taxpayers' money forcing



cats to run on treadmills for up to 16 hours. For six years, sleepless cats were produced by placing them on a small wooden plank—too narrow to lie down upon—inside a sealed 50-gallon tank of water. Left alone for a minimum of 12 hours, the cats were forced to stay awake for fear of drowning. Once he has a sleep-deprived cat, Orem conducts invasive surgery, threading screws into the bones around the cat's eyes, cutting holes in its throat, and sometimes removing its eyelids. Many of the 16 medical

experts who reviewed Orem's papers at the request of PETA noted his use of anesthesia is often improper or "totally inadequate."

Said pediatrician Dr. Kenneth Stoller, "I have reviewed Orem's published papers, and whatever he has been researching, it certainly is not SIDS."

Another physician who doubts the SIDS claims is New York ophthalmologist Stephen Kaufman, who reviewed the 21 sleep and/or sleep physiology papers of Orem's listed in the *Index Medicus* from 1973 to 1988. Of the 21 papers Orem wrote or co-authored, Kaufman discovered that only two mention SIDS. In the first, the only reference to the condition is in the first sentence. In the second paper, Orem only speculates that his research with cats is relevant to SIDS. "Given that SIDS occurs only in infants, this condition clearly depends on unique characteristics of

infant physiology," says Kaufman. "Thus studies of human adults would be most unlikely to yield insight into SIDS, and studies of adult cats are even less likely to be helpful."

Kaufman also reviewed a 1988 volume of the *Annals of the New York Academy of Medicine* devoted entirely to clinical SIDS research. Although the book contains 1,200 SIDS references, Orem's work is cited only once, in passing. "And the context of that citation," Kaufman says, "had nothing to do with SIDS."

oppose selling fur are really more interested in making wealthy people uncomfortable than they are in saving animals."

Selberg found 78 percent opposed to wearing wild fur, but only 39 percent opposed to wearing any fur.

Other *Post/News* questions revealed 19 percent believe "Many farmers mistreat the animals they raise," with 14 percent undecided; from 14 to 17 percent oppose medical research on animals; 27 percent oppose research on dogs, cats, and primates; 15 percent oppose classroom dissections with nine percent undecided; and 15 percent

□

—M.C.

*Continued from previous page*

species of animals," with 15 percent undecided. The *Post/News* also found 92 percent opposed the import of products from endangered species, 49 percent opposed animal testing of cosmetics, and 41 percent favored banning the sale of fur from wild animals. However, the *Post/News* poll indicated the public doesn't clearly understand the antifur position, as only 32 percent opposed wearing any fur, 46 percent agreed most antifur activists "are hypocrites because they are not against wearing leather coats or leather shoes," and 55 percent agreed "Many of the people who

Morrison's alleged SIDS research during 26 years of burning out sections of cats' brains and breaking cats' spinal cords with jewelers' forceps is equally "questionable on all counts," according to John McArdle, a scientific advisor for the American Anti-Vivisection Society and a former cat researcher himself. McArdle has reviewed 41 of Morrison's published papers. "For the last 25 years, Morrison has basically been studying variations on his original protocol," concludes McArdle. "The results merely repeat or confirm the work done by himself or others, often many years earlier."

McArdle has also conducted a citation analysis of all 45 of Morrison's published papers to find out whether other researchers, or physicians, discover any information in them worth citing. "A lot of Morrison's papers, especially the early ones, have never been cited," says McArdle. "The vast majority of people who cite Morrison's work are his co-workers and himself." Only six others have ever cited him.

Yet during his career, federal health agencies have awarded Morrison over

\$1 million—during which time he has led the apologists for the University of Pennsylvania's head injury lab, which crushed the skulls of live baboons to simulate the effects of car crashes; and for Edward Taub, the only U.S. researcher ever convicted of cruelty to animals (whose conviction was later overturned on a jurisdictional technicality).

Morrison testified on Taub's behalf that even though some of the 17 monkeys rescued from his lab had broken or protruding bones, open sores, or unbandaged wounds from fingers that had been chewed or torn off, they were "in a good, general state of health." Under cross-examination, he then admitted that he had never seen the monkeys (now known as the Silver Spring monkeys), spoken with any veterinarian who had examined them, or contacted the police or the prosecuting attorney to see their evidence. Instead he had relied almost entirely on information given to him by Edward Taub. □

—Jack Rosenberger

## Smears, Suits, and Espionage

Spring was the mud season, as animal exploiters turned from defending themselves to counter-attack.

The biggest mudball, likely to fly for months if not years, was a Feb. 25 memo from the Knoxville, Tennessee police to the National Crime Information Center data bank, which repeated allegations from biomedical researchers that "animal rights extremists" might have gunned down University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine dean Hiram Kitchen back on Feb. 8. Knox County sheriff's Lt. Larry Johnson was much more careful to explain the context than most of those who repeated the story.

"The information we released was as a precautionary measure only," Johnson told UPI. "We put it out for only one reason. We didn't want to sit on anything. Everything in it was unconfirmed. It was a 'for-what-it's-worth' teletype based on second, third, and fourth-hand information," from researchers at other institutions who claimed to have received death

threats at other times. "There is no indication of any truth to it," Johnson emphasized, "and there is nothing in the investigation that points back to it."

In fact there are no suspects in Kitchen's murder and no signs he had any significant involvement pro or con animal rights.

Yet the memo was just what exploiters needed to inflame the uninformed. Charles Benton of the Texas Farm Bureau warned stockmen that 7,000 animal protection groups exist worldwide, including 400 animal rights groups, with 10 million members. Taking heed, Texas hunters and factory farmers formed two groups of their own, the Responsible Use of Animals Coalition, and the People and Animals Coalition of Texas.

Charles Dukes, vice president of the pro-hunting Texas Outdoors Writers Assn., launched his own three-part counterattack in the *Athens Review* March 5, focusing on the Fund for Animals. Part one hit Billy Saxon, manager of the Fund's

Black Beauty Ranch sanctuary near Murchison, Texas, for his involvement in hog and cattle ranching. Saxon, a seven-year Fund employee, sold his livestock interests to his brother Wayne only last November. Dukes quoted Roy Miller, a neighbor of the Saxon hog farm, and Jerry Owens, Saxon's predecessor at Black Beauty, who was fired for mismanagement in 1984 (and went on to found a group called HELP, whose claims of prosecuting huge numbers of abuse cases are widely doubted in animal protection circles). Both accused Saxon of selling Black Beauty animals for

slaughter and running a dirty hog barn, where dead animals were left to rot for days.

Miller's charges came from an unpublished letter to leading animal defense organizations, including The ANIMALS' AGENDA. Threatening to sue Miller for defamation, the Fund's attorneys categorically denied that any Black Beauty animals had gone to slaughter, or that either the Fund or Saxon had been involved in "illegal and illicit activities."

In part two, Dukes quoted Owens, Luke Dommer of the Com-

mittee to Abolish Sport Hunting, Janet Hamilton of Eliminate All Suffering and Exploitation, and Bill Mannetti of the Animal Rights Front, who charged the Fund with stealing credit for actions from small local groups. Dommer and Mannetti blamed the Fund for a CBS newscast captioning error, while Hamilton argued her group should have gotten more credit for helping start the lawsuit that stopped the 1989 California bear hunt. The \$20,000 legal costs were split between the Fund, the Wildlife Conservancy, and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Part three and a sidebar accused the Fund of wrongly claiming to have stopped deer hunting in Texas state parks. In fact, the Fund in 1989 drew a pledge from former Texas parks executive director Charles Travis that no additional parks would be opened to public hunting during the 1989-1990 season.

PETA meanwhile hit the *Washingtonian* with a \$3 million libel suit.

*Continued on page*



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firmly denying allegations by free-lancer Katie McCabe that PETA executive director Alex Pacheco had staged a photo of one of the Silver Spring monkeys in a stereotaxic device; that the monkeys never suffered (although Taub was twice convicted of cruelty); and that PETA hadn't reported \$1.2 million of income. McCabe's major sources were two former PETA employees, both of whom had been fired for cause. Her smear was circulated to Congress by representatives of the fur industry, L'Oreal cosmetics, and the National Assn. for Biomedical Research. McCabe herself, also author of a 1986 *Washingtonian* attack on both PETA and HSUS, is collecting up to \$6,000 apiece for frequent lectures to biomedical research groups.

A wave of intimidation suits against animal defenders gained momentum as the International Research and Development Corp., already suing several individual activists, sued the cruelty-free distributor Feather River Co. for defamation in connection with the IRDC takeover of Carme Inc. last fall. Because IRDC is one of the nation's largest users of lab animals, Feather River has quit carrying Carme products.

In Massachusetts, former Animal Control Officers of Mass. president Paul Murphy demanded \$1 million each from CEASE, NEAVS, and activist Judy Triano because Triano alleged to media and his employer, the town of Hingham, that he hadn't kept legally required records, had collected fees from town residents that he hadn't reported, and had drawn pay for work not done. The local district attorney is reportedly probing Triano's allegations with an eye toward charging Murphy.

CEASE meanwhile hit back at management of Boston's Faneuil Hall shopping complex with a suit for breach of civil liberties, after the D.A. dropped trespassing charges against two members who picketed restaurants at the complex last June on National Veal Boycott Day.

Sued for defamation by Max Zeller furs after a Fur Free Friday demo, Concerned Citizens for Animals of Springfield, Mass. retained attorney Stephen Wise of the Animal Legal Defense Fund, who promptly filed a strongly worded answer and counterclaim alleging store manager Eugene Zeller had likened CCA to Nazis in a handout to passersby, had been physically restrained from assaulting

demonstrators, and had made fraudulent representations to get a permit to barricade the sidewalk in front of the store on the day of the demonstration.

Animal defenders won a case in Louisiana when the state Supreme Court ruled the state veterinary board wrongly suspended the licenses of four vets hired by the New Orleans SPCA to do low-cost spaying and neutering. Louisiana vets in private practice had vigorously opposed the competition.

Animal defenders also dodged mud in Congress and state assemblies as opponents sought to muzzle activists with mixed success.

The Bush Administration recommended against passage of H.R.



—Malt Taylor

3349, the House bill that would make a federal crime of unauthorized release of data from federally funded research labs, because the Dept. of Justice believes it would interfere with the legitimate work of whistleblowers and news media.

In Ohio, a bill to enable furriers to sue demonstrators was widened to address any protest that "interferes in commerce," before clearing the state Senate and going to the House. An attempt to extend the bill to cover hunt sabotage was defeated. Sponsor Gary Suhadolnik claimed the bill was needed to stop antifur "terrorism," but couldn't prove any had occurred. Network for Ohio Animal Action president Sherry Hamilton testified that not one Ohio antifur protester had been arrested in the past five years for anything connected with a demonstration. She and other protesters have, however, been targets of window-smashing and threatening phone calls. Protesters' animals were poisoned in several cases, while one anti-trapping activist

was shot—not fatally—at a protest held about the time the bill was introduced.

Upset by a sharp decline in the number of teenaged hunters, the Wyoming Fish and Game Dept. issued a 20-page strategy for pushing hunting in the schools and combatting animal rights activism—but as in Ohio, a hunter harassment bill failed to clear the legislature. Observers believe it could pass next year.

On March 13, Aspen, Colorado mayor Bill Stirling and councillor Steve Crockett easily survived a recall attempt orchestrated by the fur industry, who spent as much as \$10 per vote to beat a proposed ban on fur sales in a February referendum.

As the mudballs flew, others of muddy inclination infiltrated animal defense groups to prepare the next round. Virginia Rouslin of the Canadian Consulate in Cincinnati (1-513-762-7655) identified herself only as a "researcher" in calling antifur groups to gather info for the Canadian Dept. of External Affairs. This department in 1986 hired the ad firm Thomas Grey Inc. to find ways to discredit the antifur movement. The firm drew up a plan much like the one now pushed by the American Medical Assn. v.s. antivivisectionists.

The most notorious anti-animal rights spy, Mary Lou Sapone, was observed apparently gathering data on animal defenders at the recent Society for Neuroscience convention in Phoenix, Arizona. As an undercover operative for Perceptions International, publishers of the anti-animal rights journal *The Animal Rights Reporter*, Sapone was paid by U.S. Surgical in 1988 to discredit groups who protested against the use of dogs in sales demonstrations of surgical staples. In that capacity Sapone and another operative encouraged Fran Trutt's purported attempt to bomb the U.S. Surgical parking lot in Nov. 1988—allegedly providing the money to buy the bomb, driving Trutt to the site, and calling police. Sapone apparently also tried to encourage at least one member of the environmental group Earth First! to attempt a bombing.

Aggressive though the anti-animal protection push is, there are signs those behind it aren't as strong as they pretend. The politically strongest group involved, the American Medical Assn., now represents only 47 percent of the nation's 586,000 physicians, down from 75 percent of 292,000 in 1965. □

—M.C.

## This Is Management?

Who state wildlife managers work for was never more clear than in recent Wisconsin, Minnesota, New York, and California actions, each of which contradicted fundamental principles of ecology to placate fishing and hunting interests.

The Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources last fall poured 50,000 gallons of the pesticide rotenone into 2,000-acre Delavan Lake, wiping out buffalo fish, carp, and bullheads—and probably essential frogs, birds, turtles, and micro-organisms—so that it could be restocked with species fishermen favor. In neighboring Minnesota, the state Agriculture Dept. fined the Dept. of Natural Resources \$1,650 for rule-breaking while similarly poisoning fish on behalf of the Knife Lake Sportsmen's Club. The club paid \$75,000 of the \$200,000 project cost.

The New York Dept. of Environmental Conservation had meanwhile stocked the Mongaup River with non-native white rock bass, who annihilated native alewives and trout. The river will take four to eight years to recover.

New York also extended by three

weeks the trapping season for beavers, the state animal. Wisconsin went even farther, approving use of snares to trap beavers, allowing landowners to kill beavers at any time, and also allowing them to blow up dams and lodges with beavers inside—while dropping permit requirements for all of this. Wisconsin further proposed paying trappers a bounty of \$10 per beaver killed. Beavers came under attack for supposedly harming trout fishing by damming streams, never mind that both species plentifully coexisted for centuries before game managers showed up.

Paradoxically, Wisconsin also wants to pay some landowners to leave beaver dams in place, thus creating waterfowl habitat.

The Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game merely issued 8,200 permits to hunt the estimated 3,400 deer left in San Diego County, despite a county request for an antlerless deer hunting moratorium. The county had 26,000 deer in 1949, the last time the state actually counted the herd. □

—M.C.

## Meat Warning

Heavily pressured by consumer groups, the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture is reforming nutritional labeling. Only 60 percent of packaged foods now carry nutritional labels, but by 1991 almost all must list content of fiber, fat, saturated fat, calories from fat, cholesterol, sodium, protein, and carbohydrates.

One effect of the new labels may be to warn consumers away from animal products. A coalition of 38 federal agencies reported Feb. 28 that all Americans should eat more fruit, grain, and vegetables, and less meat, milk, and eggs. A recent Gallup poll showed that 45 percent of Americans are already giving up red meat, including 53 percent of women and 36 percent of men. Also, 36 percent of Americans are giving up dairy products. But only eight percent are eating more vegetables.

The food industry continues catering to the American taste for fat. The Food and Drug Administration has now approved Simplese, a low-calorie fat substitute—but it's based on egg white and Simplese-based ice cream will still have almost as much cholesterol as conventional ice cream. □

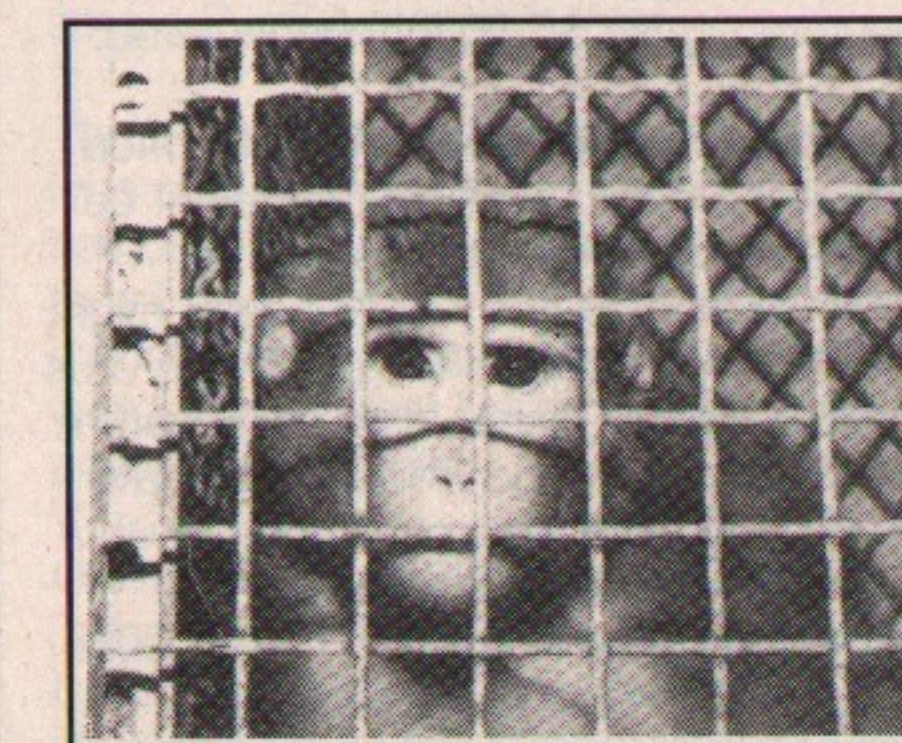
—M.C.

## NIH To Kill The Silver Spring Monkeys

At deadline, appeals on behalf of seven of the last 11 Silver Spring monkeys appeared all but exhausted. By issue date, National Institutes of Health researchers were expected to have anesthetized the seven monkeys, sawed their heads open, and inserted electrodes into their brains from 80 to 100 times as they died, measuring the nerve responses left in limbs that were paralyzed in previous experiments nearly a decade ago.

The terminal experiment had already been done on one monkey, leaving PETA executive director Alex Pacheco to wonder, "Why do it on all the others?" As a technician for researcher Edward Taub, whose lab was in Silver Spring, Maryland, Pacheco in 1981 gathered the evidence that gave the monkeys their name and brought Taub's conviction—twice—for cruelty. The convictions were overturned on jurisdictional technicalities.

The apparent failure of stays and injunctions sought by PETA and the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine dashed Pacheco's hopes that these seven monkeys, like the other four, would end their lives in peace, outside, in sociable groups.



Pacheco said PETA and the NIH agreed in principle late last year to submit the monkeys' fate to binding

arbitration by a panel of three to five veterinarians acceptable to either side. "To my surprise," Pacheco explained, "we got up to three vets, and then NIH said they wanted a fourth vet," which would set up the possibility of a deadlock, "and that they would not be bound by the decision." When PETA insisted on an odd number of vets and a binding settlement, the NIH went ahead with the terminal research.

The decade-long battle on behalf of the Silver Spring monkeys may have saved thousands of other primates, as it drew national attention to research abuses. According to the National Institute of Medicine's Medline data base, the number of published scientific articles based on primate studies has fallen from 8,496 in 1977 to 3,408 in 1988. Substance abuse studies using primates are down from 5,799 to 2,186.

—M.C.



**Exxon could be fined \$640 million** if convicted on five criminal counts rising from last year's oil spill off Valdez, Alaska, which killed an estimated 100,000 to 300,000 birds plus fish, marine mammals, bears, and deer. The damage goes on. Up to 19 million gallons of oil are still missing, says Defenders of Wildlife senior biologist Albert Manville, contrary to official claims that only 11 million gallons were lost. Covering themselves, Exxon and other involved parties have been reluctant to share data.

**Multiple recent oil spills** imperil the return of turtles, birds, and muskrats to Arthur Kill, the strait dividing New Jersey from Staten Island.

**Up to 95 percent of Oklahoma oil well operators** have ignored an order to cover oil pits, say state officials, who are now prosecuting 18 violators. The pits kill over 200,000 birds and small mammals per year.

**Virginia Gordon, inventor of Eytex**, a nonanimal alternative to the Draize eye test for consumer products, says opposition from academic animal researchers kept her product off the market for three years. Eytex is now used by over 60 companies, while Gordon's firm, Ropak Labs, has just introduced a new non-animal skin sensitivity test called Skintex.

**Completion of a recent National Toxicology Program study** that linked fluoride ingestion to rare cancers in mice and rats was held up for three years when the original control animals starved to death due to faulty experimental planning.

**The 3rd District Court of Appeal** has ordered Los Angeles to protect endangered fish in four tributaries to Lake Mono. The lake is nearly dry from long use as a city reservoir.

**Kentucky dentist J.J. Brown** was charged Feb. 17 with allegedly killing race horses—at up to \$15,000 apiece—so that the owners could collect insurance.

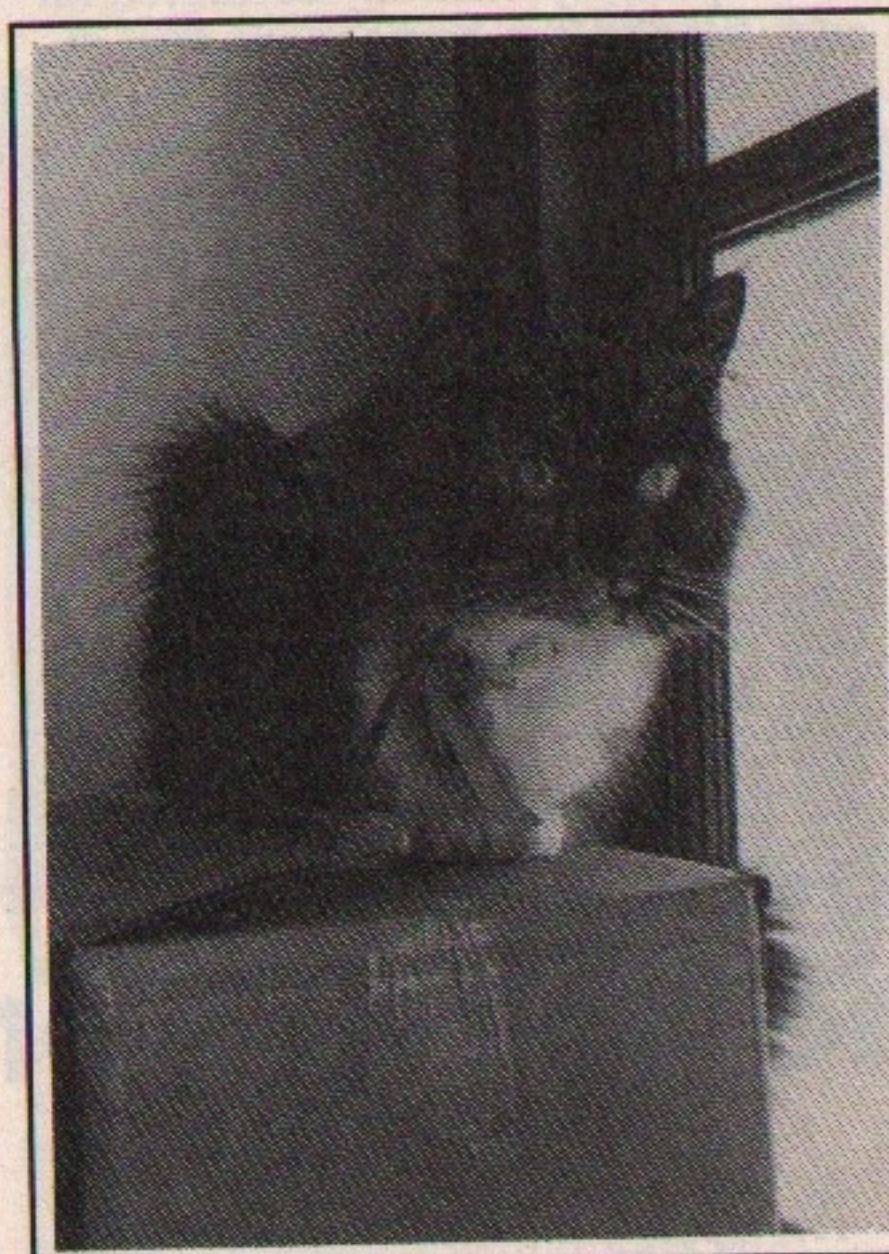
**Police now suspect Satanists** rather than Santerians in the discovery of numerous dead animals and a human skull in a Philadelphia park. Similar finds

## EDITED BY MERRITT CLIFTON

in a San Pedro, Calif. park over the winter have included a decapitated goat and at least 30 decapitated birds.

**A federal judge has awarded** Pennsylvania poultry breeder Fred Wright \$522,000 for the loss of 4,500 birds the USDA gassed in 1985 to stop the spread of avian flu.

**Louisiana State University** has replaced a 16-year-old tiger mascot with a four-month-old cub. The old mascot went to the Baton Rouge Zoo.



**Atlanta now requires** cat licenses. Formerly, only 1.5 percent of impounded cats were returned to their homes, against a return rate of 94 percent for licensed dogs. The fees are \$2.00 for neutered cats; \$5.00 for nonneutered.

**Transferring the AIDS virus into mice** not only produces results that might be "biologically irrelevant," the journal *Science* warned Feb. 16, but also "might promote hazardous changes" in the virus itself. National Cancer Institute researchers Paolo Lusso and Robert Gallo have found "the AIDS virus can interact with a common mouse virus when the two come in contact in infected human cells. As a result, the AIDS virus acquires some new biological characteristics, including the ability to reproduce much more rapidly than it normally does and to infect new kinds of cells." Lusso

believes this could result in a form of AIDS that might be transmissible via air, like the common cold.

**Calling herself Educated Dogs** for the Handicapped, Catherine Wolford of Parma, Ohio claimed to have raised \$1,000 in cash and \$15,000 in pledges through radio and TV appeals in an effort to bail 27 dogs out of a local boarding kennel. Wolford had paid only \$300 of the \$24,000 kennel tab, and hadn't visited the dogs in five months. Officials of reputable canine assistance programs said they'd never heard of her. The untrained dogs were among about 40 whom Wolford agreed to remove from a vacant house last October to avoid cruelty charges. Local health officials are considering razing the house as a health hazard.

**Four San Carlos, Calif. humane officers dodged bites** for five hours March 4 while removing 295 rats from a condominium apartment. Owners Clifford and Christine Fields moved in with just three rats last November, but let them rove and breed unchecked. When the rats chewed their way into adjacent units, neighbors called police. The captured rats were gassed.

**The USDA has reversed itself** and is again allowing use of the term "free range" to describe chickens not raised in battery cages.

**Due to low beef prices and falling demand**, farmers have held so many cattle back from slaughter that the U.S. beef herd is a record average of 8.5 years old, says *Farm Journal*. Because keeping cattle longer is risky, slaughter in the next year could exceed consumption, leading to lower prices still.

**George Bush has announced** creation of an Earth Corps, a privately funded non-profit body similar to the Peace Corps, whose missions will be tree-planting, fire prevention, cleaning up oil spills, and protecting wildlife habitat.

**About 200 male sea lions** took over San Francisco's Pier 39 yacht slips in February, as their pregnant mates awaited the June births of offspring on the nearby Channel Islands, to tourists' delight and the annoyance of city officials, who had to handle tons of softball-sized droppings. Washington

officials meanwhile tried to oust steel-head-devouring sea lions from the waters off Whidbey Island—before the steelhead become an endangered species—by zinging them with rubber-tipped crossbow bolts while playing recordings of killer whales. Near Malibu, Calif., Friends of the Sea Lion tried unsuccessfully to save a sea lion with monofilament fishing net caught on his neck. The Calif. Fish and Game Dept. had already pledged to restrict the nets after a single net killed four sea otters circa Feb. 12.

**A sea lion at New York's Central Park Zoo** died Jan. 18 after plunging into a pool that had just been drained for repairs.

**The Detroit Zoo**, noted for killing "surplus" rare species, has slated 17 aoudads for euthanasia. The aoudads have spent the past two years in indoor stalls and small exercise yards, after their former habitat became part of a chimpanzee exhibit. The zoo has killed 259 healthy animals since Steve Graham became director in 1983; another 59 have died of exposure.

**Seven birds and a newborn antelope** died of exposure at the San Diego Zoo during a Feb. cold snap.

**Claiming there is no viable alternative to dissection** in basic general biology classes that once offered alternatives, Colorado Univ. president Gordon Gee has undercut a 15-0 Faculty Assembly vote to limit dissections to classes without alternatives.

**Water-borne chemicals** excreted by snail-eating crayfish apparently cause pond snails to grow larger so the crayfish can't eat them, say researchers with the Universities of Utah and Oklahoma.

**The newly formed Assn. of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics** has already enrolled 1,500 of the 38,000 U.S. Forest Service staffers in an effort to slow logging and boost conservation in the 191 million acres under USFS management. The USFS will spend \$921 million in 1990 to promote logging, but only \$71 million to aid fish and wildlife. (The USFS is also remodeling 12,000 latrines this year to oust stench and spiders.) Responding to criticism, the USFS has agreed to

change policies for California holdings to reduce logging by up to 20 percent, reduce clearcutting by 40 percent, designate another 500,000 acres of wilderness and 500 miles of scenic rivers, and embrace the concept of biodiversity in future planning. One down, 49 states to go.

—Zabick



**Inventors out to build a better mouse-trap** last year patented baits based on mouse breath and maple syrup, an ultrasonic rodent deterring device, and a supposedly child-proof poison that rodents will lick off their fur after getting it on themselves by crawling down a tube after bait.

**Ultrasound flea collars don't work**, says a Purdue research team.

**The Los Angeles County postman** who shot a dog while on duty Dec. 26 has been convicted of felonious cruelty to animals. In St. Louis, meanwhile, dog owners accused police of killing a Rottweiler and a Great Dane needlessly in unrelated incidents.

**One of the two dolphins** captured in Tampa Bay last November for display at the National Aquarium in Baltimore died circa Feb. 15 of blood poisoning, before she could be moved from temporary quarters at Hawk's Cay, Florida. The capture was opposed by Florida

governor Bob Martinez, while Sea Shepherds actively hindered the capture effort.

**A caged African lion** bit his owner's arm off Feb. 24 in Glen Avon, Calif.

**"There is a difference between a panel** from the National Academy of Sciences and Jeremy Rifkin [of the environmentalist Foundation on Economic Trends]," White House Chief of Staff John Sununu said Feb. 24, claiming Congress is "too fair" to dissidents.

**For polluting San Francisco Bay**, Unocal Corp. of Los Angeles has been ordered to pay \$2.7 million to the Trust for Public Lands, \$1.3 million to the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, and \$1.5 million to be split between the EPA and the Calif. Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Fund.

**Rediscovering an African wasp** that helped control dog ticks on Martha's Vineyard during the 1920s, the USDA and University of Massachusetts are now using it to fight the Lyme tick, responsible for the debilitating Lyme disease.

**Despite the 60-year failure** of coyote killing to halt the spread of the species, the USDA's Animal Damage Control program has applied for \$256,000 to escalate the slaughter in California. The ADC killed 18,000 animals in Calif. last year.

**Hungry moose using the trail** to navigate Alaska's deepest snow since 1965 menaced participants in this year's 1,100-mile, Anchorage-to-Nome Iditarod dog sled race. Frequently the moose charged and stomped dog teams and trail-breaking snowmobiles on sight. The mushers weren't eager to shoot the moose, as Alaska law requires anyone who does kill one to gut it and pack the edible portions of the 1,000-pound animal out of the bush. Such an incident cost four-time Iditarod winner Susan Butcher the 1985 race and the \$50,000 purse. But caught between killing moose and being stuck far from settlement with injuries and injured dogs, some mushers shot as many as three. Iditarod conditions were already risky, including gale-force winds, wind chill readings of minus 60, and blowing ash from the

*Continued on next page*



Continued from previous page

Redoubt volcano. Butcher feasted on veal to celebrate her fourth win, but had only 12 dogs left after starting with 17.

**The U.S. Attorney's Office** has offered Anchorage, Alaska orthopedic surgeon and trophy hunter Jack Frost a plea bargain on charges he illegally chased 60 wolves to the verge of death in his airplane, then landed and shot them with automatic rifles or bow and arrow. Frost would pay a \$10,000 fine, forfeit his \$40,000 plane, and lose hunting privileges for two years. Also accused of illegal air hunting were West Virginia contractor Jim Ryan, Alaskan contractor Gary Baugh, Anchorage guides Chuck Wirschem and Richard Guthrie, and Anchorage dentist Keith Johnson, a leading member of the Alaska Professional Hunters Assn. ▲



**The Washington-Baltimore region**, handy to the National Institutes of Health head office, got 521 NIH research contracts in fiscal 1989, worth \$275 million—42 percent of the NIH contract budget. Runners up were the Boston area, 84 contracts worth \$34 million; the San Francisco Bay area, 92 contracts worth \$30 million; the Los Angeles area, 58 contracts worth \$24 million; the greater New York area, 76 contracts worth \$22 million; the Chicago area, 58 contracts worth \$17 million; the Detroit/Ann Arbor area, 32 contracts worth \$9 million; the Houston area, 32 contracts worth \$9 million; and the Philadelphia area, 28 contracts worth \$8 million.

**Tennessee banned cockfighting** Nov. 1, 1989, but already the offense has been reduced from a felony to a misdemeanor. Cockfighters have lifted the

Kentucky ban, by removing gamecocks from the definition of animal in the state animal protection act.

**Dogs, cats, and elephants** have some color vision, previously confirmed only in primates, say new studies.

**David Brody of the American Museum of Natural History** in N.Y., who sells bugs to film makers, once cut the wings off 3,000 flies so they wouldn't escape a set.

**A Philadelphia bait dealer** sells live worms by vending machine.

**Columbia University plans to build** an animal research lab on the site of New York's Audubon Theatre, where civil rights activist Malcolm X was assassinated in 1965.

**Florida hopes to compost** 3,000 tons a year of crabbing waste, now making up 30 percent of the panhandle region dump content.

**The Calif. Energy Commission is studying** why over 100 keen-sighted raptors have flown into the 6,700 windmills of the Altamont Pass energy farm since 1986.

**Hartz Mountain Inc. is spending \$6 million** to replace New Jersey wetlands the firm is filling for real estate development.

**The Ohio State Univ. agriculture dept.** offers a course on "Issues concerning use of animals by humans," while the Univ. of Minnesota spent its annual Swine Day conference discussing how to handle animal rights activism.

**Yellowstone is using** DNA mapping to trace the evolution of park wolves and coyotes.

**Marijuana grower Michael Berry**, of Morgan Hill, Calif., whose guard dog killed a two-year-old, got a four-year prison term after being convicted of involuntary manslaughter.

**University of Calif. at Davis** researchers have identified the combinations of dairy cow genes producing the milk proteins that make the best cheese. Two-thirds of California milk production goes into cheesemaking.

**American Kennel Club pedigree registrations** are often fraudulent and almost never verified, a recent San Jose (Calif.) *Mercury-News* expose charged, while *Atlantic Monthly* accused the AKC registry system of encouraging the breeding of unhealthy dogs, especially by puppy mills.

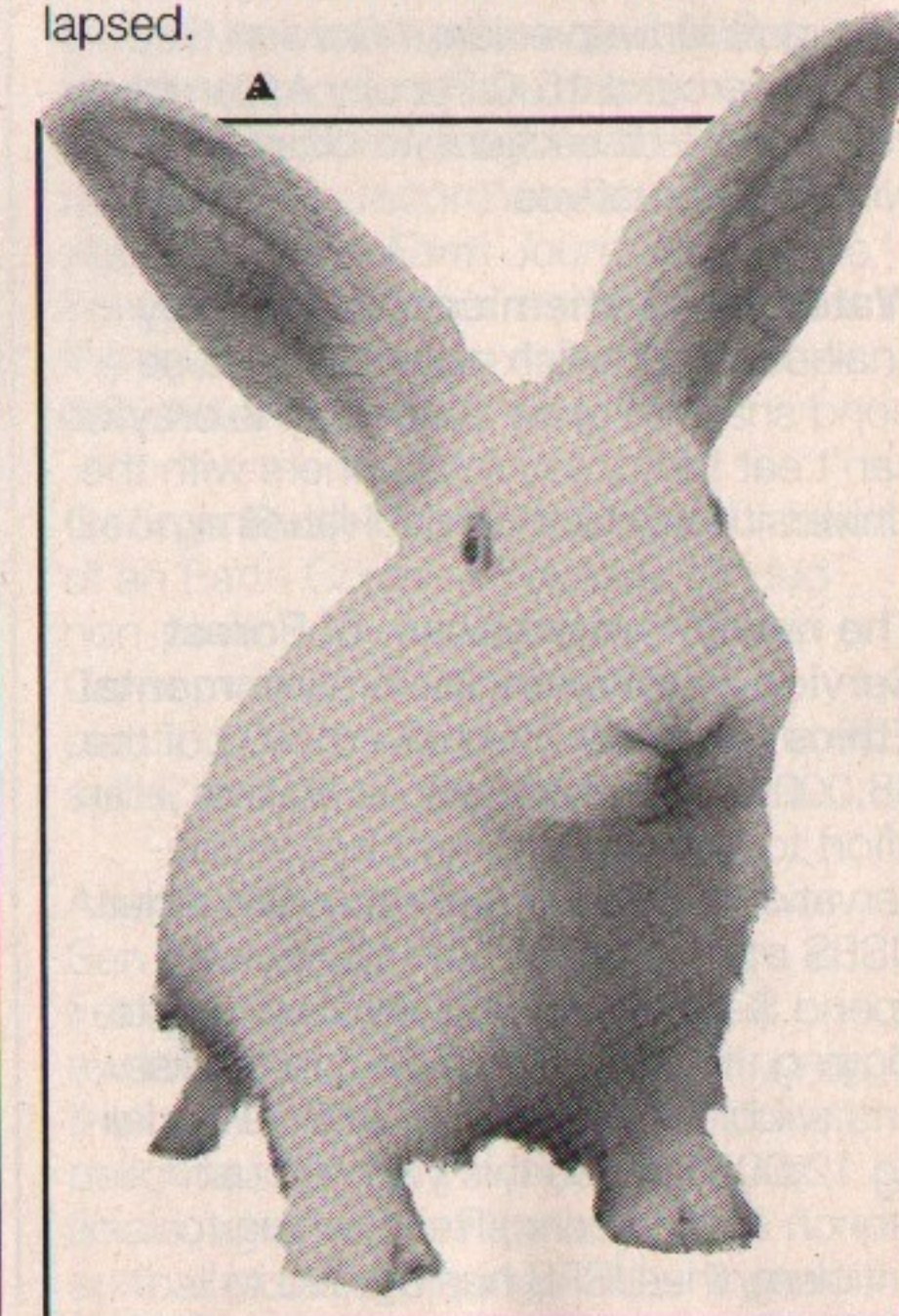
**Shifting the emphasis from inbred pedigreed animals** to comfortable companions, the annual International Cat Show at Madison Square Garden, N.Y. now features competitions among former shelter cats and strays for most beautiful eyes, splashiest color, most unusual coat, longest whiskers, most impressive tail, and closest resemblance to the owner. The awards are donated by Hill's Science Diet; registration fees go to the Humane Society of New York.

**About 800 people bid** on some 250 animals at Oklahoma's first-ever auction of exotics Feb. 23.

**A new aquarium may ruin** the French Quarter of New Orleans, says the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

**Feline immunodeficiency virus**, similar in effect to AIDS, has appeared in some of Florida's last few dozen panthers, who also are dying of mercury pollution.

**Partners in a \$200,000 rabbit breeding barn** are suing each other in Augusta, Ga., after the barn and business collapsed. ▲



**There are 40,000 rabbit breeders** in Pennsylvania, says the Penn State Rabbit Breeders' Assn., but few are of commercial size.

**The Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge** in Oklahoma has found it takes three years to restore a prairie dog town.

**Muskogee, Oklahoma principal Jimmy Rogers** wants to start a school farm that students can work on as reward for good behavior.

**Ethyl Corp. has patented** an aphrodisiac for roosters.

**Boxer Roberto Duran** reportedly kills cats on sight. Basketballer Charles Barkley goes foxhunting in a current Gillette aftershave commercial. But at the Harry Hopman tennis resort near Tampa, Florida, 13-year-old star Jennifer Capriati protects raccoons from male players who try to use them for target practice.

**A Brooklyn 13-year-old who burned** a younger boy over half his body on March 7 had a history of torturing dogs.

**Local dump workers and press have accused** the Franklin County, Illinois pound of gassing up to 30 animals at a time with truck exhaust, then burying many of them alive.

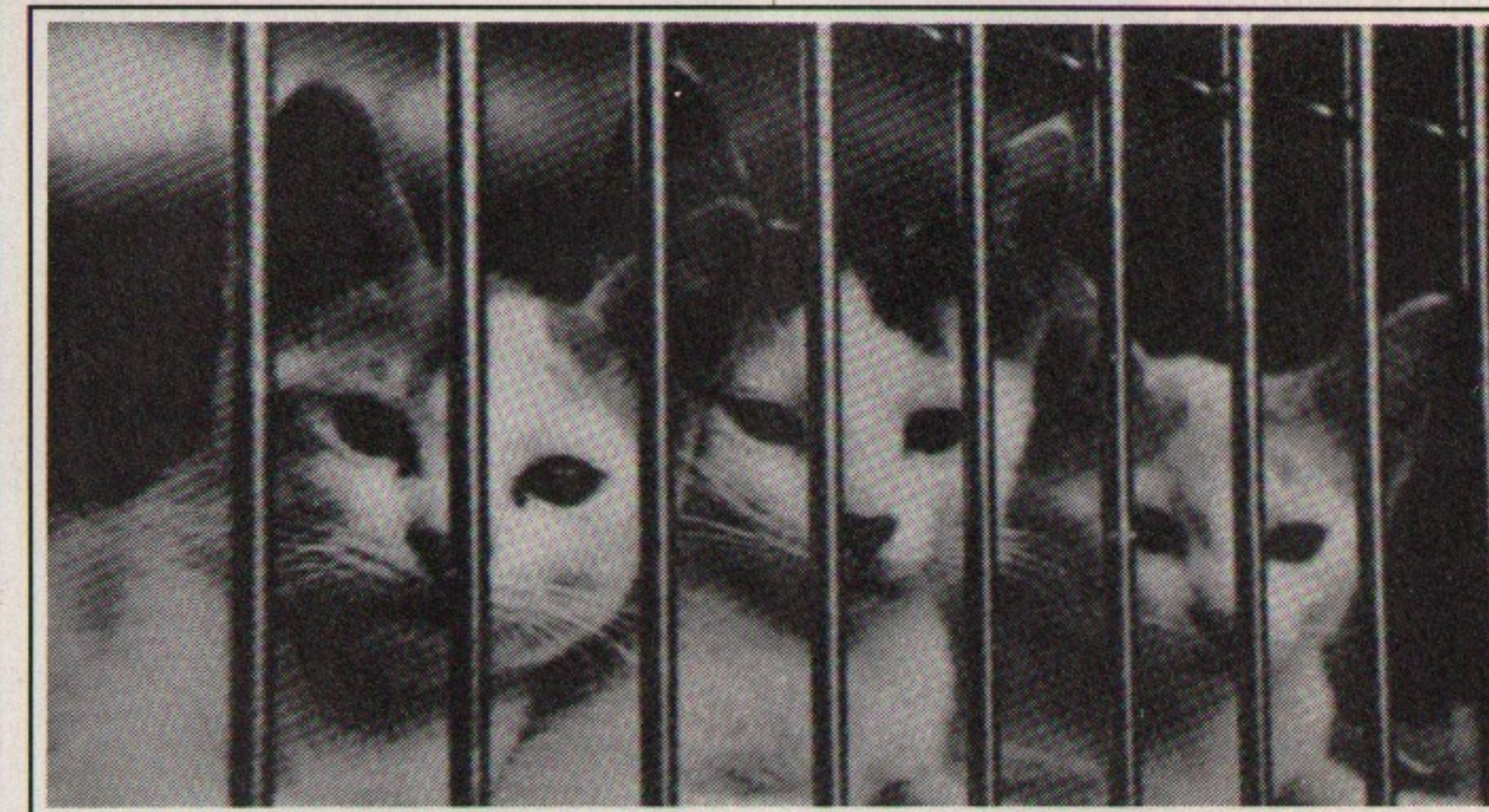
**Joseph Hickey** of Albany, Oregon, the largest breeder of dogs and cats for research on the West Coast, has been fined \$10,000 and ordered to close for failing to keep accurate records, inadequately sheltering animals, and obstructing inspections. Hickey, who made \$100,000 selling 1,200 animals a year, said he would continue business as usual pending appeal. He drew a \$40,000 fine and 25-year license suspension for similar offenses in 1988. The USDA has also recently secured convictions of Sugarloaf Key, Fla. resort owner Lloyd Good for keeping a dolphin in a filthy pool, and of Robert and Peggy Reichert, owners of the Thompson Valley Wildlife Park in Loveland, Colo., for keeping animals amid filth in substandard shelter.

**The so-called Carolina wren** on new South Carolina license plates looks more like a sparrow, say state ornithologists.

**Bootlegged exotic birds may be identified** by lack of a USDA legband bearing a three-letter, three-digit registry number. According to Greta Nilsson of the Animal Welfare Institute, even legally imported birds have up to 50 percent mortality in transit. Of 38,211 deaths she recorded in *Importation of Birds into the U.S. 1986-1988*, 51 percent died from overcrowding, 26 percent died of Newcastle's Disease, and 20 percent were species known to be disease-prone and delicate. (The book is \$5.00, from AWI, P.O. Box 3650, Washington, DC 20007.)

**The U.S. Forest Service has announced** the creation of the first genetically engineered tree, a fast-growing poplar to be used to fuel biomass energy plants. The poplar resists the herbicide glyphosate, commonly used on tree plantations to keep weeds from competing with seedlings.

**An elderly Mississippi man was killed** in January after chaining up dogs who were set upon deer by a man who was hunting from the road. Mississippi is among the last three states to allow deer



hunting with dogs. The practice is opposed by the 1,100-member Mississippi Property Rights Assn.

**Two African lions** were swiftly recaptured after falling out of a circus truck on I-40 near Oklahoma City.

**Now pasturing some 2,000 mustangs**, the Prairie National Wild Horse Refuge near Bartlesville, Okla. is the nation's second such sanctuary.

**Power boats killed** a third of the 50 ever-scarcer loons whose corpses were found in Massachusetts last year.

**The Oregon Eagle Foundation** and Columbia River Eagle Task Force have bought 15 acres near Astoria, Oregon to create the Twilight Creek Eagle Sanctuary, also prime habitat for tundra swans and some 50 other bird species.

**Convicted Maine poacher Leroy Corson** and associate Francis Sprague turned in neighbors Artemus Pomeroy and James Robichaud for poaching last Nov. 30, touching off a feud that included the shooting deaths of Pomeroy and Robichaud's brother—both ruled suicides—and arson fires that destroyed the homes of Sprague and his nephew.

**The Michigan legislature** has honored aging rocker and bowhunting promoter Ted Nugent "for his efforts on behalf of hunting safety, wildlife conservation, and a drug-free lifestyle." Nugent says his idea of fun is to "snag some good-looking gal and go hunting."

**A flash fire in the Navy Aerospace Medical Research Lab** at Pensacola, Fla. on Feb. 27 killed a monkey and underscored staff claims the lab is unsafe.

**Senators Bob Dole of Kansas** and Strom Thurmond of South Carolina mated their dogs to produce a litter of eight. Dole co-sponsored the resolution making last April "National Prevent-A-Litter Month." □



# Lesson From a Cat

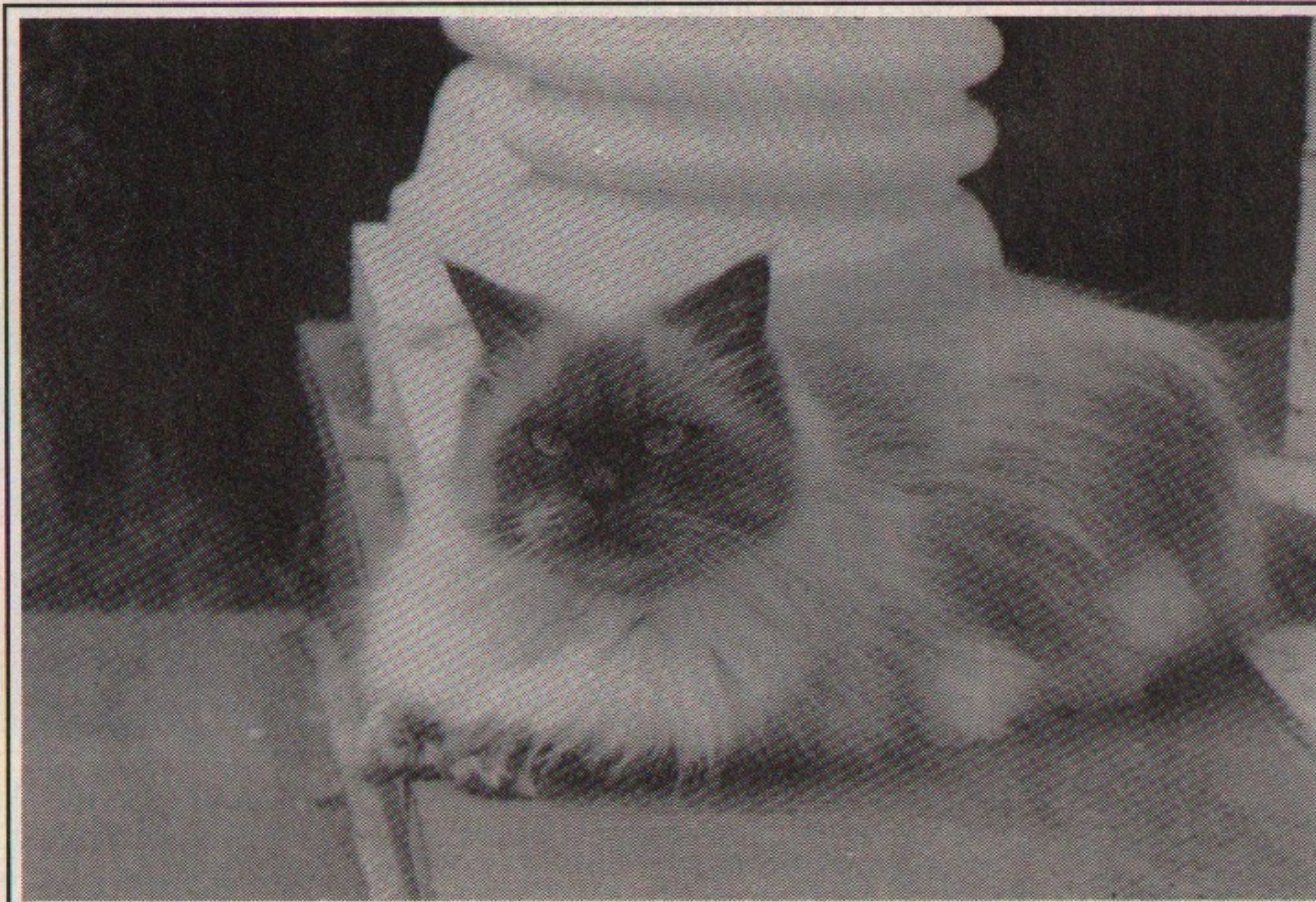
**A**s a physician I spent the majority of my life treating animals as vehicles to promote science. But recently my position on animal rights has changed through the gentle and loving persuasion of one special cat. I had little personal contact with animals in my early years and really did not encounter them until I entered medical school. This contact came in the form of finding dead cats laid out before me on a dissection table ready to be sliced and diced in the name of anatomical study. It did not bother me. I engaged in the study of medicine to help people, and people were all that mattered.

I had been taught to believe that animals were essentially only masses of organic protoplasm crawling, flying, or slithering upon the earth with brains the size of peas and no goals other than the immediate gratification of low-level physiological needs—the need to eat, sleep, reproduce, and defend their territory. They certainly did not have feelings or emotions, let alone possess souls. When I dissected a dead cat, I cared nothing for the corpse lying in front of me and never gave a thought to where it came from, or how the animal lived or died.

That attitude remained with me throughout many years of medical practice. Although I no longer had contact with animals, dead or alive, I kept up with the latest medical

BY CLAUDE A. FRAZIER, M.D.

## A Physician Speaks Out On Animal Experimentation



research by reading scientific journals and many of those studies were being done on animals in laboratories. I still felt no remorse as long as the results of the studies brought researchers a step closer to a breakthrough that would benefit humanity.

I maintained this scientific point

of view most of my life. But a series of events abruptly changed my life and, ultimately, my opinion on animals.

After more than two decades of marriage, my wife left me and I found myself alone and lonely. My office staff, sensing the negative change in my moods and knowing the reason for it, decided to try to help. One day my secretary showed up with a gift for me. It was a very small and frightened Himalayan kitten. He wore a most disoriented and pitiful expression on his tiny face, as if he were thinking, "Where am I? Why did you take me from my mother, and what's to become of me?" I immediately identified with him. "You and I are in the same stew, buddy," I thought.

"We've both been abruptly separated from the one we loved and don't know how we'll adapt."

I felt an immediate affinity for this helpless creature, but I didn't know quite how to relate to him. I'm an allergist and many of my patients are allergic to cats and other animal danders. I was used to avoiding animals so as not to acquire these danders on my person and unwittingly subject patients to them. More-

over, I had always looked with disdain upon the keeping of pets. Anything a person could do to avoid contact with allergens was best. I often counseled my patients to get rid of their companion animals instead of enduring the grueling series of desensitization injections necessary to render them

nonallergic to the animals. I could not understand patients who would rather suffer the shots than surrender the pets. But this kitten was given to me and I did not know how to politely refuse the gift. Besides, the way he looked at me—those gentle, pleading eyes, so sweet and innocent—how could I reject one in such need of love and understanding? My wife had done that to me and I knew the abject pain of the experience.

So I took the tiny creature home. At first he was shy and sweet. "Sweet" was the word that described him best: his timid meow; his cautious attempts to nuzzle in my arms, seeking warmth. "Why, you're just the sweetest thing I've ever seen," I said to his uplifted face and slightly pug nose. "In fact, I think I'll call you that—Sweet Thing." Thus he was christened.

There is definitely an intelligence in Sweet Thing. Any creature who can figure out how to coerce me into getting up at 6 A.M. to give him breakfast without making me angry, or how to distract my attention from visitors when he is jealous, is capable of logical, rational thought processes. As for having a soul, I am certain he does possess this as sure

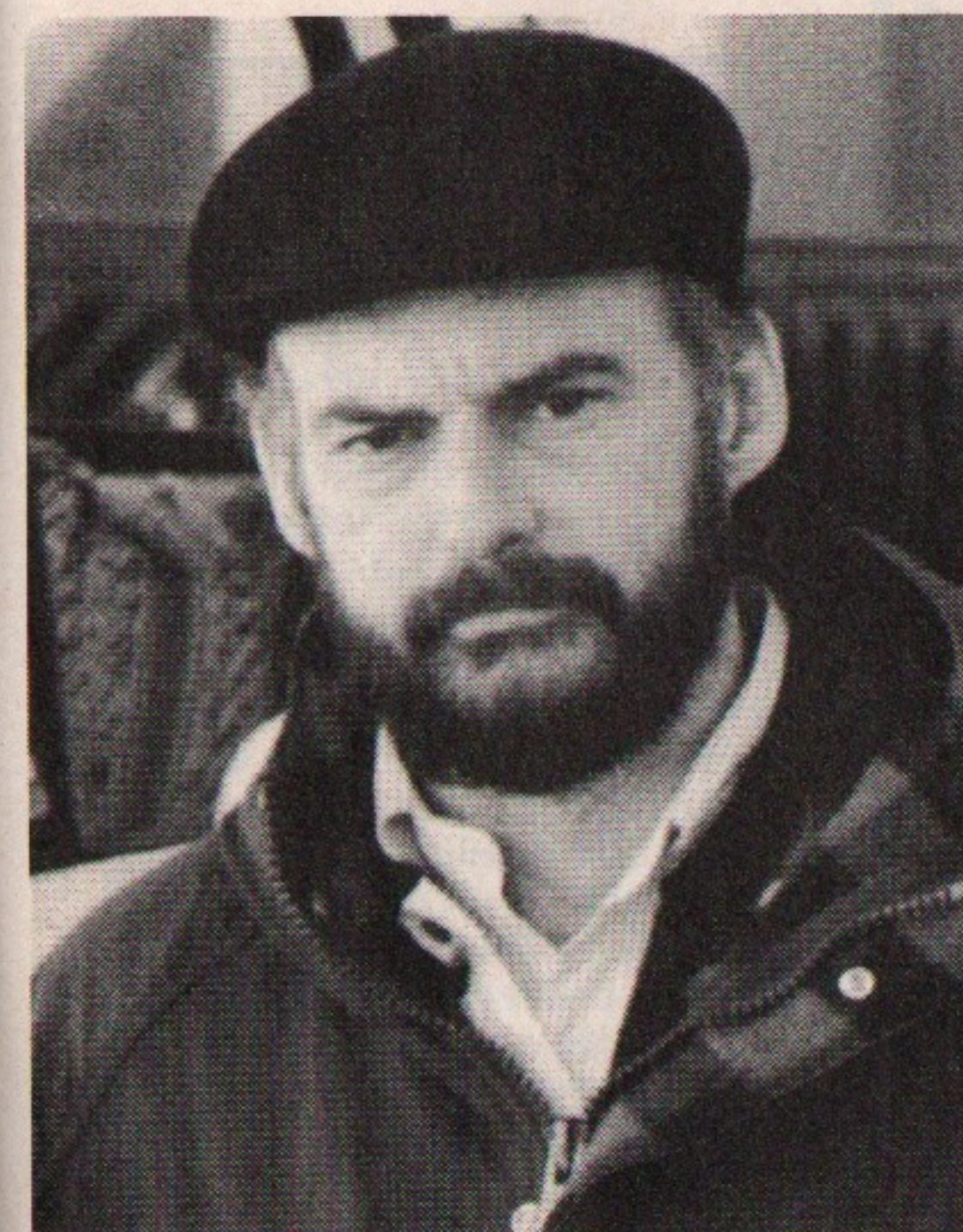
as I know that all human beings have one. His heart and soul may be capable of only the simple morality and understanding of a child, but, still, they do exist.

Sweet Thing is not an exception in the animal world. Knowing how much he trusts me, I could not conceive of putting him onto a table and injecting him with a noxious substance or cutting out one of his organs to see what effect it would have on him. And yet we continually betray the trust of animals just like him by subjecting them to appalling cruelty. Sometimes we do it accidentally; sometimes to satisfy our appetites for meat; sometimes the emotionally disturbed of our species do it on purpose; and sometimes we do it in the name of science.

Regardless of the reason, I cannot accept it and feel I must take a stance against it. Somebody must guard and protect the vulnerable and helpless creatures on the earth, and I encourage everyone to join me in this cause.

*Dr. Frazier practices in Asheville, N.C.*

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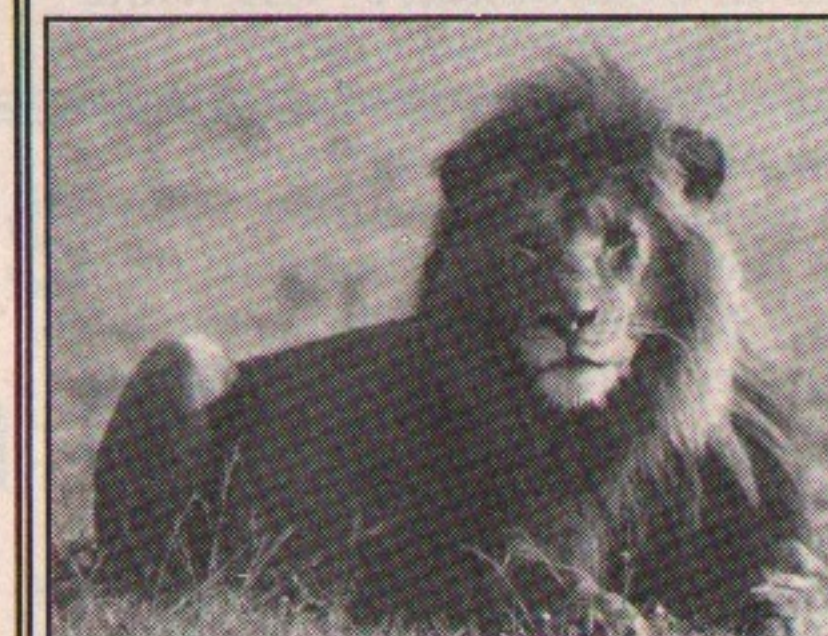


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# Entertaining Tales

**Through Other Eyes: Animal Stories by Women**

Edited by Irene Zahava; *The Crossing Press* (22-D Roache Rd., Box 207, Freedom, CA 95019), 1988; 188 pages, \$8.95, softcover.

In this collection of 18 short stories, editor Irene Zahava has given the reader a pleasing selection of "stories in which the integrity, dignity and individuality of animals is celebrated." The works achieve this goal, and the human ego is put aside while human and animal relationships are examined with respect and reverence for the animals. The authors, all women, are introspective, and in several stories have no trouble shifting to the often neglected point of view of those creatures forced to share a tenuous existence with humans.

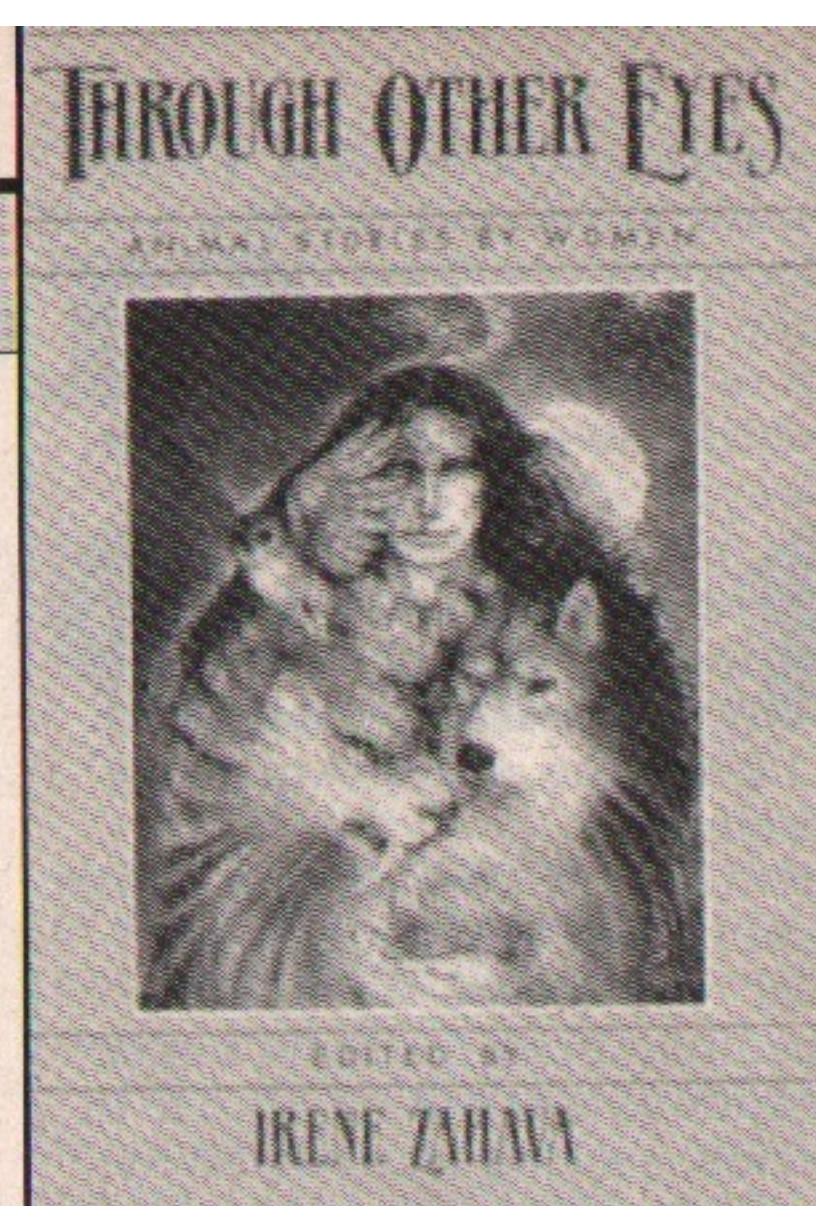
Sarah Orne Jewett's "The White Heron" presents an innocent nine-year-old girl who must choose life or death for a rare bird when a "collector" comes around. Sylvia, like the heron, is at home in the piney Maine woods where she lives with her grandmother. Her communion with nature helps her make a tough moral decision.

In Cathy Cockrell's "In Praise of Creeping Things," a young girl's parents are very committed to controlling their environment by getting rid of anything that might, in their eyes, despoil it. Moles, caterpillars, and stray dogs are to be hated and dealt with. The girl's contact with the natural world is limited until she cares for a neighbor's dog while they are away. Her relationship with the dog causes her to evaluate her parent's attitudes.

In "The Bear" by Yvonne Pepin, a woman attempts to live in a mountain cabin so that she can be close to nature and paint. She is in bear country, and relates her daily battle to balance fear with self-preservation. In this taut story, it is inevi-

table that either the woman or the wilderness must give. Another survival story is "One Whale Singing" by Keri Hulme. This most lyrical story in the selection shifts in point of view from the main character, a pregnant woman being made "happy" by a moonlight boat ride, to a pregnant whale in the waters beneath the boat. The woman's husband is "scientific" and finds her notion of communion with animal life frivolous. The story undulates between the two females' minds until the shocking climax that might have been plotted by nature herself.

Other stories that provide haunting realism about the human/animal bond are Doris Lessing's "An Old Woman and Her Cat" and "Telepathic Rain" by Lou Robinson. The first weaves a delicate tale of a symbiotic relationship between a battered, pigeon-killing tomcat and an elderly woman left homeless with no means of support. Robinson explores the mystery of a bond between a woman and a horse who will accept no other rider. Folklore, myth, and a



sprinkling of herbs adds much to this work.

Annie Dillard's "The Muskrat" and Dian Fossey's "I've Finally Been Accepted by a Gorilla" applaud patient human observers of animals. In other stories, unruly cows, a pet black snake, and chickens with commendable attributes are featured. There are two stories that fall into the fantasy and science fiction genre.

Alice Walker's "Am I Blue?" celebrates a stallion named Blue who grieves after he is separated from a mare. Walker feels his grief and sees in his eyes a powerful message: "Everything you do to us will happen to you; we are your teachers, as you are ours. We are one lesson."

—Vicki L. McMillen

## Fiction for Young Readers

**Who Will Speak for the Lamb?**

By Margaret Ames; *Harper and Row*, N.Y., 1989; 224 pages, \$14.95, hardcover.

One of the most exciting developments for the animal rights movement is the growing support it receives from the general public. Nowhere is this more evident than in Margaret Ames' new young-adult novel *Who Will Speak for the Lamb?* The heroine of the book, Julie Peters, a teenage model, moves to a small town in southern California. Here she befriends Laura Ryder, an animal rights activist. Through this friendship and an ensuing romance between Julie and Jeff,

Laura's equally active brother, Julie becomes aware of the central aspects of the animal rights campaign. Through Julie's eyes, the reader sees both the intellectual and emotional aspects of the issues, which culminate in a decidedly pro-animal rights discussion between Julie and a new acquaintance. Less enlightened is the portrayal of activists as choosing the welfare of animals over humans and an overemphasis on illegal activities. Given its best and worst, however, the novel comes out with a positive balance. It shows, at times most poignantly, how close to home animal suffering and exploitation exists.

—Matthew V. Jaquith

## Unfamiliar Quotations

**The Extended Circle: A Commonplace Book of Animal Rights**

Edited by Jon Wynne-Tyson; *Paragon House*, 90 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10011; *First American Edition* 1989; 436 pages, softcover, \$12.95. Published 1985 as *The Extended Circle: A Dictionary of Humane Thought*; *Centaur Press Limited*, Fontwell, Sussex BN18 0TA, U.K.; softcover, £4.95.

"A landmark book..." "Should become the Bible of all who are interested in humane education..." "Puts heart into the argument for an environmental ethic..." "...encouraging and inspiring to any compassionate reader."

These were among the superlatives delivered when this book first appeared in 1985 in a British edition. The International Society for Animal Rights agreed, and named it the best writing of that year on animal rights. The book seems even more relevant today in its new American edition.



John Wynne-Tyson spent six years compiling quotes about animals from hundreds of people as diverse as Minnie Pearl and Cicero—people past and present, famous and hardly known. Their statements range from simple appreciation of a cherished pet (Edith Wharton's "my little old dog;

a heartbeat at my feet") to passionate manifestos against the abuse of animals. Many are pithy, such as Carl Sagan's "How intelligent does a chimpanzee have to be before killing him constitutes murder?"

The values of *The Extended Circle* are many. It is, first of all, good browsing—entertaining and, at times, amusing—but it has the power to strengthen the convictions of those already sensitized to animals and move all readers to a deeper understanding. It should be bought and presented to clergy, teachers, legislators, and media—those in a position to change things, but who only occasionally put themselves on the side of animals, only occasionally acknowledge that violence is violence, regardless of its victim.

Anyone who writes or speaks on behalf of animals will find the book a priceless tool, for it contains something pertinent to any situation, and every quote is documented.

Minnie Pearl's contribution? "It's not a choice between animals and children. It's our duty to care for both."

—Joan Gilbert

## Animal Rights and the American Mind

**The Rights of Nature: A History of Environmental Ethics**

By Roderick F. Nash; *University of Wisconsin Press*, Madison, 1989; 290 pages, \$27.50, hardcover.

Peter Singer has compared moral reasoning to an escalator that leads out of sight. In *The Expanding Circle*, Singer argues that "Once reasoning has got started it is hard to tell where it will stop." According to Singer, the moral systems of individuals and societies are compelled to expand from narrow self-interests to include an ever-wider circle of ethical concern. A need for

logical consistency impels us toward a more universal ethical system—beyond the self, family, nation, race, or human species—to an ethic including all sentient individuals, human or not.

Roderick Nash makes similar arguments in *The Rights of Nature*. He, too, contends that ethics evolve over time to encompass larger communities. In American history, the Colonial community of white males has gradually expanded to include African-Americans, native Americans, women, and ideally, all humans throughout the world. Nash credits the expansion to American liberal ideals, notably to the concept of individual rights to

life and liberty. He calls the idea of individual rights "ethical dynamite" and holds it responsible for social unrest and upheavals including the American Revolution and the Civil War.

But does the liberal tradition require extending ethical concern beyond individual humans? Nash skillfully examines that question by tracing the intellectual history of the ideas of animal and natural rights. He finds that in the 18th century, as democratic revolutions rocked America and France, intellectuals such as Jeremy Bentham began to consider animal rights and values. In the 19th century, leaders of the English abolitionist movement

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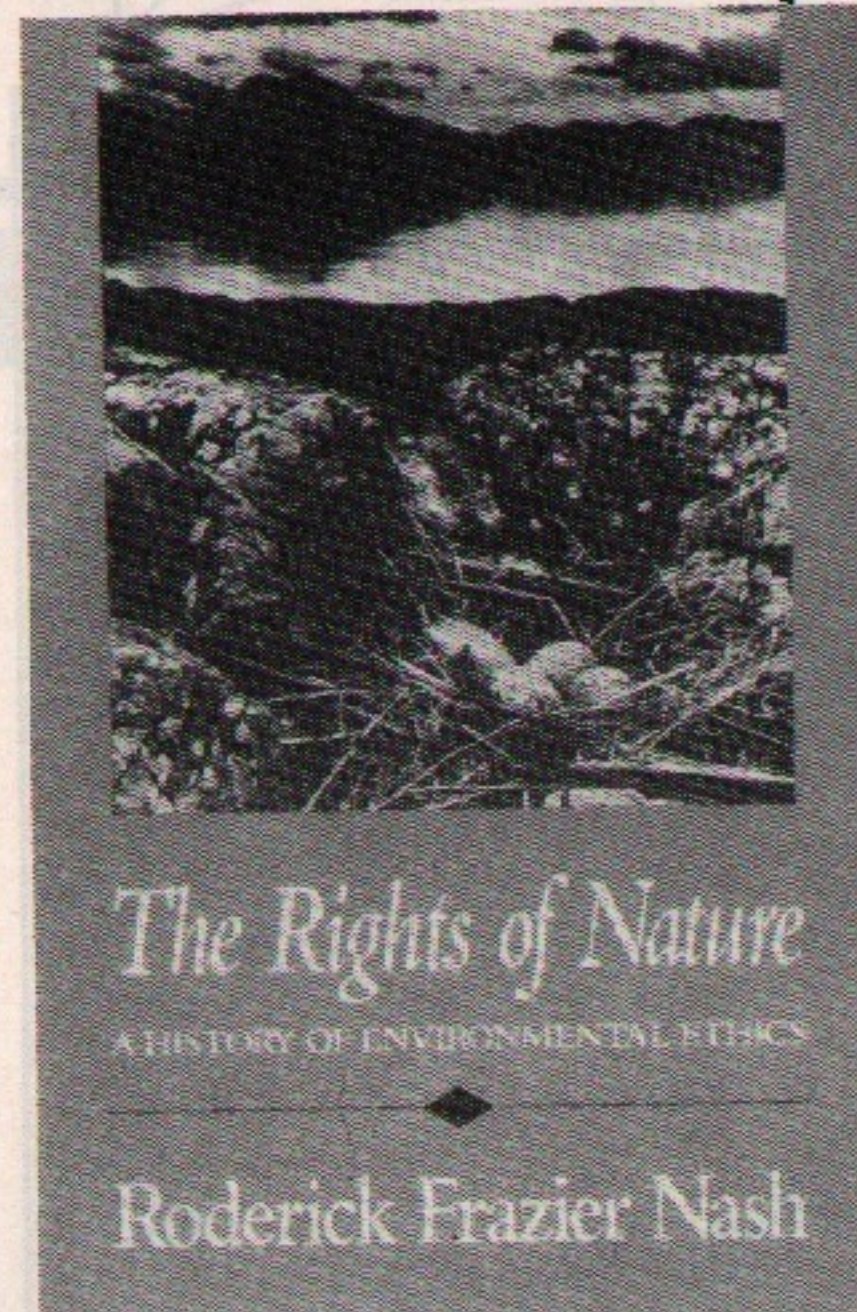


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organized to protest bear-baiting, cockfighting, and vivisection. Harriet Beecher Stowe and other American reformers working to end slavery, sexism, and child labor took on the cause of animal protection following the Civil War. Although early protection efforts focused on pets and other domestic animals, concern grew incrementally to include a broader range of organisms. Beginning with Henry Salt, reformers argued for human kinship, if not equality, with all animals. According to Nash, Salt transcended anthropocentrism in arguing that a civilization that emancipates humans from injustice must free animals also. To Nash, such recognition of animal rights was a logical step beyond human liberation; as he puts it, "the idea of liberating oppressed beings was not easily confined to humankind."

In the 19th century, too, thinkers began applying the language and ideals of liberation to the environment. Thoreau blamed the oppression of both slaves and nature on "ethical myopia" and called for an end to humanity's domination over other humans and the land. John Muir, says Nash, was the first to write explicitly about the rights of nature. Muir chastened his contemporaries for abusing animals, plants, rivers, and forests: "How narrow we selfish, conceited creatures are in our sympathies! How blind to the rights of all the rest of creation!" Muir perceived humans as members of a natural community, a view bolstered by Darwin's new theory of evolution and, especially, by the emerging science of ecology. Evolution supported Muir's view of the continuity of lifeforms; ecology proved his intuition that the living and non-living parts of natural communities are interdependent.

In the 20th century, Nash believes that rights rhetoric has undiminished importance for proponents of both animal and natural rights. Peter Singer and Tom Regan, for example, use the language of liberalism when they call for justice, freedom, and equal treatment for animals. Similarly, Christopher Stone advocates estab-



lishing legal rights for natural objects and communities as a way to protect trees, mountains, oceans, and the environment as a whole. Nash, in fact, attributes much of the popular success of the animal rights and environmental movements to the reformers remaining within the context of the American liberal tradition.

In seeing rights as the foundation for animal and nature protection efforts, Nash finds closer links between the movements than other analysts. "Thinking in terms of intellectual history," Nash writes, the movements are "colleagues in the step-by-step extension of ethics away from its traditional fixation on people." Yet contemporary animal rights supporters attack environmentalists for devaluing individuals in favor of natural communities and environmental ethicists assault animal liberationists for sacrificing whole systems to protect single organisms. Nash considers the schism folly, dividing groups that could be cooperating toward shared goals. However, he does not, or cannot, explain how the rift can be remedied.

Perhaps Nash's perceptions are limited by his faith in the benevolent force of American liberalism. He seems unprepared to look for flaws in rights philosophy that help account for hostilities between animal and environmental rights advocates and between other factions in our society with op-

posing moral viewpoints. Particularly unsettling is his reluctant acceptance of force as a means to attain liberal ideals. Nash believes there was no effective alternative to violent revolution to end the American slavery system. He states that "from the Magna Carta of 1215 on, force or the threat of force hammered out the Anglo-American philosophy of liberty." Recent "violence" and sabotage on behalf of animals and the earth are evidence to Nash that coercion may also be needed to enforce the next extension of our ethical community.

But violence is not required for change in all ethical or political systems. Buddhism, for example, eschews violence as a means to end oppression. Nash pays scant attention to the influences of Buddhism, other Asian religions, or Native American beliefs on modern ethical relationships between humans and others. He devotes just two pages to exploring the impacts of feminist views. Ecofeminists do not share Nash's definition of morality as a "restraining force" or "limit to action," favoring instead a view of ethics as caring and responsibility for relationships. Clearly, alternatives to the "Anglo-American philosophy of liberty" have influenced the course of our moral evolution. By contrasting alternative views with rights philosophies and critically examining their roles in the animal and natural rights debate, Nash's work would have been strengthened.

Still, *The Rights of Nature* is a splendid book. Nash is a first-rate scholar and writer, already renowned for his classic study, *Wilderness and the American Mind*. His insights reveal that human/nature relationships are a dynamic process. His book generates intellectual excitement, and readers will be better prepared to understand changes in morality as the next chapter of environmental history unfolds.

—Julie Dunlap, Ph.D.

The reviewer is Associate Director of Higher Education Programs for HSUS.

The

# WILLY COYOTE

BY MERRITT CLIFTON

He's setting up a yip beneath the rising moon.  
She's yipping back, half a dozen others join  
them from up to three miles away, and  
soon there's a chorus lasting a  
minute, or three minutes,  
until they all become  
aware they're blowing  
their cover.

**S**he's racing across the heat sensors on a remote, unguarded crossing into Mexico or Canada, tripping off alarms, sending the Border Patrol on a futile search for suspected illegal aliens.

He's slinking up to the doghouse, sniffing to see if that collie on a chain would like company this lonesome, chilly night.

They're all incarnations of the wily coyote, the real wily coyote, not the haphazard cartoon figure—a creature clever enough and versatile enough to have survived hunting, trapping, and development pressures that have exterminated most other North American predators. Wolves, grizzly bears, and big cats were wiped out of most of their former range a century ago. Foxes are scarce. Yet the coyote thrives, having infiltrated the northeast, midwest, south, and northeast as a desperate refugee during the 1940s, amid the most determined annihilation campaign humankind has ever waged against an animal.

Only 60 years ago the coyote was rarely seen outside the southwest. Joaquin Miller observed coyotes in eastern Oregon during the mid-19th century, but that was the northern extent of their range, and they had never been reported east of the Mississippi River. Feeding on rabbits, mice, other small burrowing mammals, a variety of vegetation, carrion, and the occasional bird, coyotes tended to avoid humans, attracting little attention until the blizzards and droughts of the early 1930s caused range-grazed sheep and cattle to die by the ten thousand. Feasting on the carcasses, coyotes proliferated. Wrongly blaming coyotes for the stock losses, rather than overgrazing on eroded land, ranchers lobbied Congress for a federal coyote eradication program, commenced by the Animal Damage Control Division (ADC) of the Fish and Wildlife Service in 1931.

Since 1931 the ADC and state wildlife agencies have sponsored the massacre of as many as 250,000 coyotes a year, upward of 10 million altogether. Bounty hunters have mercilessly trapped, shot, poisoned, and burnt coyotes to death in their dens, aided by government spotters in aircraft. Especially in the 1940s and 1950s, the air war against coyotes was scarcely less intense than the bombing of

Continued on next page



Japan and Germany. Yet coyotes not only survived but thrived, partly because hunters and fur trappers had already obliterated so many rival species. According to trapping records, coyotes reached all the most remote corners of the continental U.S. by 1948, spreading over 2,000 miles in multiple directions within just 20 years. They established themselves in New England and along the Appalachian Ridge roughly 30 years after the last recorded shootings of eastern panthers and mountain lions, and after 20 years of aggressive fox trapping stimulated by a vogue for fox-trimmed coats. Except for an isolated population in the Carolinas, the wolf had long since been extirpated from the east, leaving the region open to newcomers.

Similar conditions prevailed across the United States. As the ADC trapped, bombed, and strafed coyotes out of their native habitat, they found abundant new habitat in adjacent regions. With plentiful food, they bred faster, especially when under intense hunting pressure. A 1972 study in southern Texas eventually confirmed what many in the ADC campaign had begun to expect: where coyotes were heavily trapped, they had an average of 6.9 pups per litter, against only 4.3 per litter where they were left alone.

Already Dick Randall, reputedly the ADC's top coyote trapper, had resigned in disgust at the ongoing and apparently endless carnage. He documented to Congress circa 1970 that the ADC was spending at least 10 times more on "coyote control" than the cost of coyote predation on livestock, and that "control" had in fact distributed the animal plentifully into areas where it never existed before. Resigning from the ADC to join Defenders of Wildlife, Randall was instrumental in persuading former president Richard Nixon to ban coyote poisoning in 1971 (a ban ranchers are still lobbying to have lifted). Randall continues his efforts for coyotes today as an

advisor to the Humane Society of the U.S.

Though coyotes are relatively new to most of their present range, they show every indication of having become a permanent addition to our habitat, a fit replacement for the vanished predators, well adapted to living in close proximity to humans. "You could probably say," allows Eric Goodenough, coyote expert for the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, "that throughout the range where the coyote could exist, it already does." Adaptations to new habitat include both learned behavior and altered genetic traits. The eastern coyote, unlike western ancestors, has



learned to run, hide, and hunt in snow. The eastern coyote is also larger, with thicker fur. Goodenough believes the eastern coyote probably came east via Canada, across the top of the Great Lakes, gaining size and strength by crossbreeding with remnant populations of timber wolves. But the coyote could also have grown larger by crossing with domestic dogs; while female coyotes rarely mate with dogs, male coyotes often will, if opportunity permits.

Plentiful as coyotes are, no one has any idea of actual numbers. No one keeps track of coyotes shot during seasons that last year-round in most states. Trapping pelt sales suggest, however, that the coyote population may be subject to dramatic fluctuations, in response to weather conditions

and diseases that influence the availability of food. In Vermont, during the winter of 1980-1981, an all-time high count of 3,090 trappers reported killing 245 coyotes, the low for the past decade. Only two years later, a declining population of 2,445 trappers killed 536 coyotes, the high for the decade.

In the winter of 1987-1988, the most recent for which figures are available, a recent low of 1,026 trappers killed 337 coyotes, about average for the decade. Fewer trappers were killing more coyotes than 10 years earlier not only because coyotes might have been more plentiful, but also because coyote-trimmed parkas were briefly in style during 1987-1988, keeping the price of coyote pelts up even as the market for most other wild-trapped furs collapsed under pressure of the anti-fur movement.

Bob Hoffman, president of the Vermont Trappers' Association, reputedly traps more coyotes than anyone else in the state. "It's no problem to catch coyotes," he admits, but declines to discuss his techniques to avoid passing information to animal rights activists.

Not that the usual methods are any secret. Trapping coyotes is usually

done with either steel-jawed leghold traps or cable snares. In snowy weather the leghold trapper tries to place the trap into the mouth of a coyote den, or near bait (usually rotting meat) along a coyote trail. When the ground is bare, the trap may be buried a quarter-inch deep in loose sand near a piece of bait similarly buried, just outside a fake coyote den the trapper has excavated and scented with fox urine, a by-product of fox ranching. This technique counts upon the coyote's penchant for stealing another coyote or fox's meat cache, if he can find it.

Cable snares are just nooses, suspended from stout shrubbery along coyote trails, often near bait but not always. Cable snares may be set in combination with rabbit

snares, made from copper wire—and some trappers twist the wire so that the rabbit strangles slowly, counting upon the struggle to attract a coyote or fox.

Shooting coyotes is typically accomplished through use of a sound lure. "This can be a mouth-operated call that imitates a dying rabbit," according to Vermont hunting columnist Fred Everson, "or a sound played on a cassette player." Most coyote hunters use the sounds of rabbits or birds in distress, but Everson claims "the sound of puppies squealing for their mother" is also "said to be very effective."

Most coyote authorities agree today that the species should be welcome, "as a valuable ally in rodent control," in Randall's words, and as a relatively non-threatening large mammal to enjoy catching the occasional sight of. Coyotes "will take carrion such as dead cows," Goodenough states, but they rarely actually kill cows. Reported cattle-killings in Vermont last year involved cows already weakened or down with milk fever. "They eat dead and sick deer," Goodenough continues, "but they generally don't take a lot of deer. Taking sheep," Goodenough continues, "is learned behavior. It takes a pack, and adult coyotes are generally solitary."

Moreover, while coyotes do kill sheep if opportunity permits, they are reputedly easily deterred by guard dogs or donkeys. Apparently the donkey's tendency to hold ground when threatened unnerves most coyotes, who prefer to attack from behind and retreat from confrontation.

Though rare, coyote attacks on humans are not unknown. When they do occur, there tend to be mitigating circumstances. An eastern coyote was shot dead at Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia last August, after menacing a wheelchair-bound 12-year-old. Apparently the coyote made warning passes first, as if defending young or simply contesting territory.

Yellowstone National Park warned visitors to stay away from coyotes in January after a cross-country skier collided with an aggressive coyote and was bitten. It was the third time in a month that park visitors had encountered

aggressive coyotes, who had apparently lost their natural fear of humans from being fed at campgrounds.

Coyote experts warn against feeding and trying to domesticate the animals, who may look like some breeds of domestic dog, but retain strong wild instincts—and depend upon those instincts for survival. Attempts to feed coyotes usually just create a nuisance. Los Angeles County, California affords an example. Considering coyotes essential to rodent control, the county has established special coyote watering holes in the nearby Santa Monica mountains. At the same time, the county enforces a strict anti-feeding ordinance, as coyotes who have lost their fear of people kill an estimated 100-200 domestic cats per year in the greater Los Angeles area.

Despite the spectacular failure of coyote eradication programs, and growing recognition that we need coyotes, the ADC is again testing poisoning methods. Favored now are poison-laden sheep collars,

though coyotes are as likely to attack the hindquarters of a sheep as the throat. Maine recently reimposed a bounty on coyotes for a one-year trial period. South Dakota is trapping, tagging, and releasing 50 coyotes and 10 foxes; hunters and trappers who kill the tagged animals will be paid up to \$1,000 apiece. Other states are under pressure to reimpose bounties from agricultural interests and hunters who think coyotes may be depleting deer.

"Coyotes and deer and other predator/prey combinations have a long history of living together," rebutted former Vermont Fish and Wildlife commissioner Steve Wright in his syndicated newspaper column last spring, "and as far as I know there are few, if any, instances of prey population being wiped out."

But as with the once feared, now endangered grizzly bear and red wolf, old fears die hard. Unlike the grizzly bear and wolf, Willy Coyote may well die harder. □

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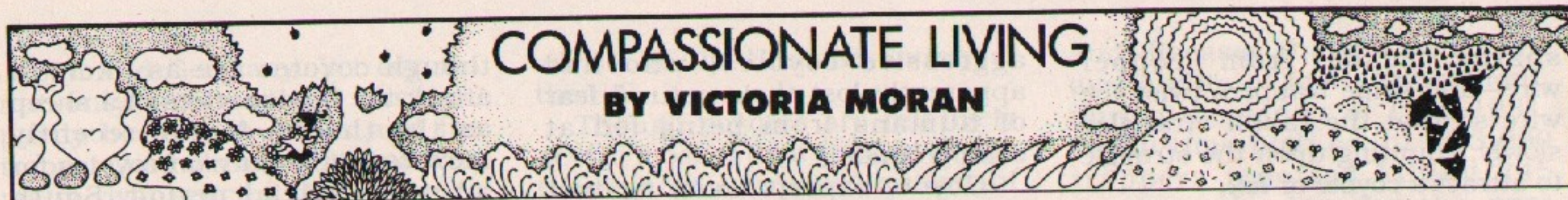
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Inset cover photo / this page: Richard F. Piliero





## COMPASSIONATE LIVING

BY VICTORIA MORAN

# The Positive Power of Play

In my early days in animal rights, I once phoned a movement leader and found him playing Monopoly with one of his children. I was shocked. It had never occurred to me that people dedicated to important work ever did anything just for fun. That was before I learned that playing—Monopoly or the piano or a rousing game of fetch with the dog—is a key ingredient for effectiveness and burn-out prevention.

Activists are serious. That's good; we're dealing with serious issues. But the people who are most successful in the struggle are those who can turn from it at times, those who recognize that it is not a betrayal of our commitments to give ourselves permission to play. We forget, perhaps, that play requires taking ourselves (not our convictions) more lightly. Besides, means and ends merge so often. We want a compassionate world, so we try to live compassionate lives. Similarly, if we want a liberated, playful end, we may need to develop within ourselves that kind of spirit.

Playfulness, however, as innocuous as it seems, can be scary. "Play is out of control," writes K.C. Cole, author of *Sympathetic Vibrations: Reflections of Physics as a Way of Life*. "In real play, we try things just to see what happens. In other words, we take risks." In my old somber thinking, risk-taking was justified in work, causes, and cases of drowning, but to risk making a fool of myself with a Frisbee—are you kidding?

Parenthood prompted me to take a look (a *serious* look, of course) at play, since it's part of the work of being a parent and I felt comfortable with work. I liked study, too, so I took a course called "Play for Grown-ups" from professional recreator John Hutchinson. He had us hanging from monkey bars and flirting with the afterlife on a jungle gym the first week. By class number three, we were playing hide-and-seek and Simon-says and stacking ourselves into four-layer human pyramids at the park. It was tough to get used to spending time on such frivolity, but it grew on me. Then I noticed that my energy level had picked up and I was becoming more productive. The playtime seemed like an

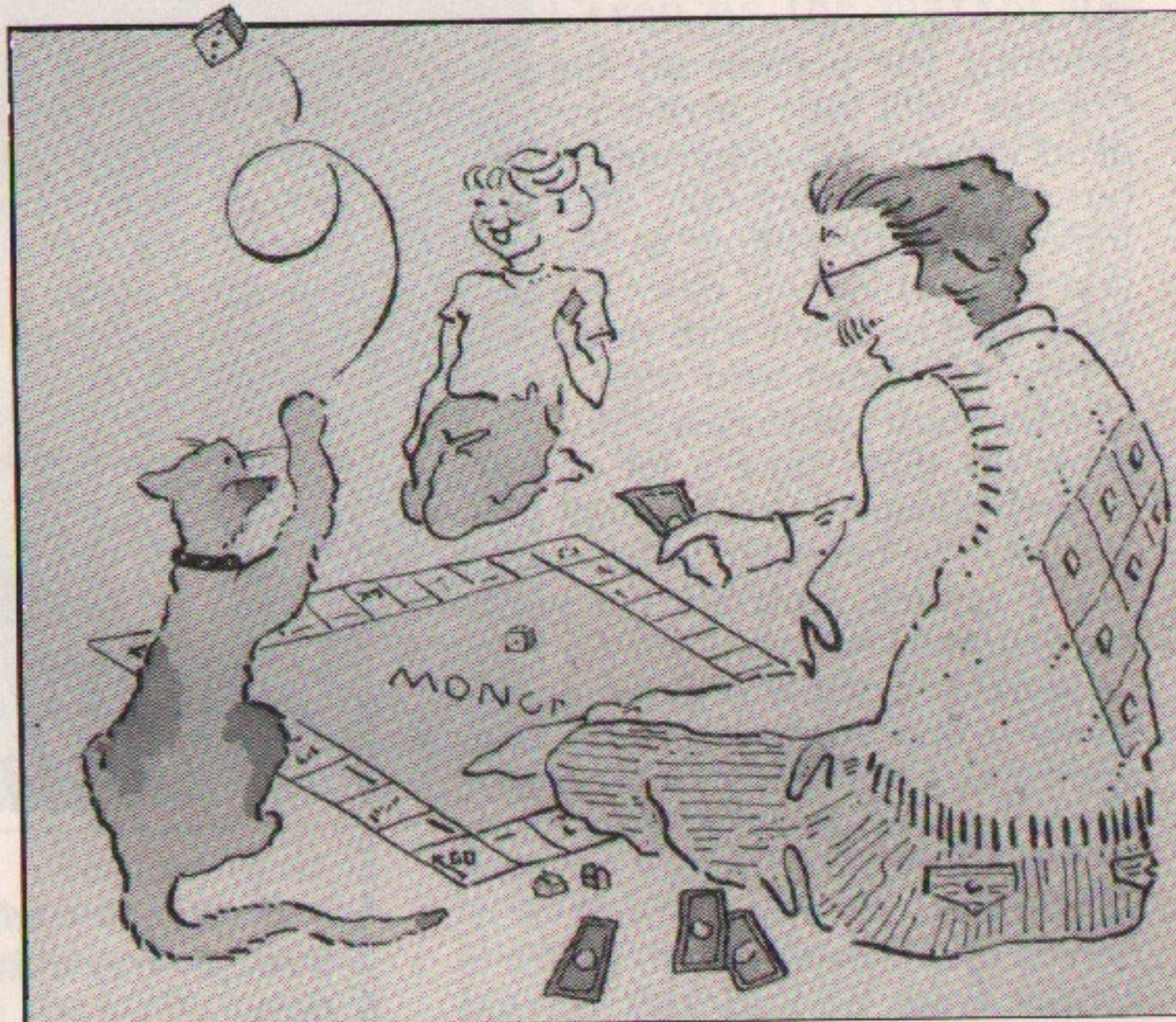
investment instead of an extravagance. The reason, says Hutchinson, is that "Play helps clear our internal computers so we can better concentrate on our work. It's very therapeutic. Also, it puts things into perspective and that helps us work better."

Play and creativity are also inextricably linked. Idea gaps and periods of grim determination seem to go hand in hand. Allowing the child in us to come out and play can unleash powers of original thought that may have been dormant far too long. For people involved in animal rights, coming up with bright new notions and fresh ways of doing things is vital. Hutchinson advises animal activists to imitate other animals in their innate playfulness. He himself gets pointers from the tame ferret he adopted. "This little rascal is so playful that every morning when I wake up he's standing at the foot of my bed waiting for me to find the sock or whatever it is that he's hidden. All animals are like this. Look to them."

We can also look to people who know how to play. Children are the real experts, but if playing with kids seems like pitching in the majors, Hutchinson suggests seeking out adults who are playful by nature. "Cultivate those people and you'll broaden your circle of playful friends. You'll know them by intuition—something that comes up in conversation, or just a look in their eyes." Humor is another clue. Laughter is the cousin of play, and chances are the person at the board meeting who can break through tension with a bit of wit is also the one who knows how to play.

There are some helpful books available,

too. Andrew Flugelman's *The New Games Book* and *The Second New Games Book* (Doubleday) are excellent, as is *For the Fun of It: Selected Cooperative Games* by peace activist Marta Harrison (New Society Publishers). The main thing is willingness. "Some people can't be convinced to play until they burn out or crash," says Hutchinson. "Then they have to lighten up, and play is part of that. All you have to do to start is start. Just avoid at first card games,



—Laine Roudy

board games, and sports—they're taken way too seriously."

When a playful outlook becomes a part of our nature, it carries over into other activities. Some of the most potent plays movement activists have come up with have been in the areas of street theatre, demonstrating in costume, and other playful tactics that have meant serious business. Play also provides a way to connect with people who disagree with us in a nonthreatening environment. It's easier to share views with a friend than an enemy, and playing is unsurpassed for making friends. Otherwise, why would the favorite phrase of every child on earth be some version of "Do you want to come over and play?" □

Continued from page 7

for the Animals, and I'd like to tell you why I plan to attend.

I have been involved with the animal welfare movement for the past 15 years in various capacities with our local humane society. We have eight members and an operating budget of less than \$2,000 per year. We own no shelter and have no cruelty investigator at present. Every penny we earn with our fundraisers goes to vet bills for stray, injured, or orphaned animals or the purchase of educational materials. We have worked hard to establish a good relationship with local vets, county shelter personnel, and county commissioners. We give of ourselves to our jobs, families, and with whatever

## COMING SOON

❖ **WHEN WE'RE NOT POURING WASTE INTO THE SEA**, we seem to be gutting it for any possible profit, as driftnets denude the ocean of every fish, dolphins head for extinction in tuna nets, and bombs destroy coral reefs so tropical fish can be harvested. Can the oceans survive garbage and greed?

❖ **AMERICA MEANS FREEDOM TO WEAR FUR**, declared billboards in Pennsylvania and New Jersey last fall, part of the fur industry's response to protests that have decimated the skin trade. A look at the counteroffensives directed against the animal rights movement by industries whose profits depend on their access to animals.

❖ **IS AN ANIMAL-BASED DIET HEALTHY?** A review of government and university research lays to rest the myth that eating meat is conducive to good health.

## MORE LETTERS

energies we have left, to the animals. We alternate between joy at the small triumphs and despair at ignorance of who we are and what we stand for, despite our best media and p.r. efforts.

When I was in high school 25 years ago, the happenings at Selma, Alabama seemed remote. While I was in college, I was too fearful of the consequences to get involved in the Vietnam War protest. Today, at age 40, I have finally gained the courage of my convictions, and now is my chance to act upon them.

I need one day to be immersed in a sea of people who don't think I'm daft, who have been where I've been and walked in my shoes. I want to share with other folks who recognize that our vision is the right one. I am banking on June 10 to be that day.

June 11 will find me at home after an all-night bus ride, weary but back to my regular duties of chauffeuring kids, doing the laundry, giving advice about an injured bird, bottle-feeding an orphaned kitten. However, I hope to be renewed, refreshed, and energized for another 15 years of commitment and dedication to the cause.

—Joann W. Reed  
Sidney, OH

I was disappointed in the editorial "Marching Ahead." The event will make history because never before have so many people joined together to make this country wake up to the fact that animal rights activists will not go away. We will be representing the unity of the movement.

I would think The ANIMALS' AGENDA would do everything it could to urge people to attend instead of casting doubts on its effectiveness and importance. Obviously, not everyone can attend, but many of us feel we have to be there. Fundraisers are being conducted all over the country to help with the travel expenses. For example, all profits from March t-shirts are to be used to help people get there.

How many people who will be

spending a couple of hundred dollars to attend the march would otherwise donate to a cause such as a spay/neuter clinic or education? Everyone does what he/she can and has his/her own priorities. I believe this is a major priority, and many others in Michigan do also, as evidenced by the rapid filling of the chartered bus.

The animals are counting on us; please be there if you can.

—Cody Winchester  
Washtenaw Citizens for Animal Rights  
Ann Arbor, MI

**Editor's Note:** We did encourage readers to participate in the march if they are able; however, providing critical analysis of complex movement issues and activities has long been one of The ANIMALS' AGENDA's major functions. We try to provide the information our readers need to make informed decisions. It is unfortunate that this is sometimes misinterpreted or misunderstood.

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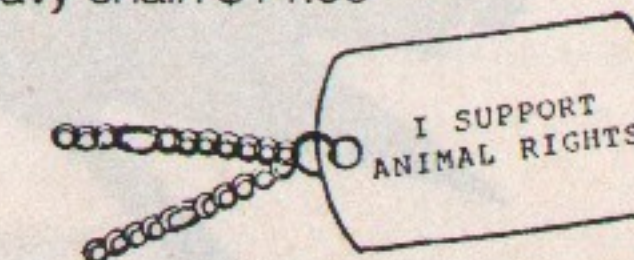
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# Gulls Are a Symptom, Not a Problem

BY MERRITT CLIFTON

**A**cross America, seagulls are viewed as an increasing pollution problem, with obvious reason. All common gulls are rapidly expanding their range, proliferating as rival species decline, feasting on our garbage and returning it to us as acrid fecal matter, often deposited in the lakes and ponds we depend upon for drinking and recreation.

The small ring-billed gull, laughing gull, Franklin's gull, Heerman's gull, and Bonaparte's gull each excrete from 12 to 20 pounds of phosphorous per year apiece. The big herring gull and great black-backed gull excrete up to 36 pounds apiece. The phosphorous feeds algae and undesirable water weeds, especially Eurasian watermilfoil. Brought to North America as an aquarium plant some 35 years ago, Eurasian watermilfoil has no natural enemies on this continent, and has spread throughout the northeast, southeast, Great Lakes, and northwest in close association with gulls, who swallow but don't digest the hardy milfoil seeds.

Besides fouling lakes and ponds, gulls contribute to the decline of other shorebirds, especially pelicans, by robbing their nests and even snatching fish right out of their mouths. It isn't without any justification that some people view gulls as "winged rats."

Yet gulls, like rats, fill a vital niche in our distorted and damaged ecology, filling in for less hardy creatures whose habitat has been destroyed by human development. If Eurasian watermilfoil follows the gulls, the gulls, especially herring gulls, have followed the spread of pesticide use in grain fields. Absorbing pesticides from their prey, hawks and owls have declined across the grain belt. As they vacated their territory during the 1960s and 1970s, gulls replaced them as the leading natural check on mouse and rat populations. The herring gull is today North America's leading rodent predator, ahead of even domestic cats, apparently taking more than all the raptors combined. They have learned to follow haybines and combines through fields just as they learned to follow fishing boats.

thousands of years ago.

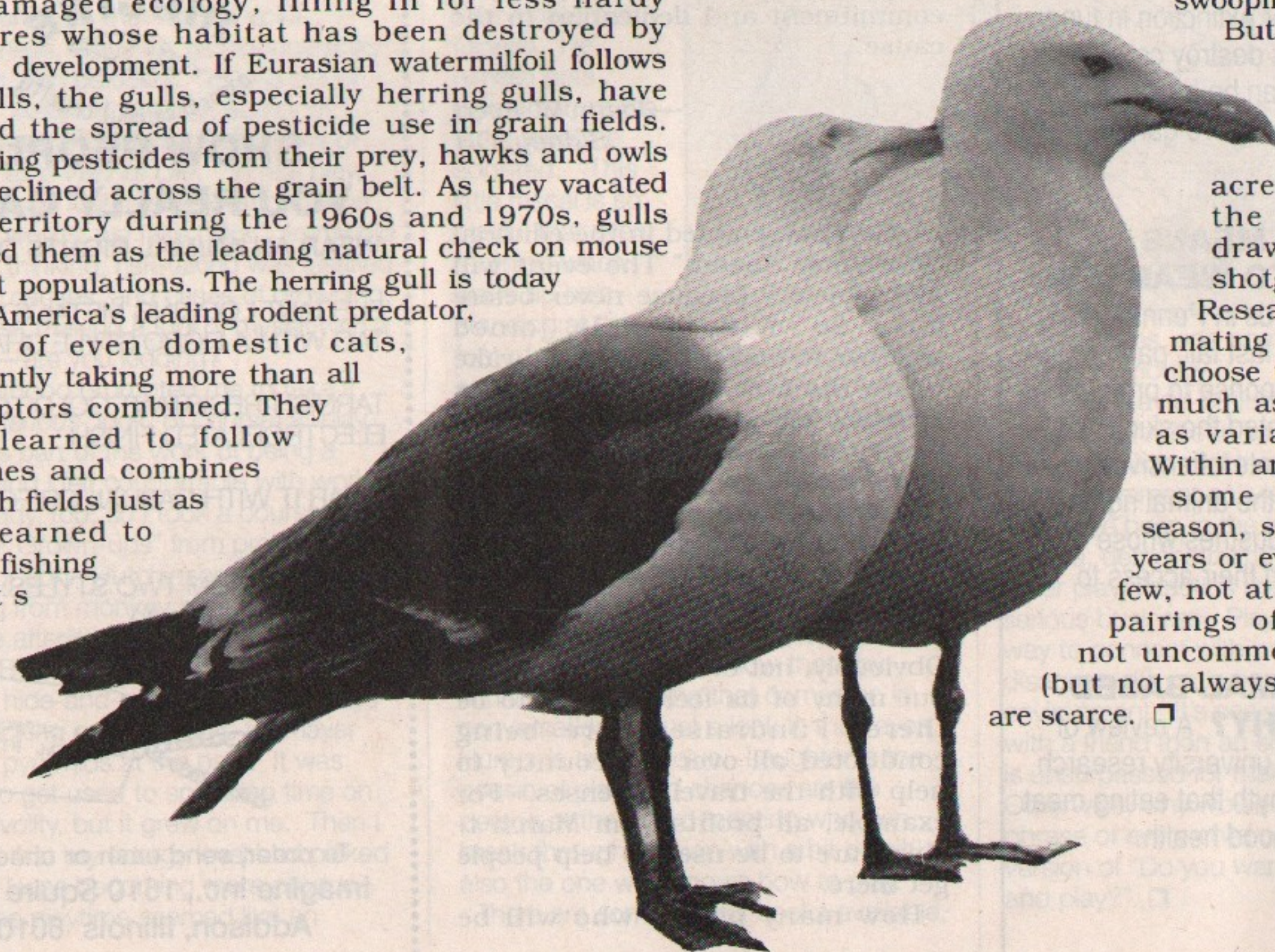
Gulls still aren't a welcome sight at landfills, because they are messy and do indicate rodent infestation. But many landfill operators who once shot or poisoned gulls, mice, and rats by the thousand now understand that if they leave the gulls alone, they won't have to shoot or poison rodents either. If sanitary conditions can be improved to reduce the amount of food available to the rodents, the gulls decline as well.

Gulls clean up our messes in other ways, as well. Nothing else feasts as successfully on fish killed by pollution—and often pollution incidents are first indicated by large gatherings of gulls in unfamiliar places. Wherever gulls interact with people, whether on beaches or at fast-food franchise parking lots, people create the initial pollution problem; at worst, gulls only recycle it.

Much like ourselves, gulls are an exceptionally gregarious and communicative species. Though aggressive and combative, they also respond quickly to distress calls from their own kind. If a gull is attacked and injured, other gulls—of all varieties—flock to the area, crying encouragement and counterattacking the attacker if he can be identified. More than a few people who have shot gulls have soon been forced to take cover by fiercely swooping kin.

But this trait has also enabled those so inclined to massacre gulls, using the wounded to draw others into shotgun range.

Research into gull mating suggests they choose their partners much as we do, with as variable results. Within any given flock, some mate for a season, some for many years or even life, and a few, not at all. Same-sex pairings of females are not uncommon, especially (but not always) when males are scarce. □



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## The Myth of the Good Shepherd

Continued from page 28

With the market in decline, and the major Islamic holidays past, the *El Cordero* reached Saudi Arabia in late August hauling less than a third its maximum cargo of 36,000 sheep. Saudi authorities refused to let them unload, claiming they had blue-tongue and sheep pox. Abu Dhabi, Jordan, and Egypt followed suit. Claiming to have wiped out both diseases, Australia accused the Middle Eastern nations of blocking the shipment to protect local ranchers from competition. By the time the sheep were unloaded and slaughtered in Italy, some 2,000 had already died on shipboard.

The incident was unusual only in the political context. As ship owner Domenico Bazzoni admitted, sheep shipments and quarantines often take 10 weeks; sometimes up to six months. Even wholesale deaths are common. The average shipboard death rate is around two percent—but two percent of seven million is still 140,000 sheep per year. Catastrophes up the toll. Some 15,000 sheep died of heat exhaustion aboard one ship in the Persian Gulf in 1985; 8,765 died during a ventilation failure aboard *The Persia* in 1981; and 2,713 died of disease in a 1980 shipment by the *Kahleej Express*. As far back as 1973, probing the deaths of 4,450 sheep aboard the *Farid Fares* en route to Iran, Neil Wells of the World Society for the Protection of Animals identified poor ventilation and sanitation as problems endemic to sheep ships. The *Farid Fares* burned and sank in 1980, killing 40,000 sheep, but Wells continues finding similar conditions. The basic problem, according to veterinarian George Taylor, is that most of the ships were built for other purposes, then converted, with inadequate consideration of the animals' needs.

Shocked at the 1973 *Farid Fares* incident, New Zealand barred mass transport of live sheep until 1986. The ban was backed by meatpacking unions opposed to the export of jobs. The ban was lifted, however, amid promises that the New Zealand government would try to export as many carcasses as live sheep. WSPA documented the deaths of 2,565 sheep in the first shipment to Saudi Arabia, and 1,793 in the second, a cargo of 37,148 young rams destined for ritual sacrifice in Mecca.

At least another 1,187 sheep died from two 1986 consignments from New Zealand to Mexico.

Outcry led by WSPA; Christine Townsend, author of the expose *Pulling The Wool*; and Peter Singer, author of *Animal Liberation*, did eventually bring stiffer regulation of sheep-shipping by both Australia and New Zealand. Today, says WSPA North American director John Walsh, "Australia and New Zealand are the best for regulations. What they have on paper is really

damned good." Unfortunately, WSPA has not been able to get the smaller sheep carriers to join the big ones in setting up an international body to enforce the standards established by Australia and New Zealand.

While the major sheep transport corridors remain the shipping lanes from Down Under to the Middle East, equally appalling conditions persist in shipments through Europe and from the U.S. to Mexico. Walsh reported in 1986 that the annual sheep traffic from Texas to Mexico was about 250,000 head, "carried on trailer trucks for periods of up to three days without food, rest, or water. The mortality rate during transport was 10 to 12 percent, and approximately 30 percent of the animals were pregnant." Crackdowns by U.S. authorities have been intermittent.

In the wake of the *El Cordero* fiasco, British

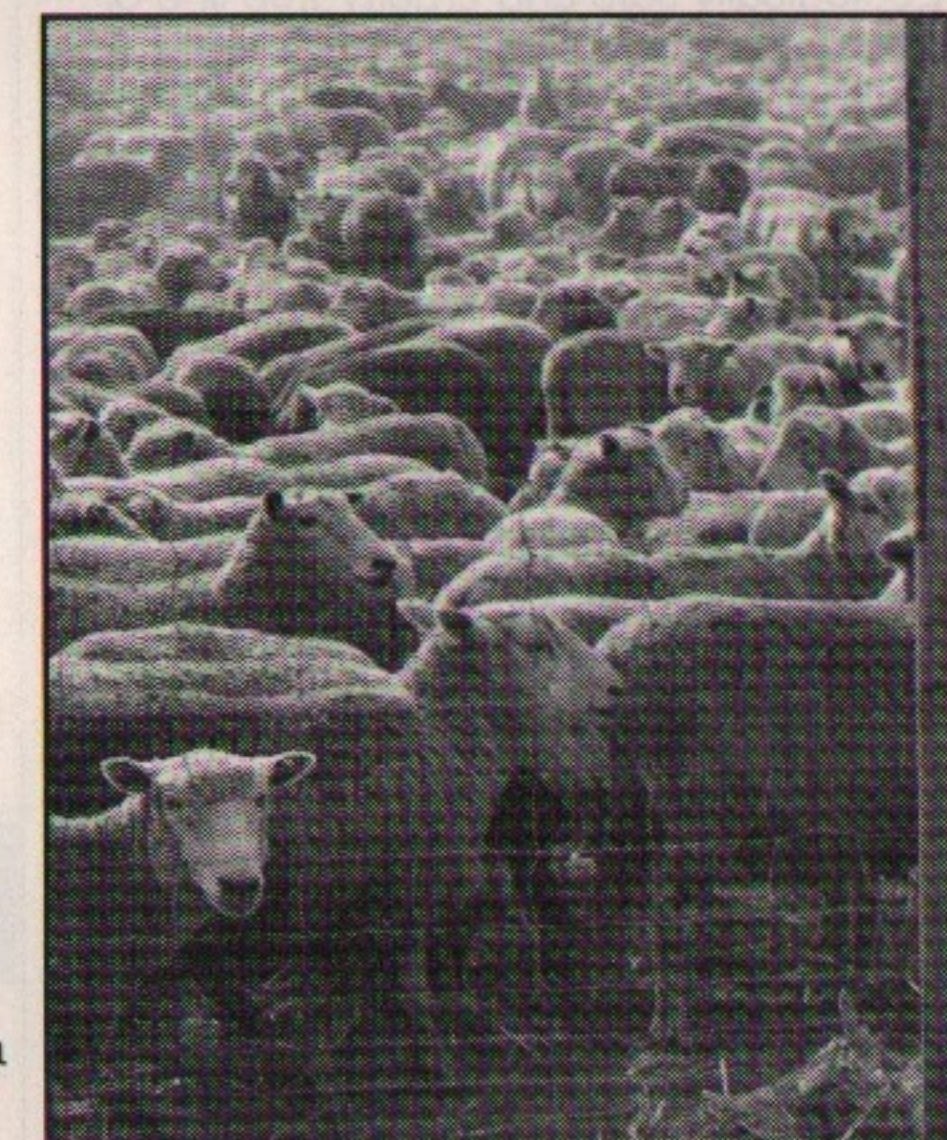
agriculture minister John Selwyn Gummer revoked the export permits of two major traffickers and ordered an inquiry into sheep exports to Spain via France. Britain banned sheep exports directly to Spain in 1973, amid protest over cruel conditions in Spanish slaughterhouses. But the trade never really stopped. Instead, British drovers took as many as 11 million sheep a year to French feedlots—and several hundred thousand never even stopped at the lots, going directly to slaughterhouses on the outskirts of Madrid.

Regardless of the outcome of Gummer's inquiry, Britain's ability to regulate the sheep traffic is diminishing. The European Eco-

nomic Community requires the abolition of veterinary checks at ports of entry by 1992, as alleged unfair barriers to internal trade.

No matter how they get there, all sheep who survive docking, castration, mulesing, cold, heat, disease, predation, transport, and the feedlots end up following the proverbial Judas goat to slaughter. The Judas goat, in earlier times, was a goat trained to calmly lead sheep, one by one, onto the slaughtering ramp; but the Judas goat too has been slaughtered now, replaced by men with electric prods. In the western nations, slaughtering methods vary from "humane" (where captive-bolt pistols are used), to appalling, as in rural Spain, where the animals may be killed by any means handy. Islamic and kosher slaughter require throat-slashing, without pre-stunning. Skilled slaughterers can accomplish quick deaths, but Townsend reports very slow deaths at some Middle Eastern facilities.

Are there still Good Shepherds? My shepherd neighbor broods for days when a runt succumbs or coyotes disembowel an ewe—but even his sheep eventually go to slaughter. The sheep industry long since quit trying to be Good Shepherds. For my part, I find the metaphor increasingly ominous. □





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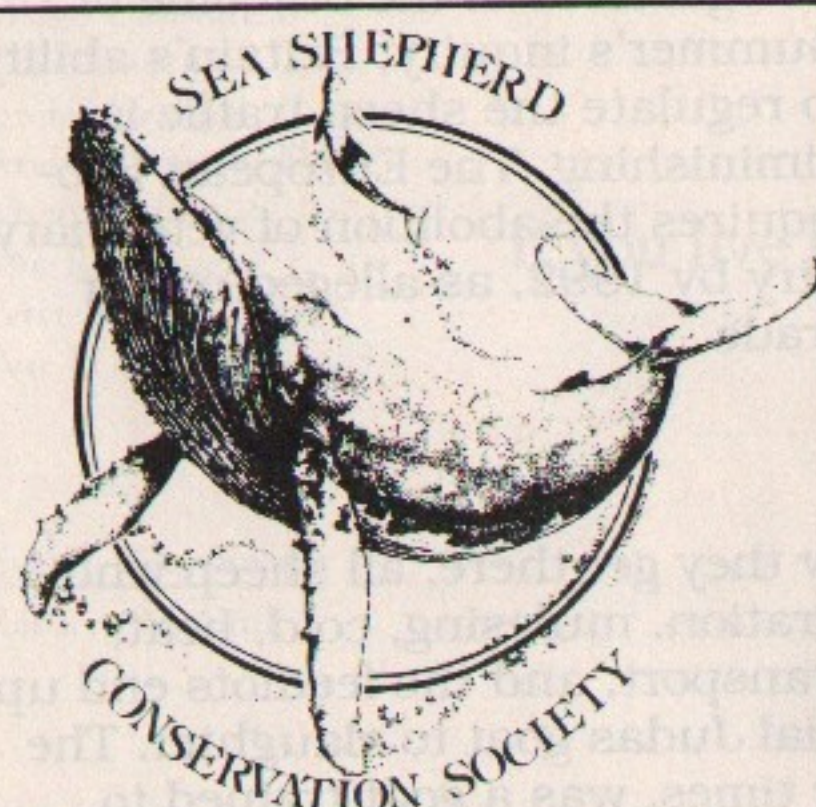
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Nature's Gate gives you a choice for all your grooming needs — the very best in hair, skin, deodorant and oral care. The total body regimen from America's first choice in personal care.



## Herbal moisturizing lotions... nourishing and revitalizing.

Looking for a wonderful ingredient for your skin? It's moisture, pure and simple. The secret lies in finding a way to bring precious moisture to the skin and then keep it there to soothe and nourish the skin and allow it to heal and repair itself from the ravages of daily life. That's how Nature's Gate Herbal Moisturizers work, as they help to repair and heal dry, cracked, reddened skin. Choose Original Herbal Moisturizing Lotion, new Fragrance-Free Herbal Moisturizing Lotion, or...for those situations where extra help is needed...our extra-strength Skin Therapy Moisturizing Lotion. Your skin will never look or feel better.



## Herbal hair care... naturally restorative.

Now you can overcome damage done to your hair by the environment, chemicals, and styling aids, quickly and surely. Start with our Original Herbal Shampoo and Conditioner, rich in extracts of Nettle and Chamomile, to help build strength and resistance from the very core of the hair shaft. And, for the most severe problems, count on our specialty herbal formulas, featuring Biotin, Aloe Vera, Keratin, or Jojoba. From now on, damaged hair doesn't stand a chance.

## Rainwater Herbal hair care... gentle and rich.

Nature's Gate's Rainwater Herbal hair care line drenches your hair with restorative herbs to give it more life, more body, more beauty. There's a Rainwater Herbal formula that's just right for you, including shampoos and conditioners for dry, normal, or oily hair. Or, choose from any of the following Rainwater Herbal products; Awapuhi for fine or limp hair; Henna for natural highlights; Tea Tree Oil Non-medicated Dandruff Shampoo; and Herbal Baby Shampoo...for beautiful, healthy-looking hair for all the family.

## Natural deodorants... lasting and protective.

The deodorant protection you want is here from Nature's Gate, in gentle, natural formulations that won't irritate skin or harm delicate fabrics. They keep you fresh all day and all night, whether you're at work or at play, without harsh chemicals. Choose Fresh or Spicy Herbal fragrances, or try our all-new Green Tea Extract Herbal all in convenient roll-on applicators.

Nature's Gate produces natural products harmful to no one...biodegradable, environmentally friendly...and untainted by animal byproducts or animal testing.



## Natural toothpaste... naturally beautifying.

Behind every beautiful smile are healthy teeth and gums. That's why you and your family benefit when you choose Nature's Gate, with its natural cleansing and strengthening elements, including Free Calcium. Choose tubes, or try our sparkling new gels in pumps. All contain natural baking soda, the proven plaque-fighter. Nature's Gate toothpaste is like health food for your teeth.



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