The Fur Industry: Down For The Count?

THE ANIMALS' AGENDA
THE MAGAZINE OF ANIMAL RIGHTS AND ECOLOGY • NOVEMBER 1990

THEY SHOOT UP HORSES, DON'T THEY?
The Drug-Dependent Horseracing Industry

CUSTOMIZED COMPANION DOGS
PENNSYLVANIA BIRDSHOOT MOB ATTACKS ACTIVISTS
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The "Empire" Strikes Back

"When the going gets tough, the tough get going." It seems the going is getting plenty tough for the animal rights movement, and that it has been for some time. The opposition, which in years past could simply deny accusations of animal abuse, has lost much credibility, and is now forced to engage in public arguments.

The theories of social movement analyst Bill Moyar have been discussed in these pages before, in July/August '90's Page Two and again in "Out of the Cage: The Movement in Transition," Jan./Feb. '90's cover story. Based on decades of experience in the civil rights, antiwar, and antinuclear movements, Moyar developed a "Movement Action Plan" which he describes as a strategic framework outlining the eight stages of successful social movements.

Contradicted by smear campaigns and intimidation lawsuits, the animal rights movement can perhaps draw wisdom from Moyar's explanation of how the tactics of the "powerholders" (i.e., well-entrenched industries and institutions) change from defensive to aggressive as their critics gradually gain public sympathy and support.

When the opportunity to their tactics is first voiced, "the powerholders do not feel much threatened or concerned, and they handle the situation as a problem of bureaucratic management rather than a crisis of public confidence and power," says Moyar. "They easily promote their official policies while hiding their operative policies."

But as their critics coalesce into a movement and challenges mount, the powerholders begin to "take a hard line in defending their policies and entituing the new movement, calling it radical, irresponsible, and even Communist-inspired." As they continue to lose ground, their mounting offensive, which includes infiltration of the movement—not only for intelligence gathering purposes, but to "confuse, disrupt, and discredit the new activism."

At this point, the citizenry is unsure who or what to believe. "While many agree with the movement's challenges, they also fear harming themselves with dishonesty and losing the security of the status quo. The alternatives are unclear to them." But the movement, if it is sound and resolves, weather's this stage and eventually achieves major public support for its basic goals. Some social transformation should ensue.

Yet even at this point, the powerholders refuse to yield. They attempt to defeat their policies with scientific arguments and a barrage of pseudo-dramas, such as terrorism and Communism, to try to rally an increasingly skeptical public. They accelerate their campaigns to disrupt and discredit the movement while attempting to "perpetrate it by claiming to do the movement's program" (compare "Star Wars will end nuclear weapons" to "No one cares more for the welfare of farm animals than the farmer himself"), or even co-opt it by having their mission publicly appropriated by the government.

"Finally," asserts Moyar, "gains begin happening within the power structure, as over time pressure forces them to pre-empt or absorb forces into mainstream political, economic, and social elites to switch their position, or even openly oppose the policies of powerholders in order to protect their own self interests." The desire of the people "to end present policies and conditions overtakes their worry about the consequences of the alternative." Thus, the powerholders are compelled by the sheer force of public opinion to concede to the movement's demands.

In reflecting on Moyar's theory, it is important to remember that it was not developed with animals in mind. It was meant to apply to the animal defense movement's initial victories. Legal harassment, good-press permeation, character assassination—it's nothing new. We're traveling a well trod path, one that's tough to follow but should lead ultimately to success... if the movement responds wisely to the obstacles ahead.

—The Editor

The Virus of Violence

I intend to photocopy and mail to President Bush "Killing the Female: The Psychology of Hunting" from the September '90 issue. The article is, sadly, a pertinent reminder in today's climate of turmoil and trauma that death and violence not only begins at the dinner table, but passes like a virus from hunter to battlefield. As borne out of the world's most powerful nation, our President might very easily display humanity and sensibility by publicly ceasing hunting and fishing.

—Dee Halpin

West Sacramento, CA

No Such Thing as "Humane"?

I was sickened and repulsed to see a pay/ETA ad in the September '90 issue for "Humane Innovations and Alternatives in Animal Experimentation." Anyone marginalizing education on the subject of animal experimentation knows that the only true approach is called "humane vivisection."

I collage you never have not read Hans Ruesch's Slaughter of the Innocent, or the dollars that pay/ETA offers for an ad mean more than the systematic torture and murder of millions of helpless animals every year. This type of humane vivisection propaganda is just what the vivisectionists need to keep them in business for another two centuries. I am appalled that you call yourself an animal rights organization and then allow this ad to appear in your magazine.

—Jennifer L Spurway

Walden, NY

The Overpopulation Threat

"Taking Power from the Animals" in the July/Aug. '90 issue was very thought-provoking. The only thing I would add to the last sentence on helping the situation by "being vegetarian and conserving water and energy" would be to promote zero population growth.

Looking at all of the animal exploitation and environmental destruction, it's obvious we don't need to increase the human population as we are now doing. I'm not anti-human; all living things, including people, deserve to live to their fullest potential. But looking ahead, if we don't curb our population growth, this planet will become like a crowded factory farm for humans.

—Sue Copolla

West Sacramento, CA


Thanks also to our supporters.

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1) Recent efforts to enrich the laboratory setting can diminish animal suffering. However, ultimately, we hope to redirect research toward more naturalistic and scientific standards, where suffering can be dramatically reduced. This shift in setting is not only more humane, it also enhances the scientific validity of the research, for in such naturalistic settings animals are less stressed and express more of their natural repertoire. Recent innovations in laboratory research, such as the Humane Innovations program, use more naturalistic settings and yards and using pigeons in a city park as a "lab" in the teaching of psychology.

2) Beyond changes in setting we must reduce the suffering induced by experimental procedures themselves. Noninvasive procedures are available and more can be developed which will greatly reduce the harm, injury, and distress to animals. Such research should be largely observational and noninvasive.
LETTERS

Continued from page 3

nonmanipulative as is the case when human subjects are utilized.

3) It is important to understand that scientists study animals for two reasons. The first is because some of them, like us, are interested in animals. Research that studies animals to understand them (not us) can be relocated and made noninvasive as just indicated. The second reason scientists study animals is to contribute to advances in human welfare. With regard to this research, we hope to move toward its replacement with nonanimal technologies. Traditionally in biomedicine and psychology there has been an over-reliance on animal models. Our Humane Innovations And Alternatives publication can reduce this by promoting the use and further development of alternatives not based on such models.

I hope this response will help us give PETA's work more credibility to those readers of THE ANIMALS' AGENDA who may have found it suspect or mystifying.

—Kenneth Shapiro, Ph.D.
Executive Director
PETA P.O. Box 87
New Gloucester
ME 04260

Stock: Profit or Project?

Schofield Robertson
Middlebury, VT

I saw the ASPCA's ad for The Animal Rights Handbook in the Sept. '90 issue, but didn't I just read that the ASPCA has stock in McDonald's restaurants? McDonald's is responsible for the slaughter of billions of cows and the destruction of the environment through deforestation, water consumption, and styrofoam pollutants. The ASPCA should be ashamed for making money in this way.

—Margie Brueckner
Gloucester, MA

continued on page 7

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The ASPCA replies: Perhaps the best way to illustrate the reason why a humane society may deliberately purchase stock in a company that has a role in animal exploitation might be to review our recent experience with PepsiCo.

The ASPCA, in its position as a shareholder of PepsiCo common stock, has asked the owners of the world’s largest restaurant system (PepsiCo Food Service International, based in Purchase, NY) to investigate how the animals providing meat are raised. The shareholder proposal, submitted on May 2, 1990, requested that the corporation’s board of directors form a committee to investigate the effects of intensive confinement on livestock and farm animal products destined for PepsiCo’s restaurants-- Pizza Hut, Kentucky Fried Chicken, and Taco Bell. These restaurants use products derived from more than one-half billion chickens every year, as well as millions of pigs and cattle, who are typically raised in “factory farms” where confinement, overcrowding, and consequent illness and mutilation cause suffering, and the high ingestion of antibiotics and other drugs and chemicals can cause subsequent danger to those who handle and eat the animal products. Although PepsiCo does not operate any farms itself, the ASPCA believes that as one of the world’s major purchasers of meat and dairy products, the corporation has considerable power to help bring about more humane and less chemically dependent animal husbandry practices.

The ASPCA’s proposal received considerable discussion at PepsiCo’s annual meeting, and received enough votes to qualify for the proxy statement next year. I have written to PepsiCo president D. Wayne Callaway expressing the hope that the corporation will work with us to make or fund the study we are seeking. McDonald’s responded favorably to a similar proposal filed in 1989, and we are continuing to work with them to help bring about changes in factory farming practices.

We believe that good may come from stockholder efforts such as these, which are being used by other animal rights groups. However, if we determine that our stockholder efforts have no chance for success, we will get rid of the relatively small amount of stock we have purchased.

The American SPCA
441 Ross St. 92nd Rd.
NY, NY 10138

Again, The Pet Theft Act

Although I am certain that the supporters of the Pet Theft Act
Continued on next page

It’s been said:
Curiosity killed the cat.

But the tragic truth is:
It was not the cat that was curious!

Each year over 50,000 cats (not to mention an additional 35 million animals) are killed in laboratories. Please help The AA-PSP to redirect the curiosity of the scientists toward finding alternatives in research, testing and education that do not require the use of animals.

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For information on this or any other anti-vivisection issues, contact your local chapter of the American Anti-Vivisection Society. For information on how to become an anti-vivisection activist, contact your local chapter of the American Anti-Vivisection Society.
MORE LETTERS

Continued from previous page

Act of 1990 are acting in good faith. I believe they do not understand it. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that the Act, as presently written, does nothing to help animals, and, indeed, is very detrimental to animal protection. My conclusion is based on six observations.

First, the most alarming aspect of the Act is that it affirmatively encourages the use of shelter and pound animals for experimentation. Sections (a)(1) and (a)(2) specifically mention that pounds and shelters may be considered for random source animals. The Act serves as potent ammunition for those who oppose efforts to stop pound seizure, because they will be able to point to the Act as support for the proposition that pound seizure is a legitimate alternative to other undesirable methods of acquisition. Second, there is nothing that prohibits class B dealers from operating private or contract pounds or shelters through which stolen animals may be "laundred." Moreover, the Act does not prevent animals obtained at auction from being "laundred" through private shelters or pounds operated by dealers or dishonest shelter operators.

Third, there is nothing in the Act that requires that a dealer notify a person who gives an animal to a shelter or pound that the animal may be used for research or teaching unless the dealer obtains the animal directly from that person. And the Act specifically provides that the dealers may not obtain animals from individuals who are not breeders or dealers. Therefore, the dealer must notify the shelter, pound, or breeder that the animal may be used for vivisection, but the shelter or pound has no obligation to inform the person surrendering the animal.

Fourth, supporters of the Act claim that it will provide for a holding period for animals and that current law and regulations do not, unless the dealer operates his/ her own shelter. This claim is incorrect. The federal Animal Welfare Act itself provides that "no dealer or exhibitor shall sell or otherwise dispose of any dog or cat within a period of five business days after the acquisition of such animal or within such other period as may be specified by the Secretary," [7 U.S.C. sec. 2135 (1993)]. The Secretary has provided that any animal acquired by a dealer or exhibitor must be held for five days, unless the dealer or exhibitor obtained the animal from a private or contract animal pound or shelter in which case the animal must be held for ten days. [2 C.F.R. sec. 2.01 (1990)].

Fifth, supporters of the Act exaggerate greatly any improvement in record keeping mandated by the Act. Although it is true that the Act would require a record to be kept of the source and type of acquisition of animals, the information is to be maintained by dealers who are notorious for fabricating data on animals from suspect sources. Moreover, present regulations already provide that the research facility must make, keep, and maintain records that disclose information concerning the source, disposition, and description of the animals used at the facility. [5 C.F.R. sec. 2.35].

Sixth, supporters of the Act claim it increases penalties for dealer violations from $2,500 to $5,000, and that the Act provides for license revocation as a penalty for repeat violations. Again, this claim is incorrect. Under the current law, a license may be revoked even without repeated violations. [7 U.S.C. sec. 2149 (1990)]. Moreover, the current law also provides for a civil penalty of up to $2,500 and a criminal fine of up to $5,000 and one year in prison. The Pet Theft Act provides for an increased fine—net penalty—of $5,000 for repeat offenders, but since most violations of the AWA are handled as civil matters, and a penalty and not a fine is imposed. The Pet Theft Act would not provide for an increased penalty even for repeat offenders.

In sum, I can see absolutely no reason to be in favor of the Pet Theft Act of 1990, and I see an extremely important reason—the explicit endorsement of pound seizure—to oppose the Act.

—Gary L. Francione, Prof. of Law, Director, Animal Rights Law Clinic, Rappaport School of Law, 15 Washington St., Newark, NJ 07102-3192

NO MORE IVORY

Gray, blue, and black design on back of white t-shirt. On front, sheep's head and the words, "Those who look upon the elephant, and see nothing more than a beast of burden or an object of amusement are blind to the beauty and majesty inherent in this natural world.

—Full color illustration on front of white t-shirt. On back, "BAM DRIFT NETS!"

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Red, purple, yellow, and black design on white t-shirt. Meat makes me sick.

—"All t-shirts 100% cotton in adult sizes S, M, L, XL. $15"

ORDER DESCRIPTION

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November 1990

The Animals' Agenda

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Letters

Rangers have threatened to cut U.S. Forest Service ranger. Donovan O’Donnell is now more directing grazing operations in the Southfork Nat. Forest. Support film was submitted by the Forest Service, P.O. Box 2447, Washington, D.C. 20013, to the Senators and Congressional representatives. ADR is also urging letters to the forest service, 14th Street and 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C., 20440.

People

Greenwood Mississippi town president, Dr. D. W. Jones, is on a mission to the town to help with flood relief. He will be in Greenwood, Miss., on June 20, to visit with flood victims and announce the town’s plans for reconstruction.

Coastal Band of the Canastota Lighthouse

The Coast Guard has named a new light at the Lighthouse in the Canastota Lighthouse Complex. It is located on the east side of the lake and will provide a safe guide for vessels navigating in the area.

Events

AA is hosting a meeting for animal rights activists at the Canastota Lighthouse Complex. The meeting will be held at the Canastota Lighthouse Complex on June 20, at 7:00 PM. The meeting will discuss the importance of animal rights activism and the need for a greater presence in the community. Participants are encouraged to attend and engage in meaningful discussions on these important issues.

Diving the USA is an annual summer activity that involves scuba diving in various parts of the USA. Participants can explore underwater environments and learn valuable skills in diving.

Dieting is a major concern for many individuals, especially during the summer months. To address this need, a dieting challenge has been initiated across the USA. Participants are encouraged to sign up and commit to a healthy dieting plan for the summer.

Offerings

Copies of a thorough and comprehensive management study done for CEASE at Dacotah with assistance from the Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 44, Somerville, MA 02143, are available. The study is aimed at helping farmers and landowners understand the challenges and opportunities associated with managing wildlife on their properties.

Actions

The Elephant Alliance Fund, for Animals, and the Performing Animal Rights Education and Protection (PAR) coalition have joined forces to launch a campaign against the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus. This campaign focuses on educating the public about the harsh realities ofcircus life and advocating for animal welfare reforms.

Activations

The Alliance for Animal Protection, P.O. Box 54, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10011, has announced a political action committee (PAC) to support candidates who share the group’s commitment to animal protection. The PAC will mobilize voters and provide resources to candidates who promote effective and humane solutions to animal protection issues.

Court Calendar

CEASE has won a U.S. District Court decision against a group of animal rights activists who were arrested on June 20, 2000, on charges of trespassing at the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. The court ruled in favor of CEASE, ordering the activists to pay fines and costs associated with the case.

Agriculture

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is conducting an investigation into the use of antibiotics in animal agriculture. The investigation is aimed at ensuring that the use of antibiotics is safe and appropriate for animal health and food safety.

Citing public health concerns, the USDA has issued a final rule to reduce the use of certain antibiotics in animal agriculture. The rule is expected to take effect in September 2010.

Legislation

The Animal Welfare Act (AWA) is a federal law that regulates the treatment and care of animals used in research, testing, and education. The AWA was enacted in 1966 and is administered by the USDA’s Animal Welfare Division.

The AWA has been updated several times to reflect changes in scientific knowledge and advances in animal care. The most recent update was in 2018, with the aim of improving the welfare of animals used in research and testing.

Endangered Species

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) is a federal law that provides a framework for the recovery of endangered and threatened species. The ESA was enacted in 1973 and has been updated several times to reflect changes in scientific knowledge and advances in conservation.

The ESA has been successful in saving many species from extinction, including the gray wolf, the bald eagle, and the endangered tiger.

The ESA has faced challenges in recent years, with some critics arguing that it hinders economic development and restricts property rights.

The ESA is currently under review by the Trump administration, with some members of Congress calling for a comprehensive review of the act.

Captive Breeding

Captive breeding programs are widely used in animal agriculture to supply animals for research, testing, and education. These programs can provide a stable and controlled environment for animals, allowing researchers to study and test hypotheses under controlled conditions.

Captive breeding programs can also help to increase the genetic diversity of animal populations, which can contribute to the long-term survival of species.

Captive breeding programs must adhere to strict guidelines to ensure the welfare of the animals involved. These guidelines include providing adequate space, food, water, and social interactions, as well as preventative veterinary care.

The success of captive breeding programs depends on the diligence of caretakers and the implementation of best practices. By following these guidelines, caretakers can help to ensure the welfare and well-being of the animals in their care.

The AWA also regulates the import and export of animals and animal products. The act requires that all imported and exported animals be quarantined and tested to prevent the spread of diseases and other biological threats.

The AWA has been effective in preventing the introduction of harmful diseases and pests into the United States, helping to protect the nation’s animal welfare and public health.

The AWA also regulates the use of animals in research, testing, and education. The act requires that all animals used in these activities be treated humanely and with care.

The act also prohibits the use of animals in cruel or inhumane methods of research or testing, such as electric shock, chemical exposure, and physical restraint.

The AWA allows for exceptions to these requirements in certain circumstances, such as when the research or testing is necessary to understand animal behavior or to develop new treatments or therapies.

The act also requires that all animals used in research, testing, and education be euthanized after the research or testing is completed.

The AWA has been criticized for not going far enough in regulating the treatment of animals in research, testing, and education. Some animal rights activists argue that the act is not strong enough in protecting the welfare of animals involved in these activities.

The AWA has also faced challenges in recent years, with some members of Congress calling for a comprehensive review of the act and for increased funding for animal welfare and research.

The AWA is currently under review by the Trump administration, with some members of Congress calling for a comprehensive review of the act and for increased funding for animal welfare and research.
The Customized Companion Dog

by Joan Dunayer and Eric Dunayer, V.M.D.

S trap the female down or hold her by the legs, the article advises. Then “assist” the male in penetration.” These suggestions for the forced mating of English bulldogs recently appeared in the official magazine of the American Kennel Club (AKC), whose members cultivate an image of aristocratic gentility. According to the AKC’s breed standard, the “perfect Bulldog” has a low front and high rear—which hinders mating—as well as a “massive” head and “relatively narrow” loin—which make caesarean section all but inevitable when a bulldog gives birth.

Why subject a dog to such ordeal? In the world of purebreds, a dog’s well-being receives less consideration than how fully the dog conforms to a predetermined set of physical features. “If a dog isn’t the right type,” one AKC breeder has written, “he has no value.” To the breeder and buyer, the companion dog is customized merchandise.

Like ads for cars, ads for purebreds flaunt variety. “No breed yet seen,” one reads. “Afghans all the way to Yorkies.” Dogs are leased for breeding. Puppies are sold with guarantees on eyes, hips, coat, and other body parts.

Many buyers view a purebred as a status symbol. (Why else should a fifth of this country’s family dogs be registered as purebreds?) Other buyers possess a kind of breed chauvinism, the belief that cocker spaniels, Shih Tzus, or golden retrievers are more worthy of love and respect than other dogs. Ironically, the scorned mixed-breed dog is generally more physically and emotionally fit than the purebred.

The majority of purebreds suffer from some inherited defect. Dalmatians, for example, are prone to deafness, poodles to epilepsy, young Chinese apoplos to fatal kidney failure, and boxers to malignant tumors. Eye diseases plague purebreds—including cataracts, glaucoma, and retinal degeneration that ends in blindness. Congenital heart disease affects purebreds at over four times the rate in mixed breeds. On average, each breed harbors over a dozen genetic defects.

Such defects may undermine psychological as well as physical health. Toy dogs are frequently high-strung and hyperactive. An ever-growing number of Chow chows, cocker spaniels, and golden retrievers are vicious. Many mastiffs, German shepherds, and Dobermans suffer from intractable and progressive dizziness. Numerous health problems directly relate to a purebred’s prescribed look. Free of human manipulation, dogs tend to resemble the Australian dingos: selectively bred, most scarcely seen kin to this wild cousin. An expert on canine ancestry, Dr. Michael Fox has noted the features that characterize the “natural dog”: weight of 35 to 55 pounds (the size of a Siberian husky), well proportioned body, long, straight legs; medium-length muzzle; almond-shaped eyes; long, somewhat upturned tail; fully or partially upright ears; and short coat. These features ensure health and long life. In contrast, the artificially contorted features of purebreds impose multiple disabilities.

Reaching its extreme in the 200-pound mastiff, unnaturally large size is one such debilitating feature. It fosters, in fact, an entire collection of health problems. Excess body mass predisposes a dog to both lethargy and heat prostration. One St. Bernard trainer has commented, “Days or weeks can pass before a big dog chooses to be on its feet for an hour at a stretch.” However inactive, St. Bernards and other giant dogs chronically fail to coat themselves. Even moderately warm temperatures can precipitate collapse.

Dr. Wayne Riser, professor of pathology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, has noted a correlation between large size and orthopedic problems. The greater the size beyond the natural dog’s, the greater the orthopedic risk. The Great Dane, for example, is some 30 times more likely than a mixed breed to develop osteochondroses. In this painful disease, joint cartilage grows too rapidly to receive an adequate blood supply. Under pressure of the young dog’s weight, the cartilage erodes and the joint becomes inflamed. The disease generally progresses to a crippling arthritis.

Bleeding ulcers, hip dysplasia, also most commonly affects large dogs. Chronically loose, the hip joints deteriorate, inducing a severe arthritis for which there is no reliable cure. The AKC standards for the St. Bernard, Newfoundland, bullmastiff, and German shepherd specify a hip dysplasia, by specifying size of the feature that makes these breeds highly susceptible—heavy, broad hips.

Related to the rapid growth associated with abnormally large size, Wobbler syndrome disables many Dobermans and Great Danes. In a healthy dog, the spinal cord threads its way freely through the vertebrae’s central holes. But in a dog with Wobbler’s, the neck vertebrae’s holes narrow as the bone expands inward, painfully compressing the spinal cord. Over some months, the dog increasingly wobbles and falls, rising only with difficulty. Even surgery may not prevent permanent paralysis in all four legs.

Large dogs such as the St. Bernard and Great Dane are also far more likely than a mixed breed to develop malignant bone tumors in the legs. By the time such a tumor is discovered, the bloodstream has spread the malignancy to the lungs and other vital organs. Amputation of the affected limb may relieve extreme pain, but it cannot forestall the dog’s death, which will follow within weeks or months.

A deep chest—AKC-mandated for such breeds as the Great Dane, Doberman, and German shepherd—makes a dog vulnerable to another killer, gastric torsion. Bloated with gas, the stomach twists and the dog goes into shock. Among these dogs given emergency surgery only half survive.

Dobermans and other large dogs also have a high incidence of cardiomyopathy, an inherited disease in which the heart degenerates. Increasingly weakened, thin-walled, and erratic, the heart eventually pumps with so little force that blood accumulates in the lungs. The dog struggles to breathe and soon succumbs to profound shock.

Even without cardiomyopathy, giant dogs have an overburdened heart, which frequently fails at an early age. Great Danes and Dobermans rarely live past age nine. In general, the greater a dog’s size beyond the natural dog’s medium build, the shorter the life span.

Just as dogs have been bred to extreme largeness, they have been bred down to the two-pound size of a Chihuahua. Whereas large dogs habitually pant with heat, tiny dogs frequently shiver with cold. The recent trend to breed down is a special collection of orthopedic problems. In miniature poodles and other small breeds, abnormally restricted bone growth often leads to loose kneecaps that repeatedly dislocate. When a kneecap slips, the dog hobbles on three legs. Surgery may not correct the problem.

The narrowedness of a small dog’s blood vessels can create another orthopedic problem: If constriction hampers the blood flow nourishing a still-growing hip bone, the bone starts to disintegrate. Unless the resulting bone chips are surgically removed, the dog will be lame.

In this sense, such as the Chihuahua, skull size too is dangerously reduced. The smallest dog has only 1 percent the body size of the largest dog, but 40 percent the brain size. As a result, the skull often fits the brain so tightly that spinal fluid within and around the brain cannot circulate freely. When the brain swells with the trapped fluid, the puppy’s skull grows in a deformed shape, to accommodate this hydrocephalus. If inadequate to encase the distorted brain, the skull retains gaps—a condition called menora. Because hydrocephalus destroys brain tissue, affected dogs who survive into adulthood tend to be hyperactive, unresponsive to training, and in other ways mentally impaired. Incredibly, the AKC encourages hydrocephalus by specifying, for the Chihuahua, an “apple dome” skull, with or without menora.” Hydrocephalic dogs paw heavily for some people’s desire that a dog retain, perpetually, the look and behavior of a puppy.

Some dogs are not small overall but have disproportionately small limbs. Leg and foot deformities virtually define such breeds as the bassett hound and dachshund—breeds that derive from the inbreeding of mutant dwarfs.

The bassett hound standard calls for short and thickened forelegs. Inevitably, the legs bow, invoking chronic elbow dislocation. Similarly, the specification that the feet turn “a little outward” endorses a splaying that often results in lameness.

Continued on next page
The dachshund’s truncated legs inadequately support the dog’s long, straight back. Consequently, about a fifth of dachshunds suffer ruptured vertebral disks, which can cause excruciating compression of the spinal cord. Even with emergency surgery, many dogs remain uncoordinated in their hind legs, or paralyzed.

Whether or not they are bred for abnormal size, numerous dogs are bred to be brachycephalic—flat-faced. For the bulldog, the AKC has decreed a nose “set back deeply between the eyes.” The effect is pathologically short and twisted air passages. Often an over-long soft palate further obstructs breathing. Brachycephaly shortens the bulldog’s life and reduces it to a ceaseless struggle against suffocation.

In the case of the Pekingese, another brachycephalic, the AKC dictates “prominent” eyes and a “wrinkled, very short and broad” muzzle. The combination often causes facial hairs to rub painfully against the cornea. In addition, the bulging eyes sit so tenaciously in their sockets that a sudden jolt or blow to the head can pop them out. Quickly returning an eye to its socket rarely restores vision.

As if the health problems associated with being too large, too small, short-limbed, or brachycephalic weren’t enough, dogs are bred for other harmful features. The AKC has ordained that a bloodhound’s lower eyelids be “dragged down” and turned outward—a prescription for entropion. This condition exposes the inside of the lid and creates a pocket that collects dirt and bacteria. As a result, the dog suffers chronic eye irritation and infection. The bloodhound’s drooping eyes bear little resemblance to the tight-lidded, almond-shaped eyes of the natural dog.

Similarly, the shepherd’s bushy tail doesn’t curve upward like the natural dog’s, but lies flat against the rear. Trapped under the tail, moisture and fecal matter often give rise to infection. Bacteria, if allowed to proliferate, then erode the skin around the anus to deep ulcers. In the most severe cases, only tail amputation spares the dog continuing pain.

In the same way, a cocker spaniel’s long, floppy ears—the opposite of the natural dogs—tightly cover the ear canals. Bacteria flourish in the canals’ moisture and warmth. Sometimes, even cutting away an ear canal’s outer wall, for drainage, cannot eliminate chronic infection.

Yet another feature that harms the dog is deep and widespread wrinkling, carried to the extreme in the Chinese shar-pei. The shar-pei’s massive skin folds often become furrowed by infection. The folds also roll the eyelids inward. This entropion causes eyelashes and sharp, stubby facial hairs to scrape the cornea. Usually, part of the eyelid must be surgically removed to prevent abrasions, ulcers, and scarring. Without such surgery, the dog will be blinded.

Having read this catalogue of purebred miseries, you may be thinking, “Surely, responsible breeders avoid propagating such afflictions.” Not so. No breeder, however “responsible,” can guarantee that selective breeding will lead to healthy animals.

First, breeding combines thousands of genes from one dog with thousands from another. Not even an expert geneticist can predict the outcome. Many dogs pass on an inherited defect before showing any signs of the defect, or without ever showing signs.

Second, any attempt to perpetuate a particular trait automatically involves restricting the gene pool. As Dr. D.B. McKeown, U.A. Luescher, and K.R.S. Fisher of Ontario Veterinary College have pointed out, “All purebred dogs are inbred to some extent.” Selective breeding, therefore, increases the likelihood that a potentially harmful recessive gene will find its match, causing a defect to manifest in the offspring. In nature, where the population is large and varied, harmful recessive traits are rare. Natural selection removes from the breeding pool those who are disabled by such pairings. All selective breeding of companion dogs is additionally irresponsible since it fosters the attitude that a dog can and should be “made to order.” The resulting demand for purebreds sustains a multi-million-dollar industry that inflicts further suffering on dogs.

Apart from small-scale breeders, more than 5,000 mass-breeding kennels yearly churn out about half a million purebred puppies, to be sold in pet stores. In 1986-87, Robert Baker, an investigator for the Humane Society of the United States, visited nearly 300 of these “puppy mills.” He was shocked to find that most females kept for breeding spend their entire lives in small, dirty wire cages—deprived of all exercise and companionship. Often, the dogs endure the harshest weather extremes and lack adequate food and water. Baker saw “thirsty dogs desperately pawing at drinking water that had turned to ice in the bowl.” Finally, since they are viewed solely as breeding machines, the females are bred every time they come into heat and are killed at age 5 or 6, when their “production” declines.

Selective breeding also contributes to the tragedy of dog overpopulation. Each year, as breeders “manufacture” over a million purebreds, U.S. shelters euthanize some five to seven million homeless dogs. Millions more inhabit alleyways and abandoned buildings, scavenging for food until accident, exposure, or disease ends their misery.

True dog-lovers don’t breed or buy dogs, but adopt them. “Pure” breeds signal impure motives. Nature doesn’t proliferate disabilities; humans do. Finding them fashionable, appealing, or financially profitable is a cruel society that breeds and buys afflicted purebreds while healthy mixed breeds perish by the millions. Selective breeding may line some pockets and gratify some egos, but it hurts dogs. 

If you wear fur, or buy it for someone else, you’re supporting cruelty. There’s nothing sporting about that.

Let’s put the ball in play—Don’t buy fur.
Dealing With The Media: Advice From A Journalist

By Richard Krawiec

A
the animal defense movement grows, local activists are increasingly being interviewed by reporters who may still view the movement as a bunch of book-worms and weirdos. How can activists, most of whom volunteers unused to having their ideas as well as their words and lives in danger, treat reporters as allies?

Don't tell them they're biased because they eat meat. This sets the stage for an adversarial relationship. Instead, assume they need to be taught about the issues. You are the one who can control the way you portray them. If they seem open to your arguments, explain that animal protection, Show the reporter you are motivated on a personal level by compassion for animals.

Finally, you must combine the personal with the philosophical. Few reporters have read Singer or Regan, and they rarely do background research. By explaining the underlying philosophy of the humane movement, you eliminate the possibility that you will be portrayed as a bored cat lover looking to keep busy.

ACTIVIST

Be vulnerable.

Reporters love people who open up emotionally, who have a love story to tell, a poignant story about seeing a dog die, tell it, even if it makes you cry. Especially if it makes you cry.

Be empathetic toward humans.

People go to zoos and circuses not because they like to see animals abused, but because they believe the animals are happy. The reality, of course, is that the animals are not happy. When the issue of animal welfare is raised, the public reacts. Reporters are trained to keep the public interested in news. If you can make them care about animals, they'll be more likely to write an article.

Treat reporters as allies.

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AGENDA

Be concise.

Most writers will interview you once. That's it. If you talk for 30 minutes, they'll edit out 25 minutes of that. So make every word count.

Be prompt.

Reporters are professionals. They have deadlines, and are usually working on more than one story at a time. If you don't respond quickly to an interview request, they'll find someone else to talk to. When writing a piece for a local magazine, I've received five callbacks within an hour of my initial phone call to a research hospital, setting up three interviews and a tour of the labs. Conversely, I couldn't always get people to return callbacks to places where a local animal rights group was picketing.

Take the press along.

If you're going anywhere—a rodeo, the circus—ask the writer to ride with you. In Pittsburgh, a woman went to check out conditions at a rodeo and was thrown off the grounds. What a great story—men afraid of a 99-pound woman concerned with animal suffering. But it was a story never written. No one from the press was asked along.

Don't party with the predators.

Studying the psychology of the predator will help you understand the behavior of the predator. Many animal activists have studied the behavior of the predator and have come to understand the ways in which the predator is capable of harming animals. This understanding can help you anticipate the ways in which the predator may try to harm you.

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They Shoot Up Horses, Don't They?

BY PHIL MAGGITI

The horses, several hundred in all, are tethered side by side to metal rails. They stand like prisoners of war in a concentration camp, waiting to be processed, outside the New Holland State Auction in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Inside the barn are local farmers, many of them Amishmen dressed in tribal black. They have gathered in search of a livestock and idle conversation. Also present in this calculating assembly are the killers: men looking to buy horses on the cheap for slaughter.

A full-page color ad appearing in several horse magazines last summer proclaimed that buying a Thoroughbred yearling is "Your Best Chance to Have Some Fun." The ad featured a quartet of fun-seekers—one in a full-length fur coat—cheering gleefully from box seats at a racetrack.

These jolly racing fans looked like thirtysomething fraternity/sorority types, but if the racing industry were a fraternity, it would be on probation for drugging horses, flunking too many classes in the humanities, and practicing initiation rites that eventually condemn horses to New Holland and similar auctions. Indeed, racing has been called "a ticking time bomb," by one critic, who predicts that it won't be long before horse racing becomes an animal rights issue. If it does, activists had better study performance charts carefully because the last time anybody made a big deal out of racing, the racing industry won in a walkover.

In 1978 Robert O. Baker, a former racehorse owner who is now chief investigator for the Humane Society of the United States, published a thoroughly documented and damaging book called The Misuse of Drugs in Horse Racing. Baker's thesis—that it was time for racing to man out the drug abusers—was amplified by the death of jockey Robert Pineda, who was killed when the horse he was riding at Philco—a horse with more drugs in its system than your local pharmacy—collapsed during a race. Pineda's death, a 60 Minutes expose of the needle-park mentality on the backstretch, and the testimony of "Big Tony" Ciulla, who had fixed more than 2,000 races involving at least 50 jockeys in 17 states, helped to create what one magazine called "a surging tide of public opinion" for racing reform. Even Congress—which doesn't always rise to the occasion unless it's time to adjourn—was considering the Corrupt Horse Racing Practices Act, a bill designed to put the whoa on the runaway filmlam that racing had become.

Inspired by these developments, Donna Ewing, president of the Illinois Horsetread Animal Humane Society, wrote in the Chicago Tribune in December 1979 that "finally, horse racing in the United States is being cleaned up." As proof, Ewing cited a decision by the Maryland State Racing Commission to ban the use of all pre-race medications. She also reported that "racing boards in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Delaware are expected to follow Maryland's lead."

The garbage had scarcely been wrapped in Tribunes throughout Chicago before the Maryland board—"swayed back and forth like a scarecrow in a cornfield," according to Equus magazine—declared that its unanimous, anti-medication decision was being retracted. What scared the horses in Maryland and sent them flying backwards was the threat of a boycott by Thoroughbred trainers, one of whom shouted at a...
commission hearing. "This has nothing to do with Olympic athletes. This is horse racing. This is an investment."

"I went to New Holland yesterday. I wish I hadn't", wrote Anna B. Stassio to the editor of Maryland Horse this year. "The braze, old horse, and the gallant, long—tongue never leave me. The people's spirit was causers in their left eye's eyes. The old horse was ever watchful. We would pull a horse back at anyone who came too close to his little friend."

"A fightful man with a pocket full of thoroughbreds. When asked where the papers came from, he said, 'Down the road a piece, yesterday at Timonorn. Where are these animals now? 'Already sold and on their way to the meat market."

"Though it never got out of committee, the Corrupt Horse Racing Practices Act of 1970 put the spurs to the National Association of State Racing Commissioners (NASCAR), which published guidelines the following year restricting the administration of drugs whose use had been sanctioned previously. Was it a coincidence that NASCAR published its guidelines a month before Senator David Pryor of Arkansas introduced S.1043—a bill that would have established minimum federal standards regarding the use of drugs in racing?"

William E. Watson, former chairman of the West Virginia Racing Commission, didn't think so. Watson, who resigned in 1980 "was not being able to deal with the drug problem" in his state, called the NASCAR action "little more than a public relations effort designed to forestall federal action."

The one-stop-forward-two-steps-back skaters' waltz pattern promoted by state racing commissions proved his point. By the time hearings on S.1043 began in May 1982, Senator Pryor testified that most of the states that had legislation and study commissions had "lapsed back into old rules, or adopted strict rules with little or no enforcement to back them up." Thus, concluded Pryor, "not a single state is in full compliance with the NASRC guidelines."

The Corrupt Horse Racing Practices Act of 1980, like its predecessor, never left the gate. "Despite the many studies, research, and recommendations made by the HSUS newsletter for spring 1983, "the Senate seems in no hurry to take substantive action on its version of the racing laws," writes the HSUS."

The Illinois-Hooved Animal Humane Society, and the American Horse Protection Association, was it business as usual on the political front?

The New Holland auction is a far cry from the auctions in Kentucky, Maryland, and Saratoga, New York, where "well-cared for and well-bred" horses are sold for an average of $352,446. At New Holland most horses go for under $500. Some fetch as little as $25. And the "people" who buy them hold a family of friends to the gently attended auctions at Saratoga and Keeneland. At New Holland patrons精神病 where they sell, and the air is dense with the odor of urine, tobacco, and death. But scratch the glamour of Keeneland or Saratoga and you'll find the coarseness of New Holland, for whenever the gavel comes down, the horse and his handler is seen through the eyes of strangers.

"If racing becomes an animal rights issue, those who approve the cruel anti-inflammatories drug protest will be fighting the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse," said one trainer who attended the discussions. "If a horse has a chronic, chronic injury, the best way to conquer temptation to legalize it and "hold off" some of the more sickeninghetics, expressed by a trainer watching a workout at Belmont one morning as "criminal pay."

In August 1980 New York Times racing reporter Steven C. observed that "Although horses run clean in the rest of the world, American legislators, racing officials, and horse owners have allowed themselves to be bullied by trainers into buying a big lie: that the sport can no longer be conducted unless horses are fed to anti-inflammatory drugs like Butazolidin and diclofenac like Lasix."

"Butazolidin [or bute] relieves pain by reducing the inflammation caused by tissue injuries and the swelling that accompanies injured joints. Because it does not act, unlike the other anti-inflammatories drug, butazolidin has never been used as an adjunct to rest, not as a substitute for it. As Baker himself has said in his book of at least 50 years of work that medical council which advises that runners "should not be trained with butazolidin."

"Allows horses to race that should not race," says Dr. Arthur Patterson, equine specialist for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. "If a horse has a chronic injury, say a hairline fracture, it covers up it—" and

decrees the horse into running until he is injured beyond redemption.

But what do researchers know? King Leatherbury—he has been called the top-winning trainer in the nation in 1978 and 1977. Leatherbury called bute a "safe, simple, safe" drug for far-out way of equaling. Perhaps he meant of putting all horses equally at risk.

"For 98 percent of the horses that had to be destroyed on City Island," says Dr. Dan Decleve, "we were running on bute at the time they broke down. What's more, breakdowns increased 114 percent at Waterford Park in West Virginia and 400 percent at Keystone Racetrack (now Philadelphia Park) in the first years after bute was legalized at those sporting businesses."

"Take bute from the horses now," Leatherbury thundered. "If I have anything else, illegal."

"I'm not going to take anything illegal," says Dr. Dan Decleve, "but if bute makes horses more run, why did it take 24 percent more horses to fill 21 percent more races during the last decade, while the average number of starters per race declined?"

Leatherbury was also wrong when he declared that people would resort to illegal drugs if bute were not available. Bute is commonly used in most jurisdictions, yet trainers from California to New York are still slipping illegal drugs into the mouths, feeds, or drinking water of horses. A random test of 1,024 urine samples collected from trainers and jockeys during a six-month period tested positive for 21 illegal substances. In New York City of the two most successful trainers in recent years, Oscar Barrera and Jeff Sassman, four percent of horses ran faster, by anywhere from two to nine lengths. Furthermore, Penn researchers found that over 60 percent of the horses who had been treated with Lasix had blood in their lungs after a race.

The Penn study demonstrates, Beyer charges, that "as a result of the legal guarantees given to state racing commissions, both horsemen and veterinarians were false. It has exposed the dishonesty, underhandedness, and greed of people in the racing industry who championed Lasix in the first place."

One journalist in Canada, where Lasix has been banned since 1976, observed that "there were not as many infections of post-race infections as there were in America. Lasix is so attractive Philadelphia newspapers because often carry comments like 'In from New York for the Lasix' beside a horse's name in the most places by the drug's ability to eliminate the distibute to undetectable amounts any illegal substances given to a horse."

"We live off the rejections of the horse industry," says New Holland regular Francis Roumen, manager of the Amfaron Packing Company in Plainfield, Connecticut. "Auction time and the light are easy. The abuse of drugs and the economics of racing ensure a dependable stream of rejections. In 1989 more than half of the 9,436

continued on next page

Why bother with creature comforts? As Marcia King pointed out in a recent Horse Illustrated article called "Win, Place or Die: The Fate of Ex-Racehorses, these animals "are worth more dead than alive."

Nearly two years ago in The ANIMALS' AGENDA, David B. G. Southey, then-director of the Michigan Humane Society, argued that no matter what the issue, "the debate would most likely find its way to the racetracks where we'll find the answers to what's been asked of some organizations that's the one thing close is the law."

"Admittedly, vets who dispense approved drugs that have negative effects on horses are making their money legally, but those who go behind the scenes are no different. Unfortunately," says Dr. Patterson, "a lot of equine practitioners have no ethics. For example, even though racing rules in many states prohibit the administration of bute within 48 hours of a race, one veterinarian told Andrew Beyer, racing columnist for the Washington Post, that "the rule is violated regularly" by vets.

When Lasix (furosemide) came to fashion in the early 70s, vets testified that the drug, which was developed for treating people with high blood pressure, was a benign, therapeutic agent that would prevent exercise-induced pulmonary edema from coming from the lungs—but would not make horses run faster. This horse's new status as a major racing jurisdiction not only New York to sanction the use of Lasix—even though, as Dr. Patterson points out, that use is strictly "off-label," a term that has been done to show that Lasix helps breeders.

But because the pre-medication forces were such a steamroller, Lasix was approved a decade before the industry undertook the first serious scientific study of its effects." And guess what? That study, commissioned by the British government and conducted by the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, revealed that Lasix indeed makes horses run faster, by anywhere from two to nine lengths.

Furthermore, Penn researchers found that over 60 percent of the horses who had been treated with Lasix had blood in their lungs after a race.

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The third member of this entrenched quartet is your local racing commissioner, who generally behaves like the housekeeper who is more eager after drug infusions dramatically at Maryland tracks last year, the racing commission roughly lowered the penalties for drug offenses in 1977. Waxman was off since 15 days if their horses tested positive for drugs, now they'll simply be fined $500 for their first offense, but they won't have to surrender the money they won with their upheld mounts.

It will now take two drug offenses to get suspended in the friendly Maryland, and nursing money won't be confiscated until the second offense.

The Catch-23, however, is that all trainers will start losing money if they are banned. That's what's happening. The amended is renewable because first infractions were often treated as a hangover from a trainer's record if he or she manages to avoid subsequent detection for a year.

When Bob Baker testified before the Illinois Racing Commission in 1977, arguing against cracking down on racing, he was upholding the reins on the use of bute, a vasodilator, by track veterinarians and physically threatened by the presence of the Senate's Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee. Furthermore, he said Baker was obvious that the racing commission was fully aware of what was going on at the tracks, but they were more interested in showing the tracks are not being used to avoid subsequent detection for a year.

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The shooting continued in Florida until, in May 1988, W.V.N. Jones, Jr., the new chief of the partnership of the company, announced that the company's worst of 1984, three million bucks' worth of corticosteroids, and that's all the partner's money was being shot into junkets and other investments. The shooting continued in Florida until, in May 1988, W.V.N. Jones, Jr., the new chief of the partnership of the company, announced that the company's worst of 1984, three million bucks' worth of corticosteroids, and that's all the partner's money was being shot into junkets and other investments. The shooting continued in Florida until, in May 1988, W.V.N. Jones, Jr., the new chief of the partnership of the company, announced that the company's worst of 1984, three million bucks' worth of corticosteroids, and that's all the partner's money was being shot into junkets and other investments.

To date, the division still hasn't taken action. Following a visit to Calder Race Course in Miami, the company of horse doctors and other racing types in the summer of 1989, Jones announced that the ban would be lifted on certain classes of corticosteroids and that these drugs would be allowed back in the horses. But good sport that he is, Jones added that the division will be monitoring any new developments.

In 1933, more than a hundred owners, trainers, veterinarians, and guns were involved in the poisoning of horses, and the ban would be lifted on certain classes of corticosteroids and that these drugs would be allowed back in the horses. But good sport that he is, Jones added that the division will be monitoring any new developments.

Alamo Downs in Texas lowered the odds on detecting drugs by putting a novel set of blinds on the testing procedures. The trainer with a horse entered to run shocked one wooden ball out of a paper bag containing three such orbs—two marked, no other, which the trainer by the guys who rolled a yes got a saltwater test—no horses whose horses had a draw was out of the race. So if you wanted to win your horse, you had only two chances out of three of getting away with it. The odds fully legal justice are as good or better today. Even though all racetracks test every winning horse, and the odds fully legal justice are as good or better today. Even though all racetracks test every winning horse.
Killing Horses To Collect Insurance

By MARCIA KING

February 17, 1990: a Kentucky dentist was arrested. The FBI announced, "as he was about to administer a lethal injection to a thoroughbred race horse." The FBI charging him with assisting horse owners in "collecting on insurance policies by intentionally destroying" horses who weren't winning big prizes or stud fees. He purportedly received $15,000 per horse killed, $2,500 up front, and was said to have murdered heavily insured horses in New York, New Jersey, and Florida.

But March 8, less than three weeks later, all charges were dropped without comment.

June 12, 1990, a horse killer was convicted, as James Cressotti of Westfield, Massachusetts pleaded guilty to murdering two Appaloosa stallions in 1984 by torching their barn. Six years of investigation, however, brought only a four-to-six-year sentence, suspended for three years with probation. A charge of attempted fraud was dropped in exchange for the plea bargain.

At least 10 racehorses were killed for insurance payoffs in New Jersey, 1983; 17 quarter horses in Texas, 1985; 19 quarter horses in Arkansas, 1986. Those cases are known because the perpetrators were caught. In dozens to hundreds of other cases, they get away with it.

The methods of equine murder can be as cruelly simple as a barn fire, or as cleverly deceptive as injected diseases. The payoffs over the past decade have soared into the millions. Debra DeTurk, assistant vice president of Robert's Agency Inc., a major equine insurer, admits, "We figure 25 percent of the claims we have to pay are fraudulent.

Horse killings occur, according to William N. Graham of International Insurance Investigations, because of a combination of inflated horse values, a sloppiness of economy, and an influx of would-be investors with only middle-level income.

The racing and breeding of horses was, at one time, the prerogative of the very, very rich," Graham explains. "People who could afford to keep horses for pleasure had to be quite well off. But after World War II, people got into horse breeding strictly as a money-making business, and the proliferation of equine insurance made it easy for them to cover their investments. And, of course, we've got the syndication, where you buy a piece of the horse," enabling pools of investors to pay a higher price than any individual could alone.

Using prices lured speculators, who, in turn, produced an upward spiral: high prices, more investors; more investors, higher prices. But there were slumps during the later 1970s and early 1980s, when the national economy slumped and investors tried to cash out only to find horse values falling below what they had paid. Each time a large number of investors cashed out.

Many others had acquired horses as a tax shelter. When the tax laws tightened in 1980, horse values again plummeted. Again the only way many small investors could recover their investment was to collect their insurance. Again, horse killings are up.

Often the insurance companies have been easy pickings. Over an eight-year period, two New Jersey men made $226,000, purchasing ten horses for a few hundred dollars each, insuring them for several thousand, and then killing them when it seemed safe to do so. Five horses were suffocated, one had his neck broken, and the others were shot with arrows or guns. The causes of death were listed as "accident," "horse disease," "hypersensitiveness," heart attack, accidental injury and accidental impalement. The two men also turned in theft claims for horses who never existed.

We were amazed at how easy it was," said one of them when finally caught and convicted. "The bottom line was make what we could, when we could, and do it as quickly as we could." As Arkansas quarter horse trainer also discovered how easy it was, as part of a nine-man conspiracy that murdered 19 horses and bilked five insurance companies out of $607,500. The trainer would buy a horse and "sell" it to the accomplice at a grossly inflated value—on paper only, since money was rarely exchanged. Then the trainer would take out an insurance policy at the inflated value, name the accomplice as the beneficiary, and kill the horse.

The scheme was aided by a veterinarian who covered up the killings on autopsy reports.

Despite their heavy losses, some insurance companies still find it cheaper to pay small fraud claims than to prosecute. Proving that a horse was murdered, and that the owner did it, can take years, as in the Massachusetts example. "It's not the sort of case where you're going to have an eyewitness other than one of the participants," says Brent Bumpers, an assistant U.S. attorney for the eastern district of Arkansas.

The most common charge filed in horse killings is mail fraud, a federal offense and a felony that can bring five years in prison plus a $250,000 fine, whereas cruelty to animals is usually only a state misdemeanor bringing a year or two in jail, usually suspended, and a fine of under $1,000. Both Graham and Bumpers think publicity is the only real deterrent: if horse owners are going to get caught, they won't do it. But first some of them have to be caught and given meaningful sentences. Until then, the crime goes on.

Doctor Fadali, a prominent member of the medical profession, is an ardent advocate of animal rights. COPING AND BEYOND is Dr. Fadali's passionate, yet calm and scientific plea to all of us to reengage ourselves, return to be, and make a turn in the right direction.

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"COPING AND BEYOND portrays the inspired thought and reflections of Dr. Fadali, a humanitarian who has dedicated himself to the welfare of humans and animals alike. A motivating book. Read it."

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"Our world is tough-hearted, with news of ecological crises, military conflict and criminal despotism. Standing beside this troubled sea of human history, COPING AND BEYOND breaks like a lighthouse. Dr. Fadali's book projects a gentle yet indomitable call to each of us to keep faith with compassion and hope."

Earl Hoffman, President - Actors & Others For Animals

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Your bookstore can order COPING AND BEYOND, or you may order by phone: 1-800-237-6096.
Among the 10 top spending political action committees last year were those of the American Medical Assn. ($1,387,427) and the Natl. Rifle Assn. ($1,186,955). No environmental or animal defense group made the top 15.

The Natl. Taxidermist Assn. has formed a War Chest for preferred hunting. The Taxidermist, Educated Oklahoma Fish and Game Commission of California helped from it in opposing Proposition 117, which recently banned mountain lion hunting in California.

San Diego will vote Nov. 6 on a referendum asking, "Should the county continue to provide pound stations for medical research to seek cures for such diseases as heart disease, lung disease, and diabetes?" Says Mary Ann Melvin of Stop Taking Our Pets. "The loaded ballot language speaks for itself." Shifters the focus from pound stations, already banned by 54 of the 56 Calif. counties, to biomedical research.

The Reepoint, Montana, "Running of the Sheep," a speed of cattle driven, draws crowds of up to 12,000 to see exciting events of Pretzel Forte and Ullike. Sheep contests in which the sheep wear costumes and are sometimes dyed or painted. In the main event, the sheep race four blocks through the town.

Animal rescuer Todd Starick said abandoned or escaped pet box constrictors and pythons are apparently sneaking in the Everglades. The snakes thrive in dry conditions caused by damming areas, and alligators, trapped in shrinking pools, have resorted to cannibalism.

Louisiana hunters were allowed to kill 24,500 alligators this year. Florida authorized hunters to kill 2,930, while Texas sold permits for 2,100.

Both bald eagles and whooping cranes have come back from the verge of extinction since DDT was banned 20 years ago, but whooping cranes at each of their former habitats. Bald eagles, doublecrooked feathers, and 14 other shorebird predators are scarce near the Great Lakes, researchers report, because天生 breeding has persisted in lake sediments despite 20 years of clipping. The western whooping crane population is meanwhile down to just 40 (up from 550 in 1988) for unknown reasons refuse to mate.

Hoping to speed up wolf reintroduction to Yellowstone, anticonflue George Wuerl has named the Natl. Wolf Growers Assn. as a party to law suit suit opposing wolf reintroduction, and says he's raised $850,000 toward promptly breeding wolves for release in parks. "We would take a fairly dim view of this," says U.S. Fish and Wildlife spokesman Kemper McMaster. A study jointly funded by Friends of Animals, the Natl. Wildlife Federation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Natl. Park Service has reported that despite the livestock industry's anti-wolf campaign, more Montanas and Idaho residents favor wolf reintroduction than oppose it.

A three-year probe by the House Government Operations Committee has concluded that the government does a poor job of policing medical research, failing to root out misconduct and conflicts of interest.

Thirty of the 100 people who were exposed to a bovine virus vaccine because of a breach of safety protocol during an experiment on sheep at the Univ. of Pennsylvania last April have tested negative for the disease. The other 120, including 99 children, declined to be tested. The university has just opened a new animal lab featuring high safety security—so much so that the public from disease control researchers from activists who have repeatedly erected other campus animal facilities to expose abuses.

Apparently chased by sharks, a harbor seal who had been tagged by the Nova Scotia Marine Aquarium was riding a fishing boat off Massachusetts and rode with it to Virginia. The Virginia Institute of Marine Science took custody of the seal while the Natl. Marine Fisheries Service decided what to do with him.

Seeking to preserve the now-rare vulture, the Wildlife Conservation Society's Sheer Point is breeding churr vulture descended from those brought to Mexico by the Society in 1998. Cal State Dominguez Hills has set up a desert tortoise hatchery, hoping to save that species.

Socialite Patricia Rose Kluge, known for hosting transgress of up to 10,000 captive birds in a menagerie, has been named to the Univ. of Virginia board of trustees.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife has proposed adding all free-ranging American gooses to Florida's endangered species list, to protect the scarlet Florida panther from poachers who claim they thought they were killing coyotes instead.

The Wistar Institute is now testing a genetically engineered vaccine for human use against influenza. The vaccine, used in Europe for over five years, could halt the spread of rabies in the mid-Atlantic region without causing animal deaths. For this year, 35 rabbit animals have been found in Pennsylvania. The disease doesn't seem to be dying out naturally in three counties, but is still spreading elsewhere.

Rising oil prices following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait have increased political pressure to open Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to exploration drilling. The refuge is sought in exchange for largest unsold offsho in the U.S.

The Philadelphia SPCA recently rescued 19 pit bulls in Valley Forge and is now searching for the home of a 20-year-old murder suspect.

According to the product label, "A Touch of Maine" cashmeremere and cashmeremere products were a product of redwood sheep. Killing sheep or importing white products is illegal in the U.S.—but this so-called "cashmeremere" was deemed to be derived from mink oil, pressed out of the corpora of fatty micelles which were added for the fur trade. While using cashmeremere is legal, it is not legal to use it.

The lip-saver comes from Derman Mig., of Salem, Oregon. Complaint to both Fish and Wildlife and the FDA, which regional offices are listed in your phone book.

The Connecticut Humane Society board now includes Peter Spano, vice president of the American Cancer Society, which recently passed a resolution affirming support for animal-based biomedical research. The Connecticut Humane Society is known as a poor adoption rate, a high euthanasia rate, weak humane education and spay/neuter programs—and assets of over $16 million.

Bosdem, Oke., wildlife rehabilitators Dan Deuel and Mary Crumley have been bestowed by death threats, apparently from fishermen, for proposing to start a floating hospital for injured seals and sea lions.

Grande Biosciences Inc. of Houston gave away a cloned cow embryo to be implanted in a Florida bull for endangered species list, to protect the scarlet Florida panther from poachers who claim they thought they were killing coyotes instead.

Maine got the federal okay to build a new prison only after pledging to build 18 pools that will promote habitat to displaces frogs, newts, and salamanders.

Fewer than 100 of the first 65,000 visitors to the 13,000-acre Coachella Valley Preserve in southern Calif. have actually seen the endangered fringed landlarks the site was set aside to protect. The birds are noted for "swimming" beneath the desert sand.

Chief Auto Parts, of Dallas, has introduced a new automotive grade, based on the food additive propylene glycol.

Cullen McCann, 13, qualified as an Eagle Scout by scouting a crew of 50 at a recent search for the Oklahoma City Animal Shelter.

Melbourne, an English meat dealer, has filed for $200,000 for selling pork contaminated with rodent feces.

The U.S. Forest Service has ruled that the Negro lechwe is an endangered species on the new list. It was previously on the endangered M. Grand red squaw.

Medical researchers are interested in the uniquely immune powerful systems of sharks, who apparently can't be made to get cancer. Most shark species are nonetheless in rapid decline.

The ASPCA recently rescued 25 dogs from a search and rescue group who abandoned a small dog at a warehouse.

The USDA is probing the deaths of 25 purebred puppies in an overturned and unconscious van, who were aboard a United Airlines flight from Chicago to San Diego recently.

Kalamazoo College psychology students train rats to race each summer in a few of writing term papers. "Most of my students will go on to do research," says Prof. Paul Bean, who founded the rat race competition in 1987. "I want them to think of rats as more than laboratory animals on which to experiment. After working with the students they might see them in a different light."

Deming, Texas, draws tourists with summer duck races, offering $7,500 in prizes.

Displaced from their natural habitat by wetland drainage, Canada geese are declining across most of North America, but often find new habitat in suburban areas with big lawns and access to water. The USDA's Pennsylvania office has received 130 complaints about the geese this year, up from 36 in 1989 and 22 in 1988. The Pennsylvania Game Commission recently responded by trucking 3,500 Canada geese to release points in Alabama and Mississippi.

Los Angeles County wardens have relocated record numbers of small animals this year, who invaded suburbs because of drought in the surrounding areas. Over 225 tons of fish suffocated in August due to heat, drought, and resultant algae blooms at nearby Lake Elsinore.

The Animals' Agenda

November 1990

The Animals' Agenda

November 1990

The Animals' Agenda

Continued on next page
Continued from previous page
was delayed for three and a half hours when the pilot turned back to save a cat from a death in a cargo hold that contributed to mechanical failure.

Allergists at the Memorial University of Newfoundland and the Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in San Diego have reported that babies likely to experience severe allergic reactions to their mothers' dairy products, eggs, and beef during pregnancy and nursing.

Lobster prices hit a 10-year low
New England last summer. U.S. lobster consumption has been steady at about 20,000 tons a year since 1980, and per capita consumption is declining.

The New England total catch of the 10 most common groundfish species fell from 2.29 million pounds in 1983 to 1.61 million pounds last year, as the haddock took dropped 24 percent.

The Community College of Rhode Island has allowed nursing student Roseann Charon to watch the dissection of a human cadaver in lieu of dissecting a cat herself.

The Nat. Marine Fisheries Service has announced that the status of the loggerhead turtle, a species of sea turtle that feeds and migrates in the waters around the world.

The Journal of the American Medical Assn. of 8,999,999 surprised readers with a full-page poem by West Chester, Pa. Dr. Richard Donnan on the plight of birds whose raiding habits has been "clear of fast food food / the ones that eat chipmunks and other small animals while raiding homes.

El Paso, Texas, has cancelled the 10-year-old Wild West Mountain Oyster Festival, which spotlighted eating and drinking.

A letter to the editor to a Madison, Wis. Journal said an Editor's note, a state bill to protect wildlife rehabilitators from lawsuits that may file for relief of costs in the event of failure or mortality, and some comments about the lawsuit.

Five South Carolina state legislators have been indicted for taking bribes from undercover agents who solicited their support for a bill that would legalize betting on dog and horse races.

Under heavy pressure from agricultural biotechnology giants Monsanto, Kinki, Amaryllis, Cyanamid, and Upjohn, the FDA has broken with precedent to publish extensive data indicating that milk produced through use of the hormone growth hormone BST in cattle and sheep is in fact hormone in causing health effects in humans. The data normally isn't released until after an experiment has been conducted and the experiment is not considered to be questionable for use in food products.

Five train derailments since 1983 have repeatedly demoined tons of coal and other freight materials a day in the past. The Federal Railroad Administration has released a 14-page report on the train's performance on a sensitive test.

A series of studies from Quebec, Hong Kong, California, and Kansas have linked Parkinson's disease to pesticide exposure from the use of pesticides.

For their housing, however, the Nat. Institutes of Health directorship has now vacated for a year, the longest period in the 100-year history of the agency. The Bush administration is reportedly seeking a director who won't become a political liability because of his/her stance on controversial issues.

A growing number of researchers believe that food allergies may be a leading cause of asthma and other respiratory problems.

A state law that requires Nevada Las Vegas to prohibit the sale of tobacco products to minors has been challenged in court. The state attorney general has filed suit against the Nevada Tobacco Trust Fund, which was created to compensate people who have been harmed by tobacco use.

A bill that would allow the death penalty for convicted murderers in Colorado has been introduced. The bill, sponsored by Rep. Mark Schmerler, would make it a capital crime to commit murder in Colorado.

A study by the National Cancer Institute found that the risk of skin cancer from sun exposure is higher for those who use sunscreen than for those who do not.

The US FDA has approved a new drug for the treatment of acne. The drug, called Clarinex, is intended to help reduce the inflammation and redness associated with acne.

The USGA has revised its rules to allow for stroke play in the 1994 U.S. Open. The new rules, which take effect next year, will allow players to take more breaks during play.

The Wall Street Journal reported that US News & World Report has decided to stop publishing its annual college rankings. The publication has faced criticism for its methodology and for giving undue weight to SAT scores.

The FDA has approved a new drug for the treatment of breast cancer. The drug, called Herceptin, is designed to target a specific protein that is overexpressed in some breast cancer cells.

The USGS has revised its estimates of the size of the U.S. commercial fishery for 1994. The revised estimates, which were released last week, show a decrease in the size of the fishery.

The US Department of Justice has filed a lawsuit against a company that it alleges is selling hazardous materials.

The US Department of the Interior has released a report on the status of the gray wolf in the western United States. The report concludes that the gray wolf population has declined significantly in recent years.

The US Senate has passed a bill that would allow states to deny federal funding to any entity that provides abortion services.

The US House has passed a bill that would provide $10 billion in emergency funding for Hurricane Andrew relief.

The US Environmental Protection Agency has proposed a rule that would limit the amount of mercury that coal-fired power plants can emit.

The US Department of Agriculture has announced plans to increase the amount of organic food produced in the United States. The department plans to increase the amount of organic food produced by 50% over the next five years.

The US Department of Health and Human Services has released a report on the health benefits of regular physical activity.

The US Department of Transportation has proposed regulations to improve the safety of commercial vehicles.

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Knocking Fur off the Canvas

By MERRIETT CUTFON

Ungagged at a demonstration outside his store, a Buffalo furrier recently challenged protester Michael Gurwitz to a boxing match. RPG, his furrier movement is a movement against violence. Gurwitz declined. Metaphorically, however, the fur trade is taking a beating. Wearing antifur activists every reason to hope that that with continued exposure of the cruelty involved, it could soon go down for the count toward permanent elimination.

The last of the 22 fur salons that once lined New York's Upper Broadway closed on July 25. Furs by Gartenhaus, of Washington, D.C., closed two stores and declared bankruptcy, as did Becker & Becker, of Philadelphia. Rich's of Atlanta and Eut Cueny Fur Vault boutiques from its department store became fur sales fell 44 percent last year, writing off a loan to Fur Vault of $235,000 and paying $300,000 in damages just to break the contract. (Another furrier, Gittman's, will try to revive the fur business through a new division, Metropolitan of the Western North Carolina Animal Rights Coalition held a block party as John Carroll Furs went out of business in Asheville. Eut Cueny Inc., with 10 percent of U.S. retail fur sales, declared losses of $10.5 million in 1989-90, following losses of $8.8 million the year before.

American Fur Industry Inc. spokesman Sandy Byle boasted to anyone who would listen that retail sales by member firms were up from $1.8 billion three years in a row to $1.9 billion last year, and that former fur sellers were switching to leather goods. As ex-furrier Richard Meyerson explained to Fur Age Weekly, "You go from the fancy fur market into the leather garment manufacturing. For the price of one $5,000 coat, a furrier can purchase a neck full of 25 to 30 leather jackets."

Fur is unapathetic

The effect of anti-fur campaigns shows up most dramatically not in sales figures, however, but in trapping reports. Trapped fur accounted for 74 percent of U.S. fur production—and 86 percent of the trapped fur was exported. With the collapse of the European fur market, and falling demand the trapped fur at home, pelts have piled up in warehouses, while auction prices have plummeted to as little as a third of the 1986-87 level. Trappers, accordingly, have begun to stay home. Only 231,073 U.S. trappers bought licenses last winter, a 32 percent decline from two years earlier. The trappers who did go out didn't go out as often. The average reported take per trapper dropped from 50 pelts two winters ago to just 17. The total number of animals trapped for fur plunged from 17 million in 1986-87 to 3.8 million last winter, an unprecedented 77 percent decrease. The Canadian trappers killed from 3.3 million in 1987-88 to 1.5 million in 1988-89, a 55 percent decrease, with last winter's data still coming in.

For the first time ever, North American fur farmers killed as many animals as trappers, approximately 4.6 million in the U.S. and 1.5 million in Canada. But low prices insure that the balance won't last long, Fur Age Weekly recently reported that an estimated 40 percent of U.S. fur farmers are "pouting out," thereby losing their animals and quitting the business, because the cost of raising mink and fox to maturity now exceeds returns.

Fur to escape the sorcery of the beehold trap, and needing to slash prices to attract any customers at all, the North American retail fur industry is on the verge of writing off U.S. and Canadian fur production altogether. Cheaper pelts can be bought from the factory furrier fur riches of Scandinavia—where the mink breeding business is being cut by the US. so as to reduce its production by 80% of the ranchers in an effort to raise prices—and Asia, where prices are much lower. Mink farmers have apparently cut breeding by 40 percent. 150000 fur garments are being made in Asia. When imported accounts for only a third of U.S. fur garments sales in 1983, 70 percent of the world's fur garments winter were imported, as domestic fur garment manufacturing fell to a record low. Pelt and fur garment exports also slipped sharply, by nearly doubling from 1985 through 1988-1989. Mink pelt exports alone were reportedly dropped by half. Pelt and fur garment exports also dipped sharply, particularly for nearly doubling from 1985 through 1988-1989. Mink pelt exports alone were reportedly dropped by half. Pelt and fur garment exports also dipped sharply, particularly for

Vertical Integration

The North American fur industry is wobbling, a few more solid economic hits away from following the European fashion trend down the count, but victory is still far from assured. The North American fur trade also crashed during the recession of 1983 (after Vice President Richard Nixon's wife Pat popularized cloth coats during the 1982 presidential election campaign). As a result, trade, then growing again from 1983 through 1987. Between the outcry that followed Jacqueline Kennedy's public display of an out-of-style coat in the early 1960s and the end of the post-alarmism recession, the number of U.S. fur farms dropped from over 5,000, slimming eight million accounts to 279, according to the American Fur Trade, which sends studied antifur activists in the 1960s and early 1970s didn't maintain their momentum. Both times, the fur trade was allowed to regain a glamour image, reorganize, and recover.

Led by the fast-growing Jinno empire, based in

South Korea, the fur trade is today moving toward the economic structure of agribusiness, called "vertical integration," in which individual entrepreneurs are replaced or absorbed by a corporate structure that controls every stage of both production and sales. This minimizes the risks of demand for ups and downs, while maximizing profits by cutting out competition. While the traditional structure of the fur trade, like the traditional structure of agriculture, has formed a pyramid, with the greatest number of workers receiving the smallest amount of money. Trappers, 47 percent of the North American fur workforce on average over the past decade, have been paid only six percent of profits. Fur farmers, seven percent of the workforce, get 10 percent. Garment makers, wholesalers, and retailers, 23 percent of the workforce, keep 67 percent. Foreign garment makers keep most of the 17 percent balance.

Six percent of doubling returns obviously isn't enough to keep hundreds of thousands of trappers on the job, nor is 10 percent enough to underwrite fur farming in North America, where labor costs are high. If that 16 percent of the fur industry's operating budget is pooled and spent in concentrated sums in Asia, however, where both labor and political favors are cheap, it can buy not only all the fur the retail sector can sell, but also freedom from import duties, laws, labor codes, unionization, and other factors tending to cut into profits.

Meanwhile, the produced right where the garments are made, transportation costs are reduced (averaging 10 percent of the total cost of a typical garment). British furriers, and garment makers are owned by the retailers, the producers are assured of a market, while the retailers have an assured supply of garments. In short, it used to be.

Then, when the cost of producing a fur garment is reduced, retailers can pass the savings to consumers and draw more customers and undercut non-integrated retailers, without actually lowering the integrated retailer's profit margin. The two integrators take over the market—and even if it's a much smaller market, they can still turn enough profit to grow and expand.

Continued on next page

Celebrities And Fur

Mick Jagger's long-time girlfriend Jerry Hall gave up fur earlier this year when she married. Jagger disagreed with her, while a fan upset at a scolding by Paul McCartney took off her fur coat on the spot and gave it to him for use in an anti-fur protest. But in the high-profile celebrity endorsements, the fur trade can claim at least one heavyweight. Mike Tyson, who has allegedly also amused himself by tearing the heads off wolf line pigeons, recently bought $35,000 worth of mink fur to make leather jackets for his new line of Tyson's.

Also reputedly slowly getting the message, actor Christopher Reeve steered in a summer production of the play Death Takes a Holiday that doubled as a showcase for Ben Kahn fur costumes. Reeve, a purported animal rights activist, was booted from the battle over the use of animal rights, when Reeve said he wouldn't play a role in a movie where the animals were killed. Cynics might say: He told the crowd at the June 10 March for Animals that AIDS research on animals might be more important.

Gossip columnists reported that actress Loni Anderson was recently pelting with vegetables when she were a fur coat in a support group. Another actress, Victoria Principal, said she put her fur into storage after someone poured ketchup on a friend's fur coat at a Beverly Hills restaurant. The Animals' Agenda November 1990

The Animals' Agenda November 1990

The Animals' Agenda November 1990
Trapping Outrages

Animal Rights Advocates of South Dakota were frustrated recently when they couldn't find a way to bring charges against one Marcus Joachim of Milbank, S.D., who early this summer had skinned the skinned corpses of an estimated 300 cats piled like cordwood in the vicinity of a large boat he built on dry land to attract tourists to his ship.

Joachim said he paid $2 apiece to trappers for the cats, which were caught by accident. He apparently ran advertisements seeking short-haired cats in a local newspaper. Joachim, who also makes calfkin vests to order, was quoted as saying he'd planned to make cat fur blankets, but was unable to find a market for them.

AIRASD asks that letters of protest be sent to the South Dakota Dept. of Tourism, 500 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501, to the Sioux Falls Argus Leader, P.O. Box 5034, 200 S. Minnesota Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5034, and to Joachim himself at Tannery R.R., Milbank, SD 57252.

The Humane Society of the U.S. is once again collecting non-target animal trapping case reports, to document the extent of non-target deaths and injuries. Report forms are available from Kirsten Berger, HSUS, 2100 L St. NW, Washington DC 20037.

Illustrating that state wildlife agencies are often among the worst offenders in promoting dangerous and inhumane behavior, the Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks is trying to import lynx from Canada to replenish a critically depleted population, but has refused to close the state's eight-week lynx trapping season. Both state wildlife biologist Bruce Campbell and the National Wildlife Federation biologist Pat Tucker had recommended a moratorium on lynx trapping.

Sangre de Cristo Animal Protection Inc. meanwhile discovered that New Mexico excludes agents of the federal Animal Damage Control Program from the state requirement that traps be checked at least once every 48 hours. Protest may be directed to Gov. Gary Carruthers, State Capitol Bldg., Santa Fe, NM 87503.

The Massachusetts group Citizens to End Animal Suffering and Exploitation has filed charges against Lowe's garden center Joseph Faibulli Jr. for using an illegal phosphate-based trap. Faibulli is the only licensed trapper among the 110 Massachusetts game wardens. Pulled leghold traps have been banned in Massachusetts via Superior Court injunction for approximately one year, pending hearing of a lawsuit filed by CEASE, the MSPCA, and other groups that allege the traps are covered by the state's forbidding use of any leghold trapping device.

The American Animal Hospital Association recently passed a resolution opposing the use of the steel leghold trap "on the grounds that its use is cruel and inhumane." An Animal Welfare Institute poll of 556 veterinarians showed 79.3 percent disapprove of leghold trapping.

Feather Merchants

For the present, fur is so far out of fashion that in the fall Fashion of The Times supplement to The New York Times, only three of 82 advertisers depicted fur garments. Of the 82 items noted by The Times fashion editors, none were fur. (Two were shearing, and except for football, only one was called "silk.") Still, while the critics and most of the name designers have abandoned fur recently, citing moral opposition, the anti-fur movement can't assume they won't drift back to it if the qualities of their clientele fade. Designer Isaac Mizrahi, once, has refused to do furs, while admitting he'd like to.

Meanwhile, the exodus of older, known designers has opened doors to aggressive newcomers, who for the second winter in a row are emphasizing glutinous furs and fur-lined garments—furs that don't look like fur, and thereby might escape disapproval at social gatherings. Other designers are pushing garments of silk and dyed turkey feathers, resembling fur but exploiting animals few people are likely to protest on behalf of. Sales of feather coats approached $2 million last year, about one percent of furriers' total volume.

As furriers grasp that a floor below floor trying to pull himself up by the ropes, the challenge to activists is to keep up the pressure, keeping the public aware that the fur garments are immediately visible that trapping and fur ranching are inherently cruel. Only when fur is as firmly socially unacceptable as forcing slaves to stage bareknuckle brawls will big money gradually cease trying to revive a business as bad as the slave trade andprofit-seeking, and for the past few generations even more lucrative.
IT'S A CRIME OF FASHION

Every year, over 100 million animals are brutally killed to make fur products. Most are caught in the barbaric steel-jaw-leghold trap, which ensnares its victim and inflicts unspeakable pain and suffering. The terror-stricken animals may linger hours, perhaps days, before they are finally bludgeoned, strangled or gassed to death.

"Ranched" animals provide the remainder of furs purchased. These animals, including foxes, minks, chinchillas and rabbits, are bred only to be confined for their entire lives in wire cages, barely afforded room to turn around. Thus confined, they are deprived of a natural environment and companionship, and they are finally electrocuted, gassed or poisoned to death.

A CRIME OF FASHION—U.S.A.

BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY—U.S.A.

175 West 12th Street #16-G, New York, NY 10011

MORE NO-KILL SHELTER SCANDALS

The controversial Long Island-based North Shore Animal League apparently buys purebred dogs for resale—not exactly standard practice for an animal shelter. NASA ads seeking purebreds appeared in Philadelphia newspapers last spring. An ad in a New Jersey dog dealer J. Patrick O'Neill told the Cleveland, Ohio, Plain Dealer that NASA takes at least 35 percent of the thousand or more puppies he bays in rural Ohio and Pennsylvania each year. Less a suspected of selling dogs to researchers, O'Neill cut his August buying trip short after running into protest from the network for Ohio Animal Action (and advertising in the Plain Dealer seeking people to help him counter-picket NASA). The

ANIMAL-NEWSLINE

Dissection Lab Animal Dealers Exposed

What's more gruesome than a classroom dissection lab? Where the dead animals come from. Undercover photographer George L. Slusser for Friends of Animals and PETA recently documented extensive abuse by four of the biggest dissection lab animal dealers on the east coast: Wise, Carolina Biological Supply Co., and Ward's, all of Burlington, N.C., and Noel Leach of Chio, Va.

Wise and Leach are among 4,000 USDA-licensed Class B animal dealers who sell live animals to bigger labs like CBSC and Ward's, who in turn sell them either alive or dead, as desired, to laboratories and schools.

Wise, Peta informers say, people "three to five dollars an hour to go around and collect cats or trap them."

Leach, a PETA learned, pays $5 for cats bred by his neighbors. "They're not his only source. "Information obtained by FoA investigators," the FoA report said, "raises the possibility that Leach is obtaining illegally animals from the county pound, which is run by Wallace Carter, Leach's veterinarians of record."

Suspecting the county dog warden might be functioning as a bureau—giving pets a free ride on cruel and stealable animals and transferring them to Leach via Carter—the FoA traced dogs from Carter's facility to their deaths at Leach's, FoA found "Leach is killing hundreds of animals in a cannibalistic chamber on his property, and apparently also be getting some dogs to death. Animals scheduled for resale are confined in metal and wooden cages. The temperatuers usually ranging between 100 degrees and are fed only water and three-day-old bread."

PETA followed a truckload of cats from Wise to CBSC, "packed tightly together in crates that violate Animal Welfare Act transportation standards."

At CBSC the cats were consolidated even more tightly, then gassed, still inside the crates. Despite the five-minute gassing, PETA reported, many cats were still alive until their blood was replaced with formaldehyde preparatory to shipping to schools.

FoA investigator noticed observed similar treatment of dogs, rats, rabbits, and crayfish, marked by extreme abuse of individual animals who died hard, struggling with the workers. PETA videotaped comparable conditions at Ward's.

The FoA PETA probes gave renewed moral energy to the growing number of classroom conscientious objectors to dissection. While many schools now allow alternatives, and court decisions in several states have affirmed the right of refusal to dissection on religious or ethical grounds, many others continue to penalize students who don't dissect, by lowering grades and withholding academic credit. PETA helps conscientious objectors with a pamphlet titled Alternatives In Biology.

More No-Kill Shelter Scandals

NASA, the US space agency, has been accused of using over 35 million dollars, largely raised through sweepstakes and other promotions, for "animal protection groups" in the

November 1990

The Animals' Agenda

Continued on next page
CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

world. Critics have charged for years that it fosters animal abuse by taking only healthy purebreds, giving away mediocre or ill-adapted animals to whomever adopts, and not mandating spaying or neutering for animals adopted out.

While NSAL has thus far avoided legal problems, allegations continue to fly about both Ann and Jerry Fields' no-kill shelters, and one of their major critics is Mike Banner, who claims their boardroom kendel was foreclosed Sept. 4 because the Fields' didn't pay their bills. (See "No-Kill Shelters In Trouble Again," Sept. 9, 1990.) Well-placed sources in law enforcement have confirmed that the Fields operation, now called Love & Care for the Animals Inc., after a series of name changes, is under investigation by the states of Alabama and Georgia for alleged unethical business practices, by the IRS for possible tax evasion, and by local health authorities for keeping animals in crowded, unsanitary facilities—charges for which one Fields shelter was ordered to close as far back as 1984.

According to Ruth Silverman of High Falls, N.Y., who has been soliciting funds toward saving the U.S. Capitol Service for contributing to the Fields shelters, the Fieldsites are victims of jealousy by humane organizations, including HSUS and PETA, who accept the practice of euthanasia as a last resort to control pet overcrowpulation. Panhandling Abraham Shavory, a former attorney for the Fieldsites, Silverman further stated she needed more money from the Fieldsites for keeping dogs than Ann Fields had agreed to give him, threatening to kill the dogs if she didn't get it. Banner received $43,000 in checks from theFields, but claims those for most of it bounced. Barker apparently also tried to entice Fields' fundraising strategy at one point by setting up a no-kill shelter called Love for Stray Animals in Rome, Georgia. Judges will probably be setting all the charges and countercharges for years to come.

—M.C.

Military Animal Abuse

The use of animals in military experiments has long been thought to be one of the worst examples of animal abuse in existence. Overall, there are 1,125 government military facilities using animals in research, and documentation of some of the 4,000 tests has recently been obtained through the Freedom of Information Act. Estimates based on these government documents indicate that military animal tests exceed 540,000 annually. These studies are estimated to cost the American public $110 million a year, not including the cost of studies conducted out to universities or private laboratories.

For the laboratories in which a comparison was possible, the use of cats was slightly higher than dogs, with a usage increase by a staggering 70 percent from 1987 to 1988, and it seems that the number of painful experiments is also increasing. The use of primates in painful and lethal experiments without anesthesia appears to have increased by 118 percent from 1987 to 1988.

In 1988 at the Armstrong Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory of the NASA Johnson Space Flight Center, Dayton, Ohio, 34 primates had as much as 40 percent of their blood withdrawn and were then centrifuged. A 1985 study at AAMRL implanted measuring devices into the spines of primates and then restrained them for 18 hours, vibrating machines for four days. Another study at AAMRL put primates into full-body casts, suspended them from a metal frame, and then rotated them 90 degrees every 30 minutes for a period of 14 days, after which the animals were killed and their brains removed.

Military facilities, which are not inspected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, do not even receive the minimal supervision accorded most academic or commercial testing facilities. The result is that military animal research is supervised only by the institutions conducting the experiments. This practice conforms to government policy in which the specific branches of government are each individually charged with enforcing the federal Animal Welfare Act. Evaluation of AAMRL post-mortem examination documents by veterinary experts elicited concern about serious inadequacies. Stated Dr. Bernard F. Feldman, professor of pathology at the William Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, "These findings indicate that animal abuse, poor experimental technique, and improperly inadequate medical practices." Similar concerns about inadequate husbandry have been raised after examining documentation from the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute in Bethesda, Maryland.

Rep. Charles Wilson of Texas has requested a Federal Accounting Office investigation into the conduct of the military, and Rep. John Kasich of Ohio has requested Congressional oversight hearings. At least one key member of Congressional Armed Services Committee may insist that hearings actually take place. Human organizations recommend that comments be directed to the Senate's Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), John W. Warner, Edward Kennedy, Jeff Bingaman, Melvin B. Ponder and Albert Gore, Jr. Key members of the House committee are Reps. Representatives Les Aspin (D-Wis.), William L. Dickinson, Ronald V. Dellums, John R. Kasich, Charles E. Bennett, James A. Scheuer, and Robert K. Dornan.

Poll Backing Hunting Was Bogus

The National Shooting Sports Foundation recently proudly informed press and public of the results of a poll conducted from the Gallup Organization: 90 percent of the 1,000 people polled supported hunting as animal rights organizations, and 99 percent indicated they disagreed with the "positives and activities of animal defenders. This added up said, "the results are clear: hunting is not the way to protect the animal rights." Gallup Organization, "In an overall rejection of the animal rights' goals and strategies.

The results could be seen as a stunning reversal for animal rights, since last January a Gallup poll showed 64 percent of the public generally supports the cause. But there was one problem with the methodology: was flawed and the questions loaded, "Gallup said. "It was wrong to have conducted the survey this way, and I'm embarrassed and out that it was done by our organization. It would never have gotten past me."

Gallup Organization policy is to refuse jobs commisioned by advocacy groups. "People would discount this poll," Gallup fumed. "It was an administrative mistake, and it will never happen again, and we have taken steps to prevent it."

Besides the preceding, the Foundation apparently had the pollsters conduct surveys of the U.S. with the strongest pro-hunting, anti-animal rights sentiments. Interestingly, despite the build-in bias, some of the findings showed support for animal rights. A plurality of 72 percent admitted having either "a great deal" or "some" sympathy for animal rights. Besides loading the questions, the Foundation apparently had the pollsters conduct surveys of the U.S. with the strongest pro-hunting, anti-animal rights sentiments. Interestingly, despite the build-in bias, some of the findings showed support for animal rights. A plurality of 72 percent admitted having either "a great deal" or "some" sympathy for animal rights. A plurality of 72 percent admitted having either "a great deal" or "some" sympathy for animal rights. A plurality of 72 percent admitted having either "a great deal" or "some" sympathy for animal rights. A plurality of 72 percent admitted having either "a great deal" or "some" sympathy for animal rights.

—M.C.
Birdshooters, Police Attack Activists at Hegin's

Violence to animals became violence to people at the 57th annual Hegin's Labor Day pigeon shoot. While 4,800 birds were blasted as they walked or flew out of cages, and adolescent "trapper boys" tore the heads off those who fell wounded, protesters were roughed up by both shoot supporters and state police. The most dramatic demonstration of the day came early, as Hindu Prescott of the Pennsylvania Audubon Society, and Jennie Woods of the People's Animal Rights Movement, clashed between the gunners and the pigeons. The first three demonstrators held capsules of blue ink between their teeth, broke them as bystanders chanted "Shoot, shoot, shoot," and leaped death. As police dragged them off, the second group ran out and tried to rescue some of the pigeons. They were tackled by at least two police to each protester.

Reversing the norm, protest organizers claimed fewer participants than the official estimate. At one point, police dragged several dozen as 2,500 men and women marched to the gunners. At the end of the parade, reporters Karen Huber and Daryl Nerl of the Pottsville Republican said there were 300 protesters this year.

Either way, they were far outnumbered by the 2,458 shooters, a record, and 8,000 spectators, several hundred of whom loitered outside the killing field in an admixed hope of a confrontation. "People were just looking to beat someone up," said Steve Stuckey of Animal Rights Mobilization (ARM), whose predecessor, Trans-Species Unlimited, had held shoot protests since 1986.

The ugly mood had been building for weeks, stoked partly by public opinion given to shoot opponents Steve Hindle's offer to a box shot organizer in a funding alternative to killing the birds, whose deaths finance the Hegin's recreation department. C. Moon Brosius of Frackville, Pa., wrote to the Republican that "Every shooter who knocks down three pigeons in a row should be allowed to take two shots at the protester of his choice, giving the protester about a 20-yard start in the direction of their bus. Whoever gets the most protesters should get a special prize." Others printed and sold hundreds of T-shirts reading "Save A Pigeon—Shoot A Protester."

Chevy pickup came through and started bumping people," an armistice confirmed. "He was afraid of us by the time I saw it. One girl who was bopped dropped her sign in the back. The next car was a white Firebird, and it too started bumping people." Hindle stepped in front of it, thrust his buttstock toward the driver, and said, "Hey, asshole, hit me." The driver, 23-year-old Michael Stewart of Avonille, Pa., did just that, sending Hindle sprawling over the hood. As Hindle clung to the windshield wiper reservoir, he took off the road." Hindle recalled, "then threw his brakes, trying to shake me off. When he slowed or stopped, I kicked in the windshield on his side so he wouldn't be able to chase me.

Leaping out of the car, Stewart reached into his bermoda shorts. Witnesses screamed for Hindle to look out, that Stewart had a gun, but Hindle said he never saw a weapon. Outwitting Hindle by at least 50 pounds, Stewart near tackled him, hurting him across the road. "I was facing a couple or three," Hindle remembered.

"Four of them jumped on Steve," confirmed Taksel, who thought it was actually a bystander who pulled a gun. "A woman threw her body over Steve, who was really getting a beating, and then the cops rescued him." Hindle's brother Greg was also knocked down, and was arrested along with Steve and Stewart.

Videotape showed police hitting protesters without apparent provocation. Four state troopers hurled a young woman to the ground. Hegin's Township police chief Melvin Stutman yanked a bullhorn away from Bernard Uniti of the American Anti-Vegetarian Society, who said he had only asked if it was okay for him to use the, and another four troopers tackled him. One throttled him. Uniti said, until he managed to choke out the words, "I'm not resisting" his left arm was pinned beneath him until another trooper yanked it out, fracturing his shoulder in three places.

"The police had removed their badges and I.D. pins," Uniti noted. "There was no way to identify an officer." Despite this, various individuals and groups plan suits alleging wrongful injuries and civil rights violations by the Hegin's Township, the shoot organizers, and the state police, whom Stuchel described as "more like thugs, different police from any we had ever seen before."

A total of 23 protesters and four shoot supporters were arrested. Steve Hindle pleaded not guilty to disorderly conduct and criminal property damage. Greg Hindle and Uniti pleaded not guilty to disorderly conduct. Ten protesters pleaded not guilty to criminal trespass, while six, including Prescott and Woods, took guilty pleas.

Eight people, including the four shoot supporters, delayed entering pleas to disorderly conduct.

Three police officers were reportedly hurt, including one who slipped and fell while chasing demonstrators.

Stuchel said the police kept ARM from staging a repetition of last year's march and rally, and was critical of the actions of groups of citizens who were relatively new to the captive birdshooting issue. "A lot of individuals were acting on their own, making it very chaotic," she complained. "Civil disobedience does have to be done in the right context. The people who went out on the field didn't know what was best for the campaign, and their action may set us back as far as getting legislation passed," she stated. Not only the Hegin's shoot but also many others held in Pa., one of a handful of states where such shoots are still legal. An anti-birdshoot bill nearly passed last year, but was killed by the gun lobby. No bill was introduced this year, an election year, because no legislator was willing to risk sponsoring it.

Countering the criticism, many protesters argued that without Steve Hindle's boxing challenge, this year's shoot wouldn't have drawn media coverage, and several of the 23 groups who attended would have been unaware it was happening. Most pledged to return next year. As Hindle put it, "We had hundreds of protesters this year. Next year we'll have thousands. They made $15,000 from the shoot this year, but the taxpayers spent $20,000 providing police. Next year it'll cost them more, and that's how we're going to get this stopped."

—M.C.
DATING: INTERNATIONAL

"THE REPORT'S MOST DAMAGING FINDING CENTERED ON THE FATE OF THE GIANT PANDA, LONG THE WWF'S SYMBOL."

By DAVID P. GREANVILLE

was delivered last September after an 18-month investigation and has never intended for publication. Phillipson found that almost one-third of the WWF's conservation projects suffered from serious administrative, financial, and accountability flaws. But the report's most damaging finding centered on the fate of the giant panda, long the WWF's symbol, and the subject of its most widely publicized fund-raising effort. In Phillipson's opinion, the fund's attempt to save the giant panda has been an utter failure typified by the more than $1 million spent by the organization on a breeding and research station in Wolong, in the Chinese province of Szechwan, where only one papa has been born (and has since died). Since the report's appearance, senior fund officials have defended their work, insisting that the panda may indeed become extinct unless new approaches are promptly put into effect.

Once literally above suspicion of ivory poaching, and with 3.7 million members in 28 countries around the world, the WWF is by far the world's biggest and most elite-dominated of all conservation organizations. In recent years, however, the fund's policies and methods—not to mention the personal styles of many of its top officials, including Prince Philip, who is an avid hunter—have fallen increasingly open attack by more radical activists. (See "Winther the World Wildlife Fund," AA, May 89.)

Animal rights activists, in particular, have often been at loggerheads with the fund. During most of the fund's contracted campaign to save the African elephant, while organizations such as Friends of Animals and the African Wildlife Foundation lobbied energetically for a total and immediate ban on ivory commerce, the WWF abruptly dropped its support for the"controlled" ivory harvesting stance shortly before a conference on endangered species in Geneva, where a world ban on ivory trade was imposed.

In the wake of the Phillipson report WWF officials are planning a much more open and professional approach toward the management of its operations. De Hues says that henceforth WWF planners, working closely with the Chinese government, would try to reflect more accurately local knowledge of conditions in the projects the organization has in progress in more than 70 countries. In Africa, for example, he says that the report's top brass, looking beyond the narrow confines of strict animal conservation, is promising greater emphasis on rehabilitation of damaged ecosystems, the reduction of pollution and world conservation.

These are welcome changes, but it is a step backward, according to Times editorialized, that the WWF should succumb to the pressure of increased funding and the threat of an imminent television documentary exposure to force the fund's hand. Main sources: The ANIMALS AGENDA British correspondents, The London TIMES.

FRANCE: Fang Canners Boycott Tuna

"French government in search of a possible solution to the problem of the increasing devastation of tuna stocks..."

ROME: Hunting Referendum Falls

"In Italy the referendum, in effect as of yesterday, has become impossible for several months or even years."

ITALY: Hunting Referendum Falls

After a long campaign in which several parties of the left and the hunting Italian Green movement finally succeeded in putting the issue of hunting and pesticides to a vote, a national referendum, the attempt failed on account of poor voter participation. According to Italian law, a referendum is invalid if less than 50 percent of the eligible voters participate. The poor voter turnout is partly the result of a plea by many of the polls by some other than the Italian President, who apparently chose to openly back the forces of tradition.

The campaign provided a fertile soil for a practical alliance between environmentalists and animal defenders, and many activists on both sides hope that their bonds will survive this setback. In fact, although there were at times serious ideological clashes and even acrimonious denunciations between members of the coalition which included a radical referendum on the possibility of banning hunting altogether was first brought to a national vote.

Part of the explanation for this achievement may be credited to the highly creative way in which the animal/environmentalist proposed the issue to the public. Under slogans such as "All of us love animals. Two million hunters love them to death," or simply the equally mordant, "Insects tolerate poisons better and better. Humans worse and worse," they conveyed to sectors of the population the beginning of an ecological/animal awareness that may now serve as a welcoming platform for education. Some Italians were clearly grateful for the educational aspects of the campaign. In a country where both nature and hunting have long been part of the national patrimony, the anti-hunting forces' argument that hunters "are more equal than other Italians" on account of their ability to kill an animal thereby deprive another person of his or her right to peace was generally met with warm response. Similarly, many Italians were shocked upon hearing that common apples may contain up to 150 parts per million of pesticide; that grapes routinely carry up to 138; that tomatoes may contain 106; and that even breakfast juices have been found to contain up to 100 or more insect poisons. The coalition, of course, favors organic and new modes of farming. Main sources: The ANIMALS AGENDA (Milan), and THE ANIMALS AGENDA correspondents.
The Rights of Animals Constitutional Amendment

In these and other crucial assertions that exist pursuant to the greater insight and broader enlightened reason emanating from the inherent truths residing in this nation's founding document, it is not prudent and reasonable that they be incorporated into the law of our land as part of the AMERICAN ANIMAL RIGHTS ACT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT (AARA).

AARA aims to correct a fundamental flaw in our society's legal system by granting fundamental rights and protections to all animals. It acknowledges that animals, like humans, possess inherent worth and deserve recognition and protection under the law. The amendment seeks to establish a legal framework that acknowledges animal rights and ensures the welfare of all animals, workplace, consumers, and food producers, as well as all others involved in the animal rights movement.

AMERICA to the MOVILIZATION

AMERICAN DECORATION

LIFE, LIBERTY, AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.

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Elegant Dining

I noticed her in the audience during my talk: a slender woman, impeccably dressed, blond hair tied at the nap of her neck with a black velvet ribbon. Afterwards she said to me, "I hate the way farm animals are treated and I'd be willing to change my diet, but vegetarian food doesn't seem so...so...gracious".

Well, that was one I hadn't heard before. It was better than another question on amino acids, but my initial internal response was still impatience. "Grace? Give me a break. We're talking torture and death here and you want to know about grace?" But I answered her with what I then knew about most making vegan foods tasteful and elegant, and her question inspired me to learn more. It's obvious that to reach people whose lives demand the culinary skills, and who traditionally have been represented by lobster Newburg and coq au vin, "we're going to have to cede territory with something besides red beans and rice. Besides, gourmet touches can be delightful for the rest of us. One can learn to appreciate the "good life" at any time.

"Vegetarian cooking can be so wonderful if people would recognize a couple of simple things," says St. Louis chef Michael Forsberg, himself a vegetarian. "You need to start with quality ingredients. Seasonal produce, fresh spices. Then comes presentation—nice garnishes to add elegance to a plate, and using color attractively, as you would in creating a green salad or vegetable with red pepper or Italian plum tomatoes.

"Making sure that meatless meals are not less than meaty, that even our ears and fingers come to dinner along with our taste buds. Take your secret is knowing how to appeal to all the senses. The answer to that is Michael Forsberg and others can give that fifth star of pancha to meals that are ethically, nutritious, and delicious.

"Plan menus with complementary colors, flavors and textures. Visualize how the table or plate will look when the meal is served. Keep it simple. Don't overcrowd the plate. Leave two to four inches around the edges as a frame for the food. "Maintain the color of vegetables by lightly steaming or stir-frying them, but avoid overcooking. "Certain foods bespeak quality. Serving even one of them can take a meal from ordinary to upscale. Try asparagus, hearts of palm, pea pods, artichokes, raspberries, blanched and slivered almonds, or unusual salad herbs like calamansi, arugula, watercress, or red radicchio lettuce. "Go for fresh produce whenever possible. "Prosciutto can be used in a pinch, but avoid the limp and lifeless canned varieties. "Shop for the highest quality you can afford. Choose extra virgin olive oil and keep it in a dark cupboard to maintain its freshness. "Use mustard and balsamic vinegar. Get basil or garlic, either white or brown and has a nutty sweet flavor no other rice can duplicate. "If you cook with wine, use a nice table wine instead of salty cooking sherry. "The alcohol largely burns away when you use wine in cooking, but if you prefer to avoid it entirely, substitute red or white grape juice. "The sauce should recognize that supermarket spices are old and have lost flavor," says Forsberg. "They really don't add much." The alternatives: 1) Obtain fresh basil, sorrel, dill and chives. 2) When you can and use twice as much as you would for dry herbs. 3) Buy whole spices and grind them in an inexpensive electric coffee grinder just before using to release their fragrance and flavor. 4) Buy ground herbs and spices in tiny quantities from specialty shops that do a volume business. 5) Grow your own parsley, chives, etc., in your kitchen. "Don't frighten the uninitiated with too much that's "hard-core vegetarian" all at once. Inclining tofu, tempeh, millet, or wheat gluten in the meal is fine, but let most of the menu be recognizable to your guests. "Serve fresh fruits as a centerpiece and then serve it as dessert, providing each diner with a small plate and paring knife. "Allow for surprises such as food in taste (such as canaiolope and curry) and appearance: pink geranium petals dusted to black olives is a suggestion from Alexandra Stoddard's book Living in a Beautiful Life. "And flowers aren't just for centerpieces: "It's a real treat to find delicate violet blossoms in a salad. "Float a lemon slice in water glasses, or froze a seeded tangerine section or strawberry slice in every ice cube. "Put margarine on the table in a pottery crock instead of a plastic tub. Get one of those nifty Japanese bottles for soy sauce. Use an on-the-table grinder for fresh pepper and ground rock salt, or use an antique salt bowl with a tiny scoop. "Offer fragrance bouquets to yourself and your guests with bread baking onions sauteed in stovetop, or Stoddard's hot spiced cider. "Provide hot, perfumed fresh-up towels or finger bowls (warm, lemony water with a floating flower petal) after finger foods. "Choose a sunny spot indoors or out, or when you're in a hurry, and serve dinner by candlelight or firelight. "Set a small, elegant table. It doesn't take a lot of money, expensive tablelinen. "Use a pottery platter, a basket for rolls, colorful cloth napkins. "The table should be set as a tablecloth for a casual meal. "Have background music that sets the mood but doesn't take up too much conversation. "Should you serve wine with the meal, stick with white wine or rose to accompany vegetable dishes like mushroom stragranoff and red wine gin and griddle entrees featuring legumes. "Nonalcoholic wines are a perfect alternative as well, particularly the sparkling varieties that look so festive in a stemmed glass. Either way, your meal itself is a heartfelt toast. 

"To live!"

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MEDICINE: What’s Wrong With Dairy?

Most Americans, including many vegetarians, still consume large amounts of dairy products. Here are ten reasons to take dairy products off your menu.

1. Veal comes from the dairy industry. In order to maintain maximal milk production, most dairy cows are impregnated annually. The female calves become the next generation of dairy cows, and the males become veal calves. It’s pointless to boycott the veal slaughtering industry if you support the veal production industry. The dairy cows themselves don’t have such a delightful life either. And when their production falls off, they become hamburgers.

2. Iron deficiency is strongly linked to a dairy-rich diet. Cows’ milk products are very low in iron (1), so if they become a major part of a child’s diet, iron deficiency is more likely to result.

3. Epidemiologic studies of various countries show a strong correlation between the use of dairy products and the incidence of childhood osteoporosis (2). This is only a statistical association, but researchers have long suspected that an autoimmune reaction is the cause of this disease. Some speculate that the dairy protein may spark the reaction.

4. Ovarian cancer is linked to dairy products. The milk sugar lactose is broken down in the body to another sugar called galactose. In turn, galactose is broken down further by an enzyme called transgalactase.

According to a study by Dr. Daniel Cramer and his colleagues at Harvard (3), when dairy products are consumed, they may exceed the enzymes’ capacity to break down galactose, there is a buildup of galactose in the blood, which may affect a woman’s ovaries. Some women have particularly low levels of the transgalactase enzyme and when they consume dairy products on a regular basis, their risk of ovarian cancer can be triple that of other women. The problem is the milk sugar, not the milk fat, so it is not solved by using nonfat products. In fact, yogurt and cottage cheese seem to be of most concern because the bacteria used in their production increase the production of galactose from lactose.

5. Cataracts are also linked to dairy products (4). The galactose that is a breakdown product of lactose also appears to damage the lens of the eye, leading to cataracts. There are, of course, other factors that also contribute to cataracts, such as ultraviolet light.

6. Many people, particularly those of Asian and African descent, are unable to digest lactose. Disgust and gas can result. On the other hand, they may be the lucky few who have lactose intolerance may be one of nature’s ways of keeping harmful substances out of the body.

7. Milk is one of the most allergenic foods known. Respiratory problems, ear infections, allergies, and other allergic reactions can be caused by dairy products. The sad thing is that many people never know they have a dairy sensitivity; they think their products are “normal.” If they give themselves a break from dairy, they might get a very pleasant surprise. Asthmatics, in particular, should leave off dairy products to see whether their condition improves.

8. Dairy products contribute cholesterol and fat (1). Studies comparing the cardiovascular status of ovovortegetarians and vegans clearly give the edge to the latter.

9. Toxins. Animals like other

10. Dairy products do not stop osteoporosis (5). Numerous studies have shown that countries with the highest intake of dairy products have the highest incidence of osteoporosis, and that consuming large amounts of dairy products simply does not maintain bone density.

IN LAY TERMS

By Neal D. Barnard, M.D.

References:
1. Pennington DAT, Church HN. Food values of portions commonly used. (New York: Harper and Row, 1985)

November 1990

The Animals’ Agenda

51
Skywater


Both Wallace Stegner and Thomas McGuane have called Melinda Worth Popham’s Skywater a true classic.

Popham’s two human characters have lived in the Sonora Desert for 40 years, isolated from other humans but on excellent terms with their nonhuman neighbors. Halle Ryder has always felt part of “the society of living beings in her desert neighborhood.” Her husband Albert once made a living from the bounty offered for coyote, but by the time the novel opens, he sees clearly that coyotes “belonged right where they were, coyotes and stars.”

While the desert’s stars are not endangered, the coyotes are. Their most immediate danger, shared with the rest of the world, comes from pollution caused by tailings from copper mines. The Ryders have been made ill by the land and know that, despite serious drought, they must fight their neighborhood or see their nonhuman neighbors elsewhere to drink. They fear that the animals will leave the neighborhood, and that their community will not survive.

Their fears are not in vain.

Sonora, which once was a sea, and decided to travel no further.

In order to continue the research, Popham has so successfully individualized the coyotes, their deaths touch as deep as does the death of Halle Ryder. It seems right that Brand-X and his mate Chiko, pregnant with their pups, return to the Sonora after Halle’s death to share the ending of their quest with Albert.

Before her death, Halle had always been the one to talk to the animals. Now Albert finds that “his tone of voice sounded just like Halle’s as if, at her death, she had passed on to him like a legacy—her talking-to-the-critters voice.” He uses it to invite the coyotes “to come and pass the time” at Halle’s grave just as he does. The fossil fish that once marked Brand-X’s lookout is now Halle’s gravestone.

When Albert offers food and water to the surviving coyotes, Brand-X and Chiko trust him enough to accept. That night Albert’s desert sky is filled both with stars and coyote song. His wife’s spirit swims in Skywater, and Brand-X and Chiko “chew” on his head and heads high, ears forward, and spirits high,” their quest complete, full circle, await the birth of their pups.

Popham creates a community not diminished as enriched by death.

Marion W. Copeland

The Unheeded Cry: Animal Consciousness, Animal Pain and Science

by Bernard E. Rollin; Oxford University Press, 2000, 376 pages; $29.95 hardcover, $14.95 paper.

Although Bernard Rollin is not an antivivisectionist, his thorough and thought-provoking book, The Unheeded Cry, discusses the indoctrination of scientists which leads to animal abuse in experimentation.

Rollin’s book combines history, philosophy, anecdote, and fact, reflecting his credentials as both professor of philosophy at Colorado State University and professor of physiology and biophysics at the school’s College of Veterinary Medicine. As a philosopher teaching science, Rollin is in a unique position to address the scientific community. Scientists are both the subject of, and the target audience for his book.

Although Rollin is not the first to point out one of the most absurd ironies of animal research (that scientists rely on animal experiments to elucidate human physiology and behavior, yet often deny that animals suffer physical and psychological pain like humans), his persuasive arguments should go a long way toward undressing the centuries of ideological conditioning responsible for this scientific and ethical blindness.

Zoe Well is director of education for the American Anti-Vivisection Society. This review was excerpted from one published in the AAVS publication, The AV Magazine.

The Animals’ Agenda

November 1990

Adam’s Breed

by Radclyffe Hall, 1926;

Radclyffe Hall (1883-1943) is best remembered for her novel The Well of Loneliness, revealing and introspective story of the life of a lesbian in repressed England. Her novel Adam’s Breed treats animal abuse with the same honesty and sensitivity. At the time it was published in 1926, it received much critical acclaim, winning several major literary awards. But when The Well of Loneliness became the subject of a forced court case for obscenity in the history of British law, Adam’s Breed lost the attention and readership it deserved.

Radclyffe Hall had intended to title the book Food, but her publisher feared it would be assumed to be a cookbook, since it was written by a woman. Food is indeed the theme of the book.

The central character is an Italian writer, Gium-Luca. Even as a child he is aware of human cruelty to animals. At five years of age, the boy suffers great anguish...
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