

THE FUR INDUSTRY: DOWN FOR THE COUNT?

The ANIMALS' AGENDA

THE MAGAZINE OF ANIMAL RIGHTS AND ECOLOGY • NOVEMBER 1990



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The ANIMALS' AGENDA

November 1990 VOLUME X NO. 9

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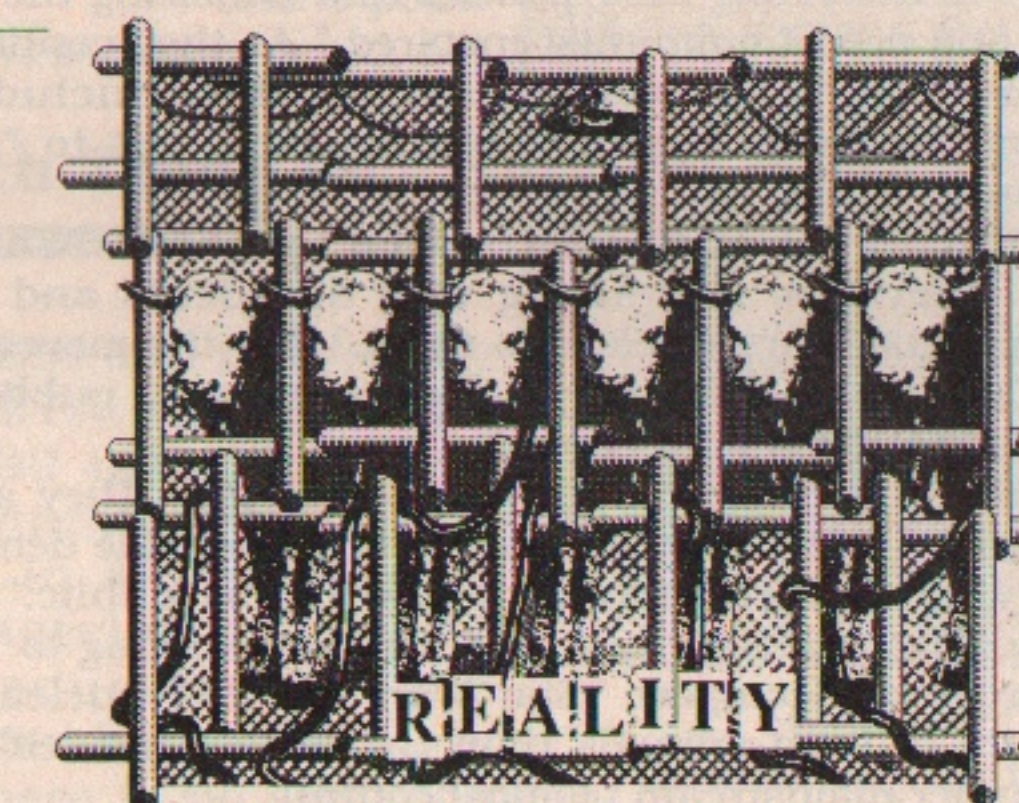
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The "Empire" Strikes Back

"When the going gets tough, the tough get going." It seems the going is getting plenty tough for the animal rights movement, and the reason is that it has been so successful. The opposition, which in years past could simply deny accusations of animal abuse, has lost much credibility, and animal rights have been placed firmly on the public agenda.

The theories of social movement analyst Bill Moyer have been discussed in these pages before, in July/August '89'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, antinuclear, and antiwar movements, Moyer developed a "Movement Action Plan" which he describes as a strategic framework outlining the eight stages of successful social movements.

Confronted by smear campaigns and intimidation lawsuits, the animal rights movement can perhaps draw wisdom from Moyer'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 opposition to their practices 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 Moyer. "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 criticizing the new movement, calling it radical, irresponsible, and even Communist-inspired." As they continue to lose ground, the powerholders start mounting their own offensive, which includes infiltration of the movement—not only for intelligence gathering purposes, but to "confuse, disrupt, and discredit the new activism."

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

Yet even at this point, the powerholders refuse to yield. They attempt to defend their policies with new rhetoric and myth, utilizing the "threat of outside demons, 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 "preempt 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 bringing the movement under mainstream political control.

"Finally," asserts Moyer, "splits begin happening within the power structure, as over time pressure from the new social and political consensus forces increasing portions of the mainstream political, economic, and social elites to switch their position, even openly oppose the policies of the central 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 basic demands of the movement.

In reflecting on Moyer's theory, it is important to remember that it was not developed with animals in mind. Moyer's first direct encounter with the animal defense movement took place in September of 1989 at an ANIMALS' AGENDA-sponsored workshop for national humane organizations. It is also critical to understand that there is no set timetable for the unfolding of Moyer's scenarios; decades may be required.

Maintaining the right perspective on a movement's victories and defeats is most difficult for those most embroiled in the struggle. Moyer's objective criteria for analyzing success/failure and his outline for charting the progress of a movement are invaluable tools for the social activist. Copies of the "Movement Action Plan" are available for \$1.00 each (with an additional \$1.00 mailing fee for each order) from the Social Movement Empowerment Project, 721 Shrader St., San Francisco, CA 94117. A new SMEP publication, "The Practical Strategist," is available for \$2.00 plus a \$1.00 mailing fee.

There's no avoiding the turbulence of the moment. There was bound to be an opposition backlash against the pro-animal movement's initial victories. Legal harassment, government persecution, character assassination—it's nothing new. We're traveling a well-trod path, one that's tough to follow but which should lead ultimately to success...if the movement responds wisely to the obstacles ahead.

—The Editor

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LETTERS

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 these days 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 head of the world's most powerful nation, our President might very easily display humanity and masculinity by publicly ceasing hunting and fishing.

—Dee Haizlip
Ottawa, IL

"Killing the Female: The Psychology of Hunting" was a good piece. I still don't know what turned my mind around and replaced my enthusiasm for killing with a sudden inexplicable compassion for the living deer. A 145-grain lead pellet made the creature dead, so limp, lying in the grass. Converted into a thing to be butchered, used, discarded, wasted. Years later I gave the high-powered rifle away to someone who still liked to hunt. The need to kill had left me. I had outgrown something that derives from the patriarchal ethos that once stood human beings in good stead when we were hunter-gatherers, but has turned dangerous in the world of today.

—Sigmund Sameth
Irvington, NJ



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 infinitely 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 globally, this planet will become like a crowded factory farm for humans.

—Sue Cipolla
West Sacramento, CA

No Such Thing as "Humane"?

I was sickened and repulsed to see a PsyETA ad in the September '90 issue for their *Humane Innovations and Alternatives in Animal Experimentation* notebook. Anyone marginally educated on the subject of animal experimentation knows that there is no such thing as "humane vivisection."

Obviously you either have not read Hans Ruesch's *Slaughter of the Innocent*, or the dollars that PsyETA 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 cannot believe that you call yourself an animal rights organization and then allow this disgrace to appear in your magazine.

—Jennifer L. Spunaugle
Richmond, CA

Psychologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals replies:

Through our publication, *Humane Innovations and Alternatives in Animal Experimentation*, PsyETA hopes to redirect current research practice involving animals in several ways:

The future of The ANIMALS' AGENDA depends on the generosity of its supporters. We are extremely grateful for the substantial assistance provided by these individuals and organizations.

Benefactors: The American Anti-Vivisection Society, The Ahimsa Foundation, The Helen V. Brach Foundation, The DTS Charitable Foundation, The William and Charlotte Parks Foundation, Victoria R. Ward.

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Thanks also to our **Sustainers**.

For information on becoming a Benefactor, Patron, Sponsor, or Sustainer, please see page 60 of this issue.

1) Recent efforts to enrich the laboratory setting can diminish animal suffering. However, ultimately, we hope to redirect research to naturalistic and semi-naturalistic settings where suffering can be more dramatically reduced. This shift in setting is not only more humane, it also enhances the scientific validity of the research, for in such natural settings animals are less stressed and express more of their natural repertoire. Recent innovations in present and forthcoming issues of *Humane Innovations* feature using pets as subjects in their own homes 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. Ideally, research should be largely observational and

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LETTERS

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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*

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publication can reduce this by promoting the use and further development of alternatives not based on such models.

I hope this response will help make PsyETA's work more credible to those readers of The ANIMALS' AGENDA who may have found it suspect or mystifying.

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

Stock: Profit or Project?

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.

—Margrie Braverman
Gloucester, MA

Continued on page 7

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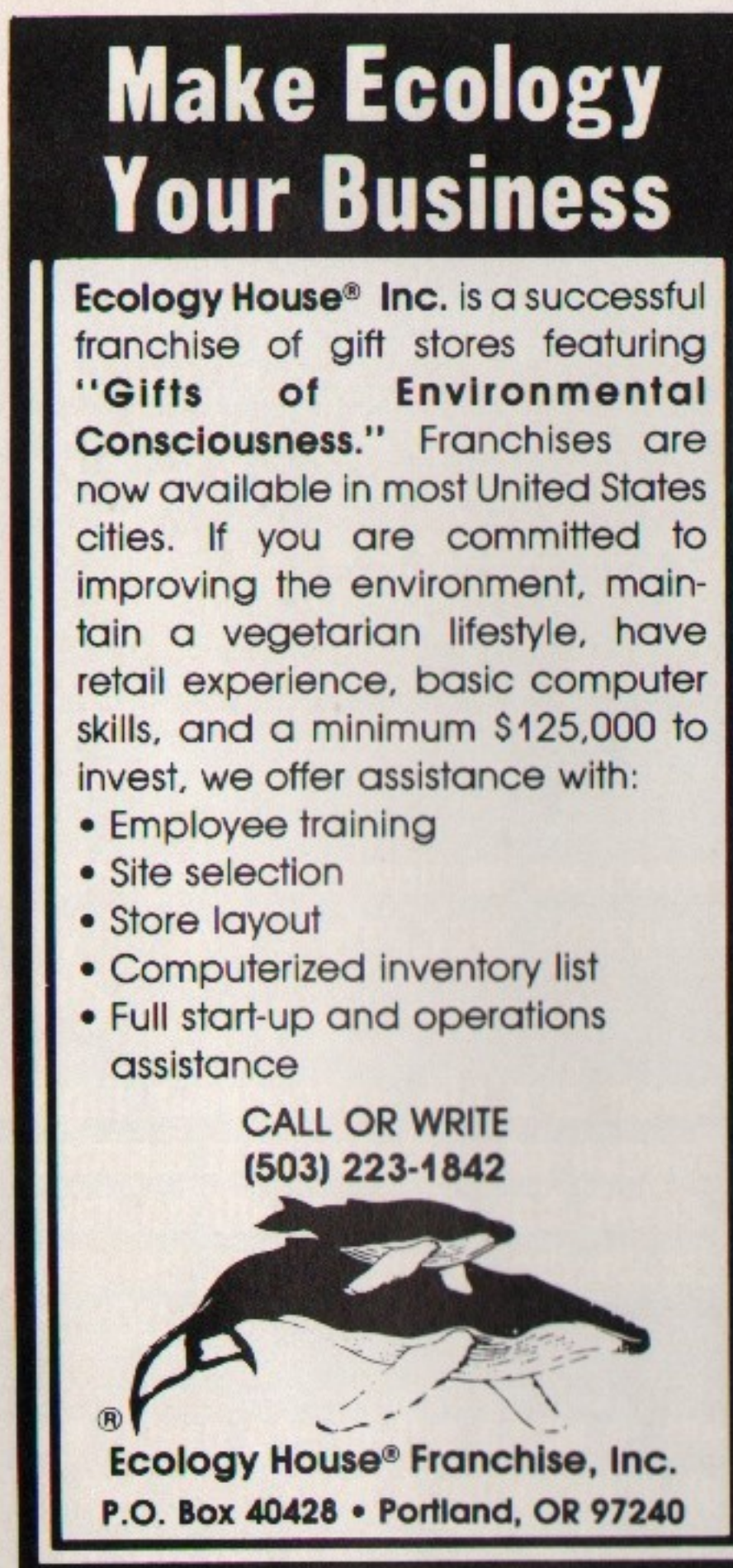


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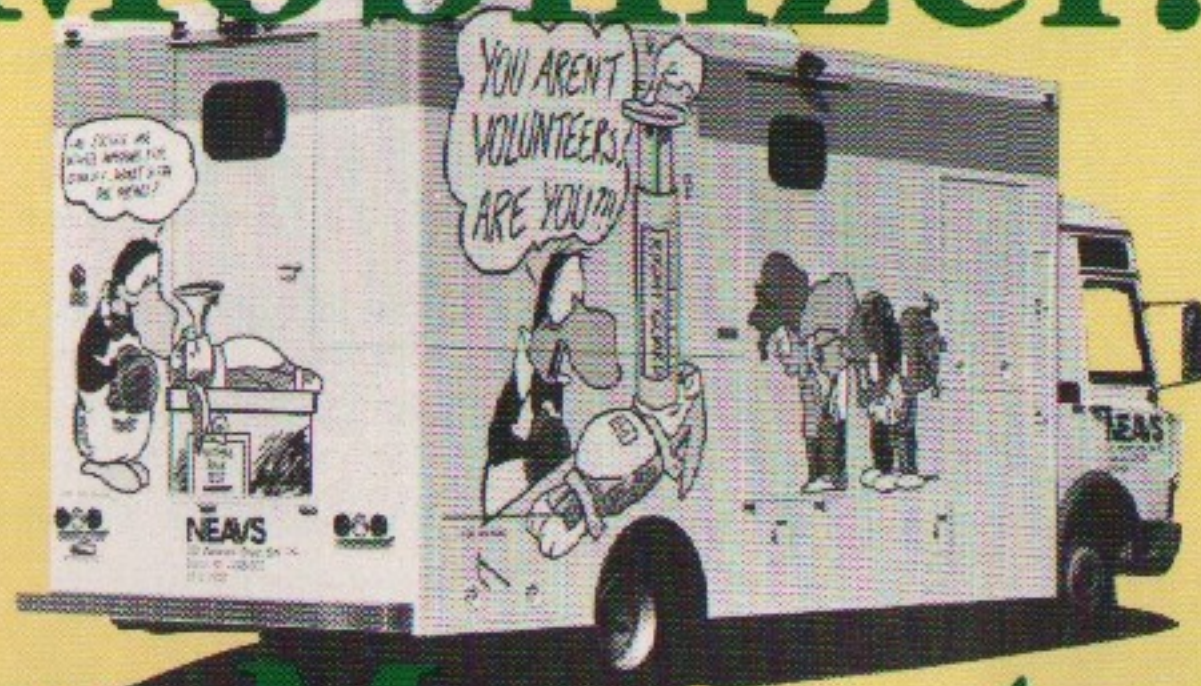


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Continued from page 4

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 sell products derived from more than one-half billion chickens every year, as well as millions of pigs and cattle, who are typically raised on "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 resubmission next year. I have written to PepsiCo president D. Wayne Calloway, 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.

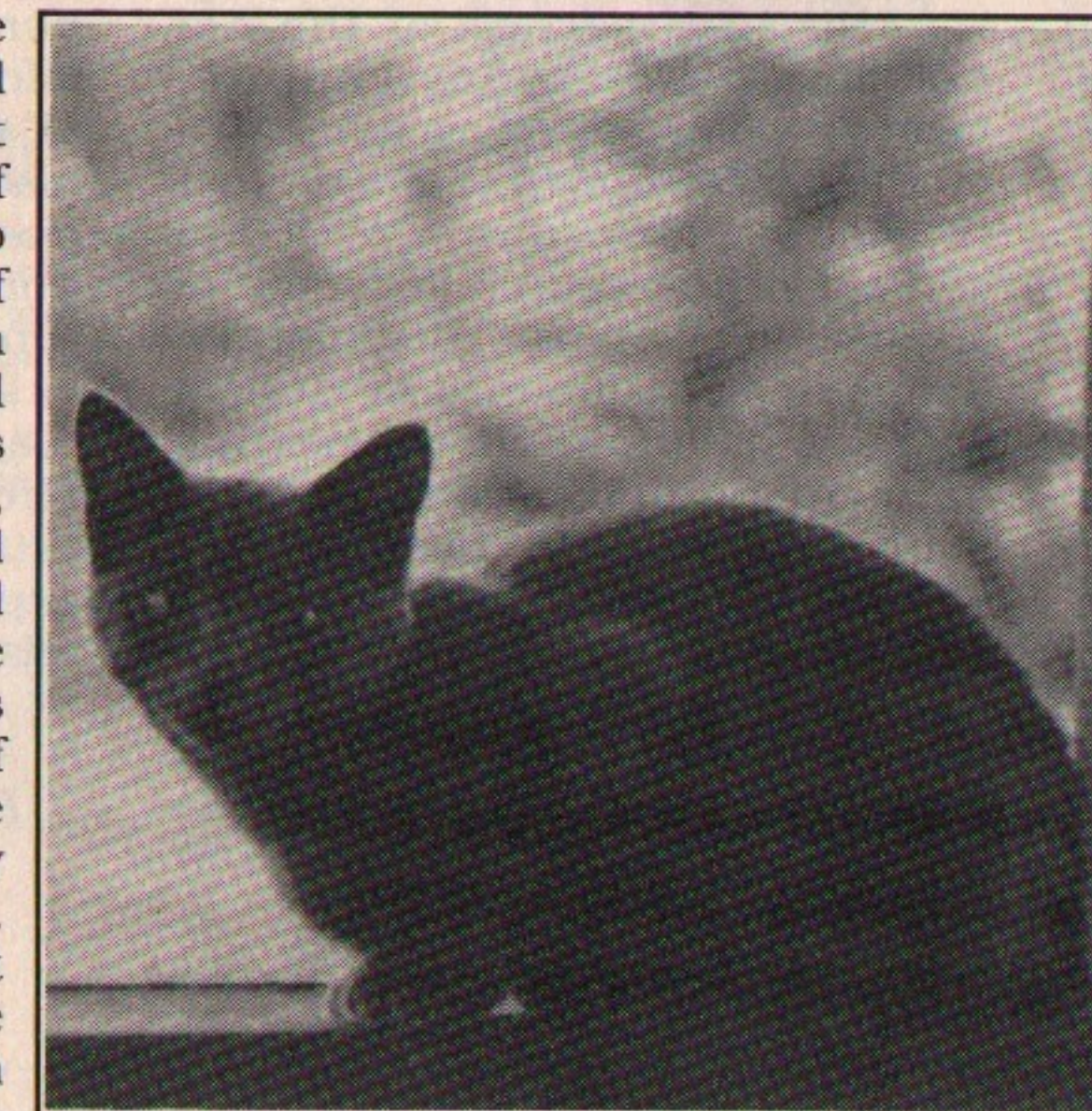
We believe that good may come from stockholder efforts such as these, which are being used by other animal rights groups. However, if we determine that our stockholder efforts have no chance for success, we will get rid of the relatively small amount of stock we have purchased.

—John F. Kullberg, Ed.D., Pres.
The American SPCA
441 East 92nd St.
NY, NY 10128

Again, The Pet Theft Act

Although I am certain that the supporters of the Pet Theft

Continued on next page



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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 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 "laundered." Moreover, the Act does not prevent animals obtained at auction from being "laundered" 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 "[n]o 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 (1990)] 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. [9 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 date 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. [9 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 \$2,500 and one year in prison. The Pet Theft Act provides for an increased *fine*—not *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
Rutgers School of Law
15 Washington St.
Newark, NJ 07102-3192

NO MATTER WHAT THE EXCUSE, ANIMAL RESEARCH IS INEXCUSABLE.



Hours of videotape footage from a major university research lab show primates being battered while their tormentors laugh at them. These cruel and useless head trauma experiments went on for 15 years until activists convinced the government to withdraw funding.

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substances, burning, battering, and surgical experiments. Only a small fraction is related to the kinds of biomedical investigation cited by animal researchers to excuse every instance of heinous experimentation.

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

I can no longer excuse the inexcusable.

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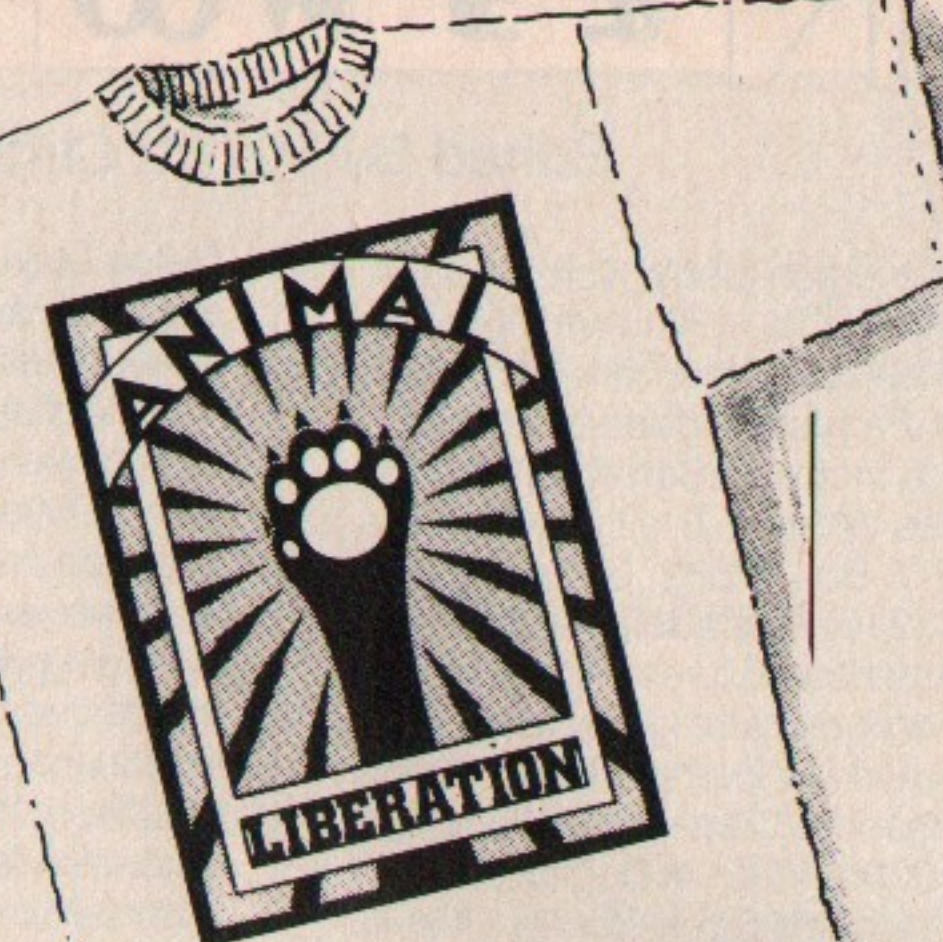
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P R O T E S T I N S T Y L E

NO MORE IVORY



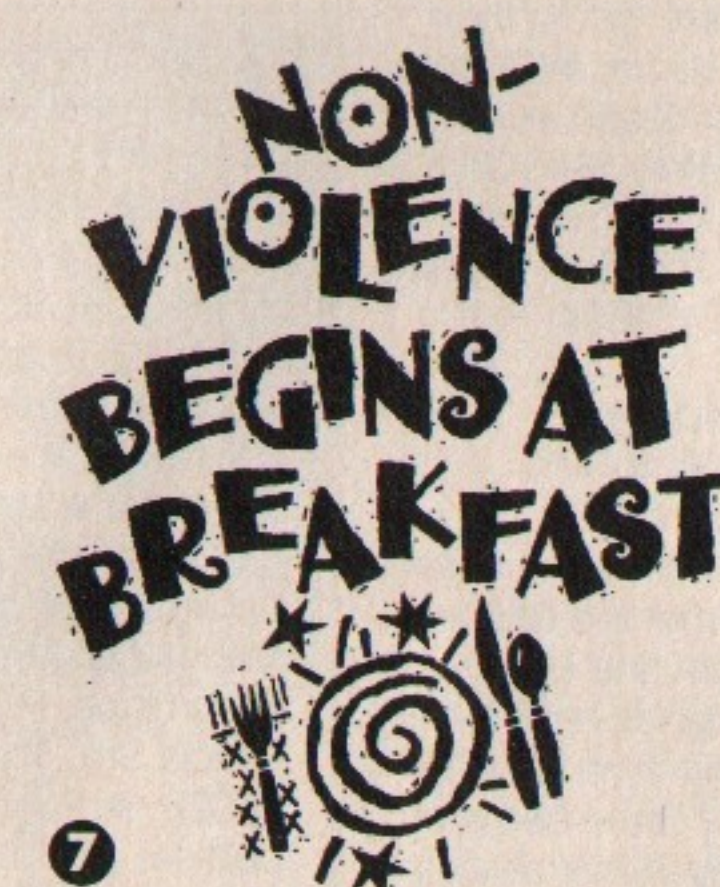
Gray, blue and black design on back of white t-shirt. On front, elephant illustration and the words, "Those who look upon the elephant, and see nothing more than a beast of burden or an object of amusement are blind to the beauty and majesty inherent in the natural world."



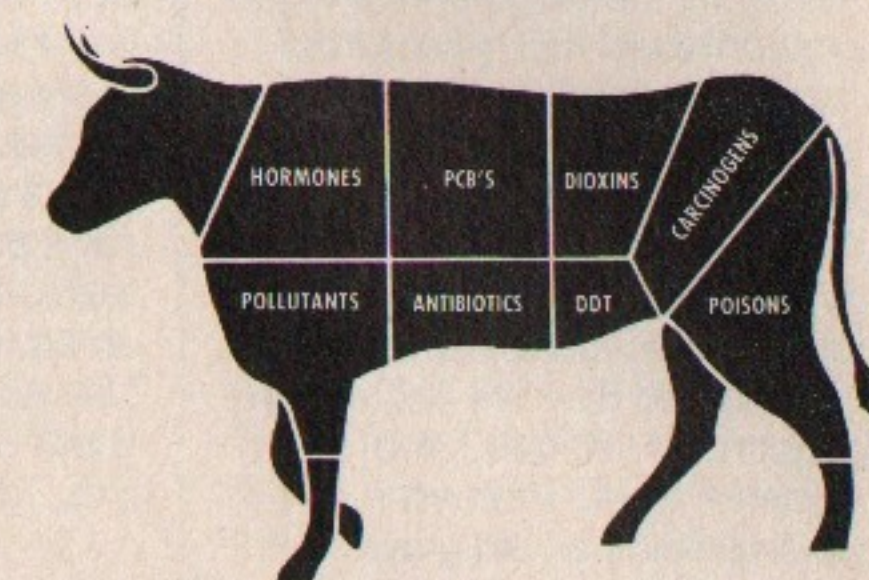
Full color illustration on front of white t-shirt. On back, "BAN DRIFT NETS."



Red and black design on back of white t-shirt. On front, fox photo and "Fur coats, symbols of human vanity and arrogance, are the end result of misery, suffering and death for millions of animals."



Pink, blue, yellow and black design on back of white t-shirt. On the front, "Eat No Meat."



Neon orange, pink and black design on back of white t-shirt. On front, "Meat Makes Me Sick."

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

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business & organizations. A percentage of profits go to animal rights & environmental organizations.

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Shipping & Handling (\$2 for first shirt, \$1 for every additional shirt)

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Edited By Merritt Clifton

Letters

Ranchers have threatened to cut U.S. Forest Service ranger Donald Oman's throat for enforcing grazing regulations in the Sawtooth Natl. Forest. Support him with letters to the Forest Service, P.O. Box 2417, Washington, DC 20013, and to your Senators and Congressional representatives. ♦ API seeks letters to the Senate, Congress, and Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan protesting a procedure by which the Bureau of Land Management bypasses Interior Board of Land Appeals review of decisions to remove wild horses from federal lands. The horses are removed to make room for grazing sheep and cattle. The General Accounting Office has charged the BLM with mis-managing the range and failing to protect culled wild horses from "inhumane treatment and commercial exploitation." ♦ API also urges letters to the Senate and Congress opposing efforts by the timber industry to override forest protection under the Endangered Species Act, and in support of H.R. 4492, the Ancient Forests Protection Act, which would halt old growth logging pending an environmental impact study.

♦ Responding to protest over a gopher hunt held by the local Lions Club in Westby, Montana, the Intl. Assn. of Lions Clubs has pledged to "officially discourage Lions Clubs from sponsoring events where a risk of injury to animals exists. This would include, but not be limited to, events where animals are hunted, killed, or otherwise injured." But the Lions stopped short of enforcing this policy with a bylaw, as requested by the Fund for Animals. Write Intl. Assn. of Lions Clubs president Bill Biggs at 11404 W. Dodge Rd., Suite 700, Omaha, NE 68154. ♦ The Jemez Action Group has called a boycott of stone-and-acid-washed clothing, much of which is made with pumice from stripmines that have claimed 20,000 acres of the Santa Fe Natl. Forest. Write to your Congressional reps, and to the biggest pumice buyer, the Levi Strauss Co., P.O. Box 7215, San Francisco, CA 94120.

♦ J.C. Penny recently stopped sale of boyswear bearing anti-hunting messages at behest

of the gun lobby. Object to J.C. Penny Co., 1301 Ave. of the Americas, New York, NY 10019. ♦ Protest inclusion of furs in the Victoria's Secret catalog to Les Wexner, Two Limited Pkwy., P.O. Box 16589, Columbus, OH 43216. Furs also appear in the American Express Travel Related Services catalog. Protest to American Express Tower, World Financial Center, New York, NY 10285-4230. ♦ Dog labs at Chicago's Cook County Hospital have reportedly been suspended, after a long letter campaign, but cat intubation labs go on, even though the hospital has set up successful alternatives. Send follow-up letters to Terence Hansen, Hospital Director, Cook County Hospital, 1835 W. Harrison, Chicago, IL 60612.

♦ Childworld Inc., of 25 Littlefield St., Avon, MA 02322, now sells live animals, adding to pet overpopulation, also increasing the risk of children acquiring animals on impulse whom they can't properly care for. ♦ Protest the use of posed dead birds in an ad reading "Every Nest Can Use A Little Sprucing Up" to Black & Decker, 701 East Joppa Rd., Towson, MD 21204.

Actions

The Elephant Alliance, Fund for Animals, and Performing Animal Welfare Society met the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus in Los Angeles recently with signs reading "The Cruellest Show On Earth." Three demonstrators who dressed as clowns were arrested in the center ring after chaining themselves to a high wire support rope when the circus hit Daly City, Calif. The Society for Texas Animal Rights leafleted all 22 Barnum and Bailey performances in Dallas.



♦ PETA and Mobilization for Animals protested numerous appearances of the Tim Rivers

Diving Mule Act again last summer. Rivers makes mules (and sometimes monkeys tied to their backs) jump 30 feet into a tank of water. Touring since the early 1960s, he's somehow escaped prosecution for cruelty. ♦ Sarasota In Defense of Animals is holding weekly protests at pet shops and clinics owned by veterinarian Dr. David Smith, who supplies cats to local hospital intubation labs. ♦ The Boston Marine Mammal Coalition rallied Sept. 8 against the transfer of a New England Aquarium dolphin to the Navy. Protest letters may be sent to John Prescott, Director, New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston, MA 02110-3309. CEASE filed suit to block the transfer on Sept. 11. ♦ The Maryland Forum for Animals' recent March for Research Accountability drew 200 people.

Offerings

Copies of a thorough anti-hunting deer management study done for CEASE at Quabbin Reservoir, Mass., are \$5.00 from P.O. Box 44-456, Somerville, MA 02144. CEASE has threatened to sue to block an attempt to open Quabbin Reservoir to hunting this fall, for the first time in over 50 years. ♦ *Last Chance On Earth*, an audio tape on wildlife habitat problems, is \$6.00 from the Humane Education Committee, P.O. Box 445, Gracie Stn., New York, NY 10028. ♦ Paw Pac, "the Calif. political action committee for animals," offers voting records of state legislators on animal issues. Write P.O. Box 2354, San Francisco, CA 94126.

♦ *C.H.A.I.N. Letter*, from the Calif. Humane Action and Information Network, covers humane law enforcement in detail. Subscriptions are \$7.00/year, c/o Sam Marsteller, Los Angeles SPCA, 5026 W. Jefferson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016. ♦ The American Assn. for Science and Public Policy has published a detailed pamphlet on food and drug law and biomedical research. Write 8033 Sunset Blvd. #550, Los Angeles, CA 90046. ♦ Videos of 1990 American Vegan Society Summerfest workshops are \$12 each. Request a list from AVS at Box H, Malaga, NJ 08328.

People

Greenpeace Hawaii vice president Dexter Cate, 47, drowned August 22 at Keauhou Bay, Hawaii, shortly after leading a flotilla of boats and surfboards in protest against geothermal drilling in the Wao Kele O Puna rainforest. Cate served prison time in Japan during the early 1980s after freeing some of several hundred dolphins whom fishermen had penned for slaughter at Iki Island. ♦ Joan Gordon has patented a ring holder for sixpacks that breaks apart as the drinks are removed, so that animals don't become stuck in the throwaways. Get details from 260 E. Chestnut St., Chicago, IL 60611. ♦ Irving Haimes, 50, a.k.a. The Button Man, was shot dead in a New York subway station Sept. 6 by an unknown assailant. A vegetarian for over 25 years, Haimes "was really one of the pioneers of the animal rights movement," according to fellow activist Connie Salamone. ♦ Dog rescuer Helga Schweikert of Springfield, Md. got \$225 in donations after *The Washington Post* ran an article about her—and was "totally inundated" with more dogs needing help.



Intense Records

♦ *Stop The Bleeding*, a pro-animal album by the Christian heavy metal rock band Tourniquet, has sold 50,000 copies. The cassette version is \$4.98 from Intense Records, P.O. Box 28450, Santa Ana, CA 92799-8450. ♦ The Wilderness Society has reassigned former Calif. and Nevada regional director Patricia Schifferle, noted for outspoken opposition to Natl. Park Service policies that harmed wildlife. Yosemite Natl. Park head Michael Finley had sought her removal. ♦ William Long, who quarterbacked Ohio State to victory in the 1968 Rose Bowl, is now lobbying for the

Ohio Legislation for Animal Welfare Coalition.

Court Calendar

CEASE has won a U.S. District Court ruling that security guards at Boston's Faneuil Hall Marketplace violated the First Amendment by arresting them in June, 1989, for urging visitors to boycott veal. CEASE also won a preliminary injunction allowing the anti-veal protests to resume. ♦ At request of the Western North Carolina Animal Rights Coalition, the American Civil Liberties Union is challenging an Asheville, N.C. ordinance that bars after-dark protests and requires protesters to seek a permit 72 hours before any event. ♦ The newly formed Natl. Foundation for Animal Law is defending 11 activists who were arrested August 25 for protesting a trophy hunt of tule elk at the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area near Fairfield, Calif. Only about 2,000 of the once-numerous elk survive. Another 18 activists were arrested at the site on August 11. The protests were coordinated by Hunt Saboteurs, P.O. Box 2981, Santa Cruz, CA 95063-2981. NFAL, organized by attorneys Dan Whaley and Larry Weiss, may be reached at 926 J St., Suite 813, Sacramento, CA 95814; 916-441-7232. ♦ Responding to a lawsuit filed by the ASPCA and Rutgers Urban Legal Clinic on behalf of student Jennifer Routh, the State Univ. of New York at Stony Brook has reversed a policy of requiring frog dissection in basic biology courses. ♦ The Fund for Animals has informed the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that it is ready to sue to block the proposed roundup of the last 30 to 50 wild Florida panthers for captive breeding. The Fund says the panthers could better be helped by saving habitat.

♦ Philadelphia activist Michael Winikoff has appealed his Municipal Court conviction for taking two rats from a Univ. of Penn. psychology lab. His trial is set for Jan. 24.

Education

Florida's Miami-Dade Community College now offers a fully accredited six-course program in Animals and Culture Studies. If enrollment is strong, says

coordinator/advisor Eric Greene, the program may be expanded into a major/minor option. Get details from Greene c/o the Environmental Center, Miami-Dade Community College, 11011 S.W. 104th St., Miami, FL 33176-3393. ♦ The Kennedy Institute of Ethics will host a course on *Ethical Issues Of Animal Experimentation* during the week of March 24-28, 1991. For info, contact Michelene Sheehy, Kennedy Inst. of Ethics, Georgetown Univ., Washington, DC 20057; 202-687-6766.

Campaigns

Animal Rights Vegetarian Outreach serves monthly meals at a local shelter for the homeless. For recipes, menus, and other info on how to set up a similar program in your area, send a dollar for postage to Sheila and Jack Faxon, P.O. Box 148, Pound Ridge, NY 10576.



♦ Animal Rights Hawaii and the Hawaii Animal Welfare Cooperative have asked the Hawaii Democratic Party to promote legislation that would bar the LD-50 toxicity test and forbid the manufacture, use, or sale of gaffs, slashers, and other cockfighting gear. As many as 10,000 cockfights a year are held in Hawaii, one of only five states where cockfighting is legal.

Group News

PETA is holding a clearance sale on t-shirts, buttons, bumper stickers, decals, and books. For info, write PETA Fiscal Office, attn. special sale, P.O. Box 42516, Washington, DC 20015. ♦ Californians for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has set up offices at P.O. Box 7072, Redlands, CA 92375-0072 (714-880-5871), and P.O. Box 13,

Morango Valley, CA 92256 (619-363-7346). ♦ Greyhound Friends Inc. promotes greyhound rescue at 167 Saddle Hill Rd., Hopkinton, MA 01748.

Coming Events

The Scientists Center for Animal Welfare is hosting a conference on "The Effect of Current Regulations on Lab Animal Welfare" Oct. 29 at the Tremont Plaza Hotel in Baltimore. For info call 301-654-6390. ♦ The Seventh Intl. Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing Symposium will be Nov. 27-29 in Baltimore. Get info from 301-955-2959. ♦ The NAVS Cruelty-Free Fair will be Nov. 17-18 at the Chicago Marriott. ♦ The Northwest Wildlife Preservation Society is hosting wildlife awareness lectures each Tuesday night through Nov. 20 at the Pacific Cinematheque Theatre, 1131 Howe St., Vancouver, B.C., Canada. ♦ Alex Pacheco and Gary Francione will address the Washtenaw Citizens for Animal Rights annual vegan banquet Nov. 30. For info, call Cody Winchester, 313-665-2480.

Dogs and Cats

Action 81 estimates as many as five million dogs vanish in the U.S. each year, of which 40 percent are stolen. ♦ The Humane Society of N.Y.'s Animal Emergency Fund spays or neuters, examines, and inoculates the pets of disadvantaged New York City schoolchildren for just \$5.00. ♦ Second Chance, a no-kill shelter and network of animal foster homes, claims to have placed 1,200 dogs and cats in 18 months. For info, write P.O. Box 1266, Norman, OK 73070.

Victories

Fort Wayne, Indiana has banned leghold trapping at request of the Indiana Fund for Animal Education. ♦ At urging of the Texas Humane Information Network, Texas has passed laws requiring exotic pets to be licensed by the state Dept. of Parks and Wildlife, which may discourage their acquisition, and requiring riding stables to be certified by the state Dept. of Health, which is to

set care and sanitation standards for the horses.

On The Screen

A five-part "Farm Week" documentary series promoting factory farming of chickens, pigs, sheep, and cattle aired recently on 3-2-1-Contact, a PBS news program for children, and is to air again Aug. 26-30, 1991. Ask PBS to acknowledge the animal suffering involved and add a humane critique of factory farming next year. 1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314. ♦ The American Humane Assn. and Dallas SPCA investigator Bobby French (who spent six weeks on the set) report animals were not abused in making the film *Problem Child*. However, AHA calls publicity for the film showing a cat in a dryer (a scene not in the film itself) "unacceptable." ♦ Viewers report that *Secret World*, from Turner Program Services, consists chiefly of "wild animals being killed by predators in situations that were ostensibly natural but clearly set up by the film makers." Protest to any station that carries it. ♦ Protest the Sept. 23 airing of *El Matador*, a documentary favorable to bullfighting, to PBS, 475 L'Enfant Plaza West, Washington, DC 20024.

Money

Many environmental and animal protection groups now offer Visa and MasterCard that pay them a percentage of what you spend—among them, American Rivers, the Environmental Defense Fund, and the Intl. Fund for Animal Welfare. But watch the interest rates. Often you can help a group more by using a card with a lower interest rate, and giving the group the amount you save. ♦ The Capstone Family of Mutual Funds now offers a Medical Research Investment Fund, which is likely to underwrite animal-based research.

CORRECTION:

The State of the Movement #3, mentioned in Sept. '90 "Offerings" is not available. The group accepts no financial contributions and the publication is out of print. Checks sent will not be cashed.



The Customized

Strap 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 hinder mating—as well as a "massive" head and "relatively narrow" loins—which make caesarian section all but inevitable when a bulldog gives birth.

Why subject a dog to such ordeals? 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 me." To breeder and buyer, the companion dog is customized merchandise.

Like ads for cars, ads for purebreds flaunt variety. "NJ's largest selection," 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 Lhasa apsos 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 afflicts 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 Doberman pinschers are overly fearful and submissive.

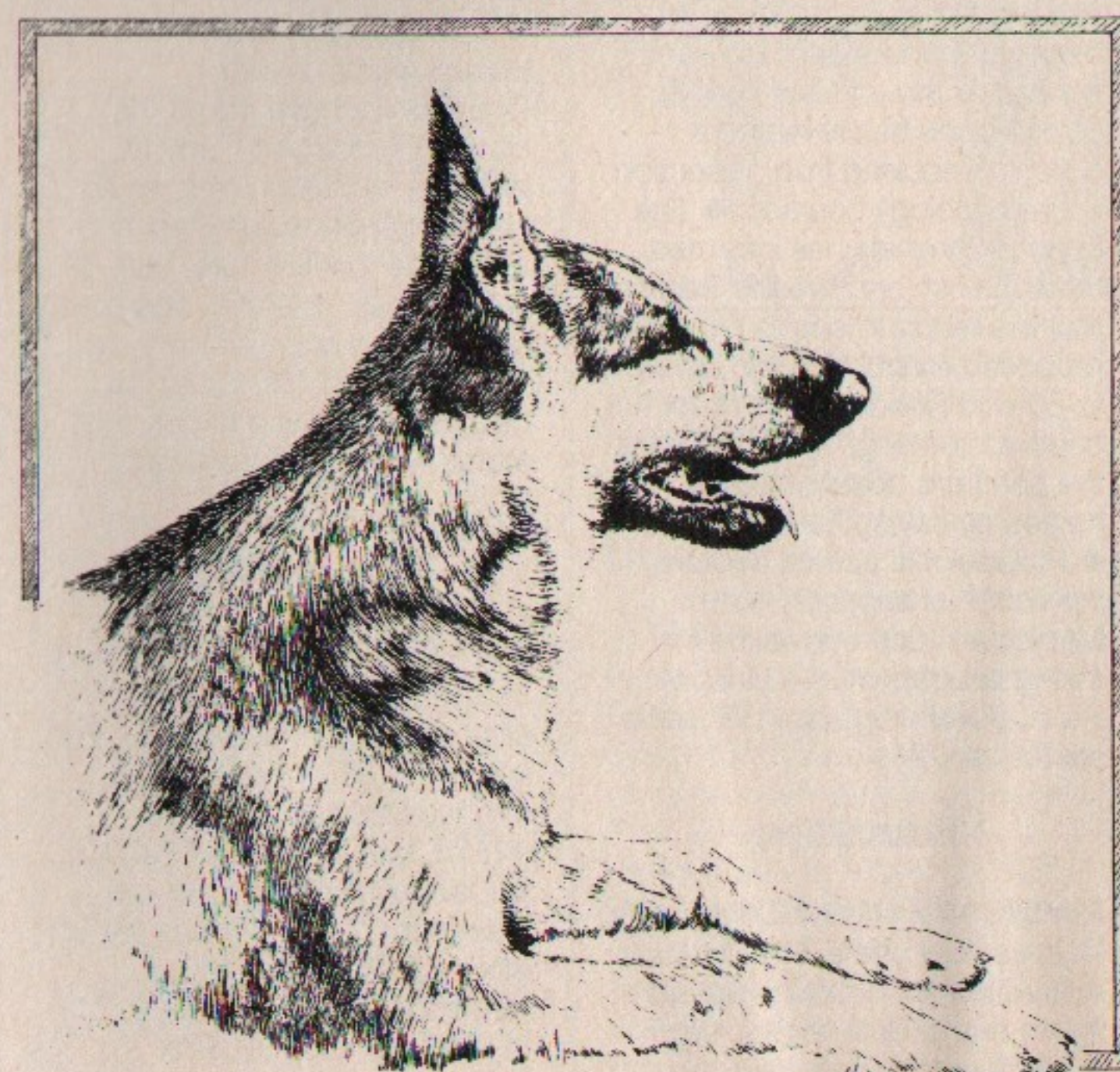
Numerous health problems directly relate to a purebred's prescribed look. Free of human manipulation, dogs tend to resemble the Australian

dingo; selectively bred, most scarcely seem 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 confer health and long life. In contrast, the artificially contrived 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 pant to cool 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 osteochondrosis. 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



Herbert M. Holmes

Companion Dog

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

becomes inflamed. The disease generally progresses to a crippling arthritis.

Another crippler, 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 actually promote hip dysplasia, by specifying precisely 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.

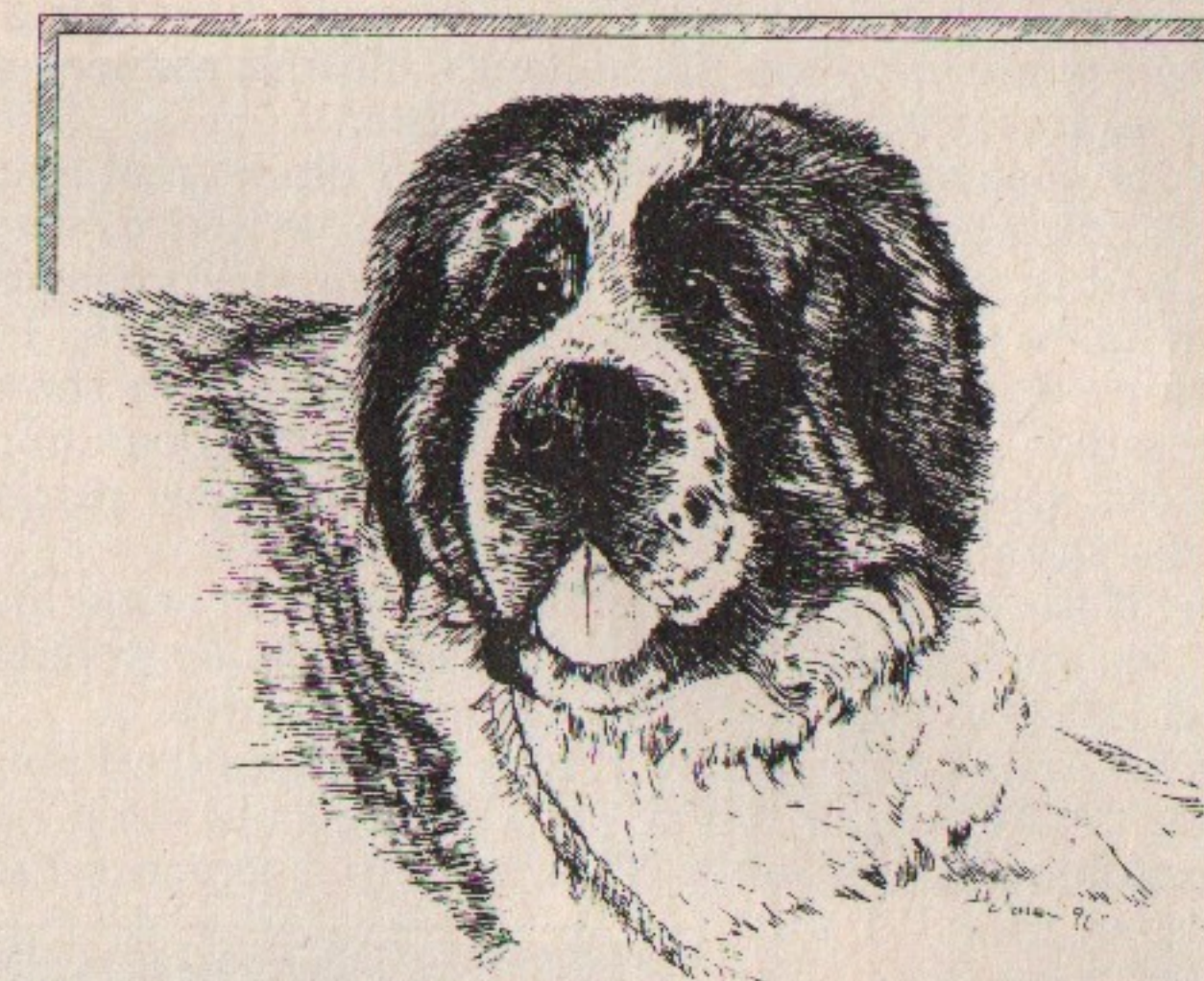
A deep chest—AKC-mandated for such breeds as the Great Dane, Doberman, and German shepherd—makes a dog vulnerable to another killer, gastric torsion. Bloating with gas, the stomach twists and the dog goes into shock. Among those dogs given emergency surgery, only half survive.

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

Even without cardiomyopathy, giant dogs have an overburdened heart, which frequently fails at an early age. Great Danes, St. Bernards, 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.

Like large dogs, small dogs bear 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



Herbert M. Holmes

a kneecap slips, the dog hobbles on three legs. Surgery may not correct the problem.

The narrowness 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 tiny dogs 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 domed shape, to accommodate this hydrocephalus. If inadequate to encase the distended brain, the skull retains gaps—a condition called molera. 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 hydrocephaly by specifying, for the Chihuahua, an "apple dome" skull, with or without molera. Hydrocephalic dogs pay 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 basset hound and dachshund—breeds that derive from the inbreeding of mutant dwarfs.

The basset hound standard calls for short and thickened forelegs. Inevitably, the legs bow, inviting chronic elbow dislocation. Similarly, the specification that the feet turn "a trifle outward" endorses a splaying that often results in lameness.

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The dachshund's truncated legs inadequately support the dog's long, straight back. Consequently, about a fifth of dachshunds suffer ruptured vertebral disks, which 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 tenuously 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 ectropion. 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 dog's—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 furrows of 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 Drs. 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-recessive pairings 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, some 5,000 mass-breeding kennels yearly churn out about half a million purebred puppies, to be sold in pet stores. In 1980-81, Robert Baker, an investigator for the Humane Society of the United States,

Sanrda & Mark Butkovsky

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, scrounging 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. It 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. 



Tony La Russa
Manager, Oakland A's

When you buy
fur, you really
strike out.



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.



THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20037



Dealing With The Media: Advice From A Journalist

By Richard Krawiec

As the animal defense movement grows, local activists are increasingly being interviewed by reporters who may still view the movement as a haven for kooks and weirdos. How can activists, most of them volunteers unused to dealing with the media, insure fair coverage for their cause?

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 the story will be covered. Begin with a local angle on your issue. To insure a serious and sympathetic article, describe one or two specific acts of cruelty that everyone can recognize as abusive. Then talk about your personal experience—what moved you to become involved in animal protection. Show the reporter you are motivated on a personal level by compassion.

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 you'll be portrayed as a bored cat lover looking to keep busy.

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 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 proper directions 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—macho men afraid of a 90-pound woman concerned with animal suffering. But it was a story never written. No one from the press was asked along.

ACTIVIST

Be vulnerable.

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

Be empathic toward humans.

People go to zoos and circuses not because they like to see animals abused, but because they're fascinated by animals. The tuna boycott was successful because meat-eating Americans had seen dolphins at aquariums or on the TV show *Flipper* and had fallen in love with them. People don't have animal organs transplanted into their family members because they hate animals, but because they love people and believe such transplants are necessary. Understand this. Claims that those who don't share your philosophy are cruel, evil, selfish people are false, and in print will make you sound bitter and petty.

Which brings me to a few suggestions on things not to do.

Don't sound like a misanthrope

Don't tell a writer you'd let your mother die rather than kill a pig to give her a new heart valve. Even if that were true, nobody's going to believe you. And if they did, they'd consider you a horribly uncaring person for letting someone you love die when you could prevent it.

Don't be self-righteous.

If you're asked why people should listen to animal activists, don't say, "Because we're right." If silly hypothetical questions are raised (i.e., If you had 50 humans in one boat and 100 rats in another, which boat would you save?), don't accuse the questioner of being biased. These silly, stupid questions may be attempts to figure out what you believe. If you won't discuss your philosophy with those who don't understand it, who will? Sidestep the hypothetical question and respond with a specific, real-life situation—for example, discuss the millions of dollars spent on

AGENDA

studies of drug addiction in animals v.s. the paucity of funding for rehabilitation and treatment programs, a case where tens of thousands of animals are being killed at cost of human lives.

Don't parrot weak arguments.

Many activists told me we distance ourselves from the animals we eat by assigning euphemistic names to the meat (i.e., pork, beef, and veal instead of pig, cow, and calf). This is not a failsafe argument. Chicken, turkey, lamb, fish, liver, kidneys, and even blood sausage are all accurately labeled in supermarkets. Further, if you look up the etymology of the word, pork is derived from the Latin *porcus*, meaning pig. Beef, also from the Latin, is a term that encompasses cow, bull, and steer, the way "citrus" refers to oranges, lemons, and limes.

Similarly, the charge that we have developed rituals that allow us to eat meat because we know it's wrong will, in print, sound silly, unless you're being interviewed by an esoteric journal and are discussing myth theory in depth. Local publications won't give this line of reasoning sufficient space to convince their readers, who are mainly people who eat meat without ever feeling the need to justify their dietary choice.

By using an argument that can be countered easily, you undermine your credibility and allow people to dismiss everything else you have to say. If you want to attack meat-eating, use humane, health, and environmental arguments. You can convincingly make the case that eating meat isn't good for animals or people, and that raising animals for meat depletes topsoil and other resources.

Don't focus on issues you can't win.

You're not going to want to hear this, but *at this point in time* you can't win a public debate on abolishing animal research. The medical establishment is mobilized to fight, and they have more money

and more doctors capable of presenting their side in a manner that will seem reasonable to the public. This is an emotional issue. One in 700 women worldwide have AIDS. In the U.S., 500,000 people die from cancer each year. People who have a loved one suffering are incapable of making a rational, philosophical decision on the use of animals in experiments, though they will probably be receptive to arguments against research cruelty and redundancy.

If you allow yourself to get sucked into a debate about abolishing animal research, all your other issues will be lost, because this subject can expand to take up all the space allotted to an article. If you try to discuss alternative methods, the writer will have to go to researchers and allow them to respond to your charges. Their explanations of why alternative methods aren't good enough can sound convincing and will take up a lot of space, thus shifting the focus from animal protection to animal researchers. If you discuss research, focus on demonstrably bad research, abusive research, unnecessary research. Have two or three examples handy of experiments that wasted time, money, and animal lives without helping anyone. And don't trot out that shopworn example about thalidomide babies. It sounds like you have just one arrow in the quiver.

Don't claim allies that might not be there.

If you claim alliances with other liberation movements, be prepared to prove it.

Don't be inconsistent.

Fair or not, animal rights activists are going to be held to a higher standard of behavior because they've come forward as public spokespersons. This means you'll look like a hypocrite if you tell a writer you won't eat clams because they might feel pain, yet sit there and smoke cigarettes, which kill 50,000 innocent people each year from secondary smoke. Dog and cat food containing meat is another problem area—be prepared to deal with it.

Beyond these suggestions, there are a few minor things you can do to improve press coverage.

Try to cultivate reporters who

will take a real interest in your issues. Read local publications regularly and identify writers who cover animal topics. Keep those writers informed of your activities.

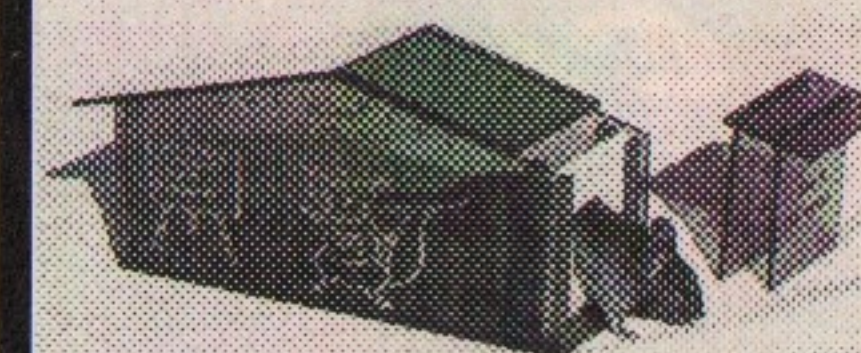
Think local. Why picket a traveling circus if there's a terrible zoo in town?

Be visible. Cook vegetarian dinners for the homeless. Do street theatre. A person dressed in a costume is inherently more interesting to the media than someone sitting at a booth. But don't overdo the tactic to the point of looking like clowns.

Most of all, be realistic. Don't expect the writer to produce a public relations release. Criticism is all right as long as it's offered because you're taken seriously. If you wish to contest a point, write a letter to the editor. Editors love to have lively debates in their letters sections about articles they've run. Virtually everyone who read the original article will read your letter, so the audience is the same size and you'll be keeping the issue alive in the public arena.

Richard Krawiec is a nationally-published freelance writer and author of the novel *Time Sharing*.

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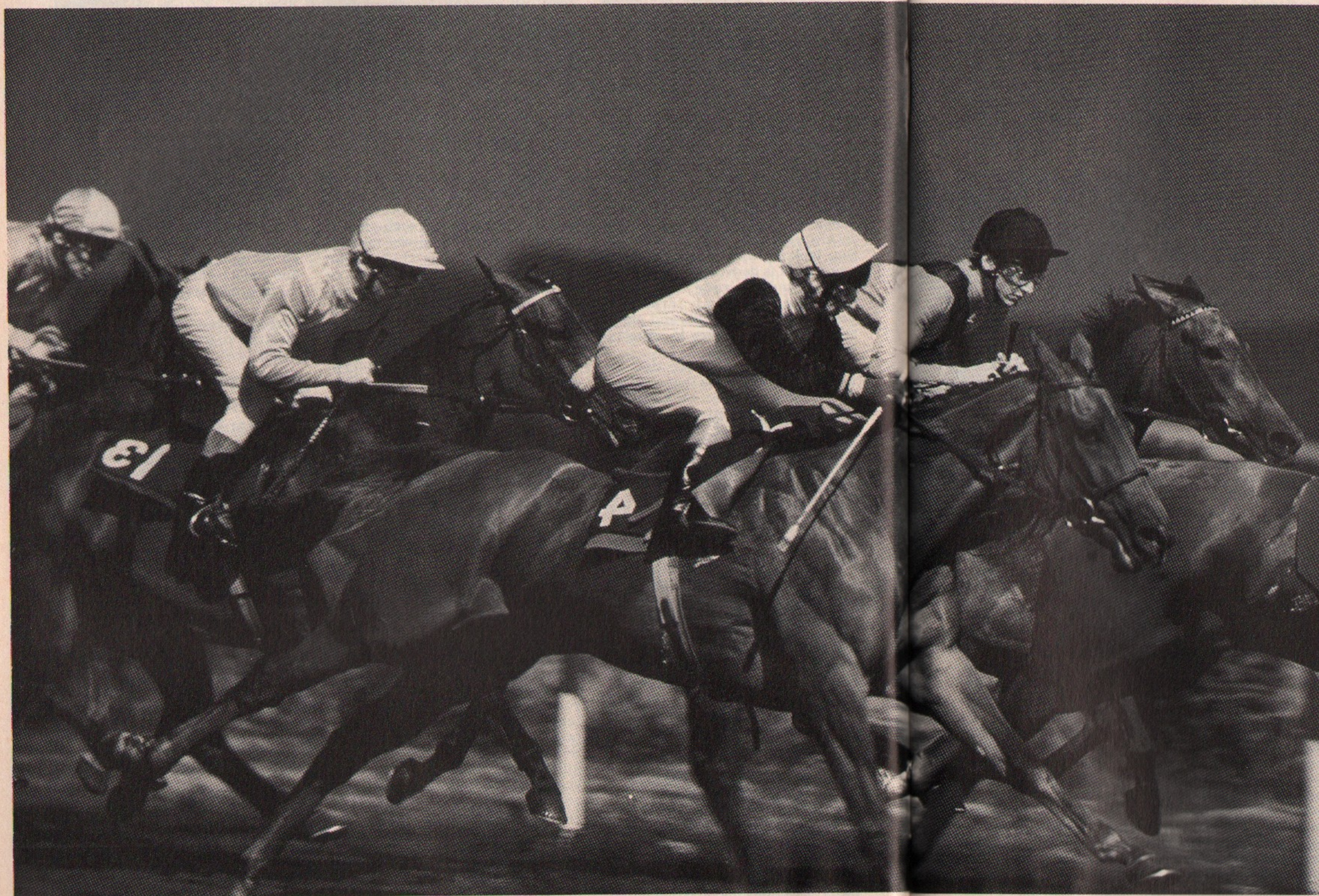
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Teach peace, be nice to mice

They Shoot Up Horses, Don't They?

BY PHIL MAGGITT



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 Sales Auction barn in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Inside the barn are local farmers, many of them Amishmen dressed in tribal black. They have gathered in search of 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 muck out the drug abusers—was amplified by the death of jockey Robert Pineda, who was killed when the horse he was riding at Pimlico—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 flimflam that racing had become.

Inspired by these developments, Donna Ewing, president of the Illinois Hooved 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 rededicated. What scared the crows in Maryland and sent them flying backwards was the threat of a boycott by Thoroughbred trainers, one of whom shouted at a

SUPER STOCK

Continued on next page

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. Sasso to the editor of Maryland Horse this year. "The brave, old horse and the gallant, little pony—their image will never leave me. The pony's skull was caved in over his left eye. The old horse was ever watchful and would put his ears back at anyone who came too close to his little friend."

"A frightful man with a pocket full of Thoroughbred papers. When asked where the papers came from, he said, 'Down the road a piece, yesterday at Timonium.' '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 1979 put the spurs to the National Association of State Racing Commissioners (NASRC), which published guidelines the following year restricting the administration of drugs whose use had been sanctioned previously. Was it a coincidence that NASRC 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 "over not being able to deal with the drug problem" in his state, called the NASRC action "little more than a public relations effort designed to forestall federal action."

The one-step-forward-two-steps-back skaters' waltz performed by state racing commissions proved him right. By the time hearings on S.1043 began in May 1982, Senator Pryor testified that most of the states that had adopted NASRC guidelines had "lapsed back into old rules, or adopted strict rules with little or no



V.J. Zabek (MSPCA)

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 favorable signs for passage in the House," reported the HSUS newsletter for spring 1983, "the Senate seems in no hurry to take substantive action on its version of the legislation." And despite the efforts of HSUS, the Illinois Hooved Animal Humane Society, and the American Horse Protection Association, it was business as usual on the racetrack.

The New Holland auction is a far cry from the auctions in Keeneland, Kentucky, and Saratoga, New York, where well-curried horses are quartered in well-tended stalls. At the Keeneland Select Sale last July, 233 yearlings sold for an average of \$352,446. At New Holland most horses go for under \$500. Some fetch as little as \$25. And the folks who come to buy can't hold a family tree to the genteel audiences at Keeneland and Saratoga. At New Holland patrons spit where they will, and the air is dense with the odors of urine, tobacco, and death. But scratch the glamor of Keeneland or Saratoga and you'll find the coarseness of New Holland, for whenever the gavel comes down, the horse is terminally dependent on the kindness of strangers.

If racing becomes an animal rights issue, those who answer the call to protest will be fighting the Four Horsemen of the Entrenched Apocalypse: trainers who advocate better racing through chemistry; veterinarians who never met a drug they wouldn't prescribe for a price; racing commissions that believe the best way to conquer temptation is to legalize it; and a tradition of hardy skull-duggery—expressed by a trainer watching a workout at Belmont one morning as "crime pays."

In August 1989 *New York Times* racing reporter Steven Crist 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 anti-inflammatory drugs like Butazolidin and diuretics 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 attack the underlying pathology that causes inflammation or swelling, bute is properly used as an adjunct to rest, not as a substitute for it. As Baker asserts in his book, there is at least 30 years' worth of medical counsel which advises that runners "should not be trained while being given anti-inflammatory drugs."

Bute "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 problem, say a hairline fracture, bute covers it up"—and

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

But what do researchers know? King Leatherbury—his real name, honest—was the top-winning trainer in the nation in 1977 and '78. Leatherbury called bute a "nice, simple, safe" drug and "a fair way of equalizing." Perhaps he meant of putting all horses equally at risk, for 98 percent of the horses who had to be destroyed on Chicago tracks between March and December 1976 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 bazaars.

Take bute from the honest man, Leatherbury threatened, "and he'll find something illegal." Besides, without bute horses "won't run as often."

But Leatherbury's won't-run-as-often theory doesn't hold up. Thirty years ago when bute was not the festering wart on the backstretch of racing that it is today, the average horse started 12 times a year. Today

Renée Stockdale



that number is eight. And if bute makes horses run more often, why did it take 42 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 common in most jurisdictions, yet trainers from California to New York are still slipping illicit drugs into the mouths, feedbags, joints, rectal passages, tendons, and veins of every kind of racehorse. In California 11 percent of a group of 1,024 urine samples collected from Thoroughbreds during a six-

month period tested positive for 21 illegal substances. In New York two of the most successful trainers in recent years, Oscar Barrera and Peter Ferriola, stole hundreds of races and millions of dollars before getting caught with their hands in the medicine chest. In New Mexico 17 trainers had their licenses revoked for a time when their horses turned up positive for buprenorphine, an eyeball-glazing painkiller in humans that functions as a go-fast in equines. Not for nothing is handicapping referred to as "doping out" a race.

Nearly 300,000 horses were slaughtered in this country for human consumption abroad during fiscal 1988, 21 percent more than in the previous year. "A large portion of those were horses off the track," claims Robin C. Lohnes, executive director of the American Horse Protection Association, which has been monitoring auctions in Front Royal and Marshall, Virginia.

"Despite the impoundment of several horses in February," one of them with a broken leg, reported the AHPA last spring, management at Front Royal "has...refused to bar sick and injured horses from the auction...[and has made] little or no effort to provide basic creature comforts, such as clean, dry stalls and food and water."

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 K. Wills, then executive director of the Michigan Humane Society, argued that no matter what the issue, animal rights advocates would most likely find veterinarians on the opposite side. That's certainly where you'll find them on the track—for two reasons.

Color the first one green. Before Illinois legalized bute and Lasix in 1973, says Bob Baker, there were only three full-time vets at Chicago harness tracks. The following year there were as many as 14.

Admittedly, vets who dispense approved drugs that have negative effects on horses are making their money legally, if not ethically, but many vets don't stop there. "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 hemorrhage—bleeding from the lungs—but would not make horses run faster. This argument convinced every major racing jurisdiction except New York to sanction the use of Lasix—even though, as Dr. Patterson points out, that use is strictly "off-label. [For] there is no scientific study that has been done to show that Lasix helps bleeders."

But because "the pro-medication forces were such a steamroller," says Beyer, "Lasix had been entrenched for a decade before the industry undertook the first serious, scientific study of its effects." And guess what? That study, commissioned by The Jockey Club 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.

The Penn study demonstrates, Beyer charges, "that assurances given to state racing commissions by horsemen and veterinarians were false. It has exposed the dishonesty, the shortsightedness, and the 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 asking vets if horses should race on Lasix "is like polling kids to see if they would like more candy.")

Another reason why Lasix is so attractive (Philadelphia newspapers often carry comments like "In from New York for the Lasix" beside a horse's name in the morning line) is the drug's ability to eliminate or to dilute to undetectable amounts any illegal substances given to a horse.

"We live off the rejects of the horse industry," says New Holland regular Francis Raineau, manager of the Amfran Packing Company in Plainfield, Connecticut.

Auction time and the livin' is easy. The abuse of drugs and the economics of racing ensure a dispiriting parade of rejects. In 1989 more than half of the 91,436

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Thoroughbreds who raced in North America earned fewer than \$3,000, which is roughly one fifth, according to conservative estimate, of what it takes to keep a horse in training for a year. In fact, a greater percentage of runners earned nothing—16 percent—than earned their keep—13 percent.

When your earning power is that limited, so is your future. Marcia King estimates that "the majority of racehorses—perhaps as many as 75 percent—end up at the slaughterhouse."

The third member of this entrenched quartet is your local racing commissioner, who generally behaves like the horseman's lackey, not like his monitor. After drug abuse spiked dramatically at Maryland tracks last year, the racing commission bravely lowered the penalties for drug infractions. Whereas trainers had previously been suspended for 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 souped-up mounts.

It will now take two drug offenses to get suspended in user-friendly Maryland, and purse money won't be confiscated until the second offense. The Catch-23, however, is that all trainers will start over now with a clean slate. What's more, this amnesty is renewable because first infractions will be expunged 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 slackening the reins on the use of bute, he "was ridiculed by track veterinarians and physically threatened by the president of the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association." Furthermore, says Baker, "it was obvious that the racing commission was fully aware of what was going on at the tracks, but they were more interested in revenues for the state."

Those revenues—much touted by the racing industry—constitute a thundering three-tenths of a percent of the budget in the average racing jurisdiction, which would fare much better if the money wagered on horses were spent on taxable consumer goods. In addition, more than 90 percent of the states that conduct racing have been snookered into settling for a smaller cut. The government's vigorish from all types of racing—Thoroughbred, Standardbred, and Quarter Horse—fell 16 percent between 1980 and '88, from \$713 to \$596 million, while purses ballooned, by 64 percent in Thoroughbred circles, from \$450 to \$737 million.

Bob Baker was new to racing-commission politics when he had his eyes opened—and was threatened with having them shut—at the Illinois hearing. But even seasoned campaigners like Marc Paulhus, director of the Southeast Regional Office of HSUS and coauthor of the Corrupt Horse Racing Practices Act, can be surprised by

the deviousness of racing commissioners.

In 1980, when many state legislatures were hustling to outrun the feds, Florida banned virtually all drugs. Two years later, when most state legislatures figured the heat was off, Florida legalized bute and Lasix. Paulhus wasn't thrilled. "But," he says, "I thought we had at least stopped the most serious problem, which is steroid use."

The state's pari-mutuel wagering division thought otherwise. It promptly issued a policy memo which allowed that "certain other substances," including steroids, could be given to horses "at any time," without fear of reprisals.

What?!? You mean the state was conspiring with itself to circumvent its own law?!?

"Absolutely," says Paulhus. "But I wasn't privy to that information. No horsemen called us to say, 'You guys have been stung.'"

The steroids in question are corticosteroids—authoritative, synthetic derivatives of cortisol, an anti-inflammatory hormone produced in the cortex of the adrenal glands. When horses are too lame to run on

bute, trainers resort to corticosteroids, often getting their vets to draw the synovial fluid out of a joint and replace it with this painkilling juice. Like bute, corticosteroids do not cure anything. Worse yet, they break down body tissues while dousing clinical signs of inflammation. Their effect on horses' legs is always debilitating—and frequently shattering.

More than 20 years ago James T. O'Connor Jr., V.M.D., warned in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* that repeated injections of steroids into a horse's joints set into motion "an endless destruc-

tructive cycle...which, if continued, will produce a steroid arthropathy that can render a horse useless." Yet by 1984, three million bucks' worth of corticosteroids—and that's the wholesale price—were being shot into horses.

The shooting continued in Florida until, in May 1989, W.V.N. Jones Jr., the new chief of the pari-mutuel wagering division, announced that corticosteroids were once again illegal. But good sport that he is, Jones added that "the division will not take disciplinary action on positive findings [until] January 1, 1990."

To date, the division still hasn't taken action. Following a visit to Calder Race Course near Miami in the company of horse doctors and other racing types in the summer of 1989, Jones announced that the ban would be postponed until after the 1990 legislative session. When horsemen failed to get the law rewritten to their satisfaction by that deadline—thanks to the work of Paulhus and HSUS—the Florida Department of Business Regulation rode to the rescue with an emergency rule. That rule began, "I hereby certify that an immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare requires emergency action." The action required? You bet. The unlimited administration of corticosteroids

at Florida racetracks.

"We're challenging the emergency rule," says Paulhus, "and I think we're going to win easily because it's in conflict with an existing law." What goes around the track comes back around, however, and it's even money that the backstretch boys will take more racing officials and legislators out behind the barn in time for the 1991 session. After all, Wilbur Brewton, a racing

lobbyist, has admitted that 70 percent of the runners in Florida wouldn't be running if corticosteroids were banned.

More than 17,000 horses were sold at the New Holland auction last year. Chances are, only one in five is still living today.

"You have so many that no one wants, and this is the outcome," observes George Kelley, an investigator for the Humane League of Lancaster County. "It's a pity, but it's inevitable."

Especially when horsemen demand permissive medication rules, "so they can get as much as possible out of an animal before it dies," one lab analyst contends. "If it breaks a leg, they can weigh it by the pound."

A four-year-old Thoroughbred mare was bought for \$450 by a killer at New Holland earlier this year. By that standard, horses off the track are worth about 45 cents a pound.

Some horses don't make it off the track. HSUS estimates that more than 3,000 racehorses break down and have to be destroyed each year. That's five horses a day.

Thus, some killers conduct business right on the backstretch. Like the Grim Reaper's coach, their vans sit by the wayside.

"The racing industry is a very hard nut to crack," says Robin Lohnes. "It's monied and steeped in tradition."

The evidence presented by Bill Surface, author of a book called *The Track: A Day in the Life of Belmont Park*, indicates that in racing, tradition is more tawdry than tweedy. Early in this century, Surface writes, before tests had been developed to detect the use of narcotics, trainers hopped their horses with whiskey, capsules stuffed with heroin, cocaine, and nitrate of glycerin, or by applying red pepper and ginger beneath a horse's tail to get his butt moving in a race.

In 1933, more than a hundred owners, trainers, veterinarians, and grooms were convicted for possession of heroin, morphine, or cocaine. Within a year the New York State Racing Commission adopted the British and French methods of testing the urine and saliva of winning horses. "Many other states which gradually adopted this practice," writes Surface, "placed greater emphasis on avoiding scandals than detecting drugs—and tested only some of the saliva and seldom the urine."

Alamo Downs in Texas lowered the odds on detecting drugs by putting a novel set of blinders on the testing process. Every trainer with a horse entered in a race shook one wooden ball out of a paper bag containing



three such orbs—two marked no, the other yes. Horses trained by the guys who rolled a yes got a saliva test—no matter whose horse won the race. So if you wanted to hop your horse, you had two chances out of three of getting away with it.

The odds of evading justice are as good or better today. Even though all racetracks test every winning horse, and many also test beaten favorites and a

few random picks, too, "there are at least ten drugs in every jurisdiction for which there are no tests," says Edward S. Bonnie, a well-known racing attorney.

Not only do trainers cling to potions and needles, they resist new technology designed to help identify and prevent lameness. "Most horsemen are experience, eyeball, and intuition men," says Jeff Seder, founder and president of the equine division of the Association for the Advancement of Sports Potential—a high-tech, sports-medicine, research organization in Unionville, Pennsylvania.

In the mid-'70s AASP sponsored the research that led to the development of diagnostic ultrasound, the first noninvasive technique devised for gauging bone strength.

Developed by Dr. George W. Pratt Jr., professor of electrical engineering and computer science at MIT, non-invasive bone scanning measures the time it takes a high-frequency sound wave to travel through bone. The stronger the bone, the faster the sound travels. When the sound slows down, there's a good chance the horse will soon slow down, too, most likely from a stress fracture.

Billy Turner, trainer of Triple Crown winner Seattle Slew, took part in ultrasound experiments for three years. He praised ultrasound for its ability to "predict beyond a question of a doubt when a horse will buck shins." Trainer Robert Donato maintains that with ultrasound "you're ahead of the game." But the majority opinion on the racetrack was expressed by the trainer who dismissed ultrasound as "some machine that tells you too much about a horse."

"Ultrasound definitely tells you what you don't want to know," agrees Turner. What's more, he told *The Horsemen's Journal*, "Don't look for ultrasound to be welcomed in racing circles. If they tested bone quality on every two-year-old before they raced, too many horses would have to be scratched. The majority of trainers don't want to hear about it. They're going to race anyway."

Two-year-old racing is another hurtful tradition perpetuated in the Sport of Kings. "Horses' bones are not fully mature until they're four or five years old," says Paulhus. "Their growth plates are cartilaginous until horses reach sexual maturity, which for Thoroughbreds is generally about the time they're hopelessly crippled."

Summarizing the results of a study involving more than 70,000 horses, George Maylin, D.V.M., Ph.D., director of the New York State Racing and Wagering Board's Equine Drug Testing and Research Program at

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Cornell University, reported that "two-year-olds fracture far more often than three-year-olds. The older the horse, the better his chance of survival. Outlawing the racing of young horses would significantly reduce fractures and breakdowns in a race."

So would racing on turf (or grass) instead of dirt. In a study of injuries occurring on three New York state tracks—Belmont, Aqueduct, and Saratoga—from January 1983 through mid-October 1985, Dr. Maylin and his associate Lennart Krook, D.V.M., Ph.D., found that horses were more than seven times as likely to sustain an injury on a dirt track than on a turf course. Horses in Europe, where racing might still be considered a sport, run on grass. And their tradition is older than ours.


After finishing second on Summer Squall in this year's Kentucky Derby, jockey Pat Day said that his horse was bothered by the wall of noise coming from the stands that greets the runners when they reach the top of the stretch at Churchill Downs. No one who has ever seen a horse race can deny that this, indeed, is racing's finest moment: glistening, courageous runners, a study in the

power and aesthetics of the sport, legs jack-hammering the dirt, then reaching forward like banners rippling in the wind.

There's a wall of noise that envelops horses leaving the New Holland auction for the slaughterhouse. The sound of terror and confusion. Horses driven by gruff shouts, sullen curses, and electric prods into overcrowded trailers, where bones can be hideously fractured, skin can be ripped apart, and food and water are denied so there is less chance that a horse will slip in the accumulating waste and be trampled. A study devoid of any human value, so thoroughly hellish that some horses die of stress before reaching the slaughterhouse.

Soon the gross and hateful truck with its tender cargo will be gone. "They don't lead those horses onto the slaughter trucks," one humane society observer. "They herd them like pigs and cattle, and no horse is used to that."

Another helpless bystander replies, "At least don't you owe them a dignified death instead of seeing them jerked around by strangers?"

We owe them more than that. We owe them a dignified life as well. 

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. Debi DeTurk, assistant vice president of Rhulen 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 slumping 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 started because these people wanted 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.

Rising prices lured speculators, who in turn, produced an upward spiral: high prices, more investors; more investors, higher prices. But there were slumps during the late 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 rash of horse killings resulted.

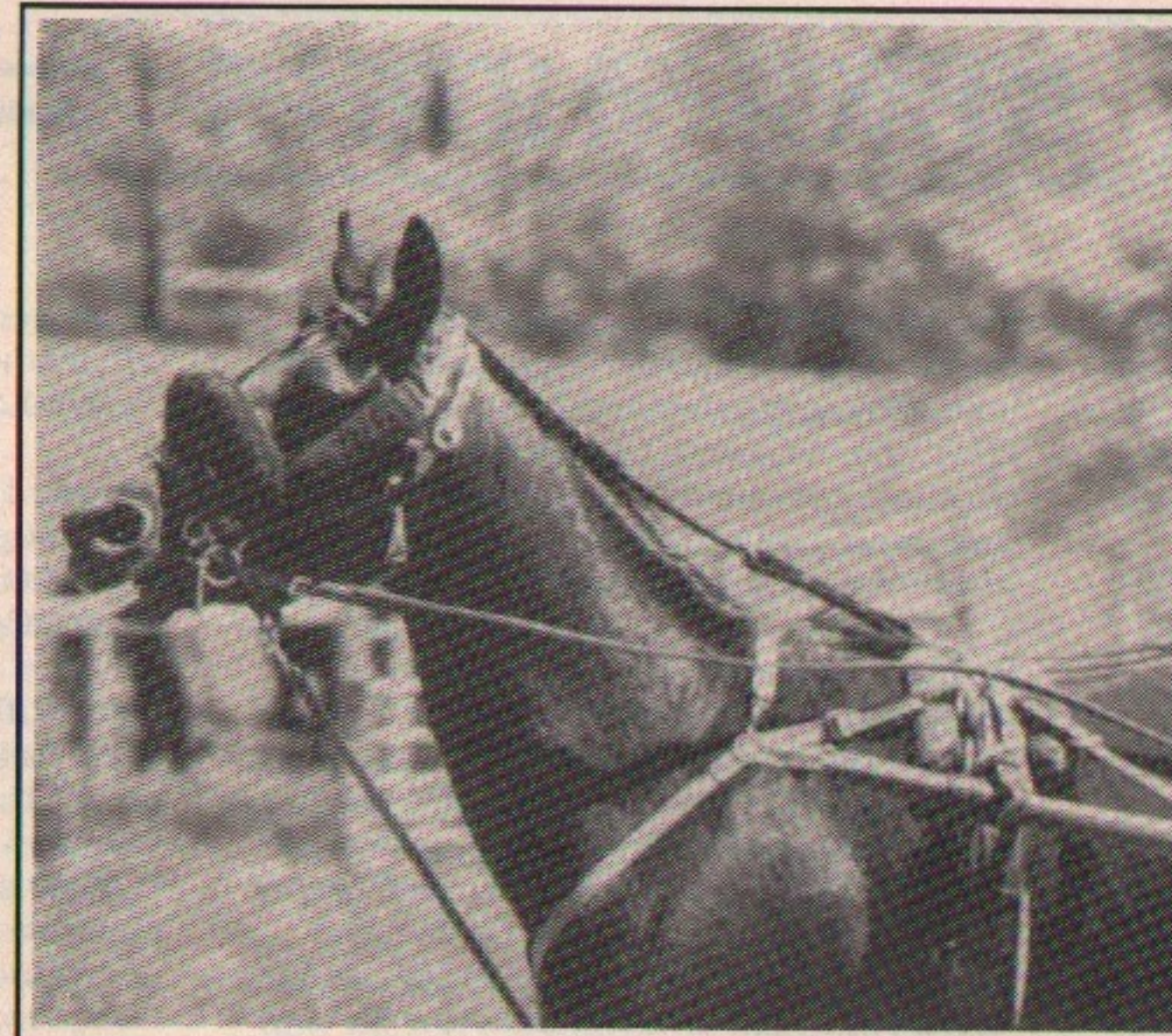
Many others had acquired horses as a tax shelter. When the tax laws tightened in 1989, horse values again plummeted. Again the only way many small investors could recover their investment was to collect their insurance. Again horse killings are up.

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 hyperseizure, 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."

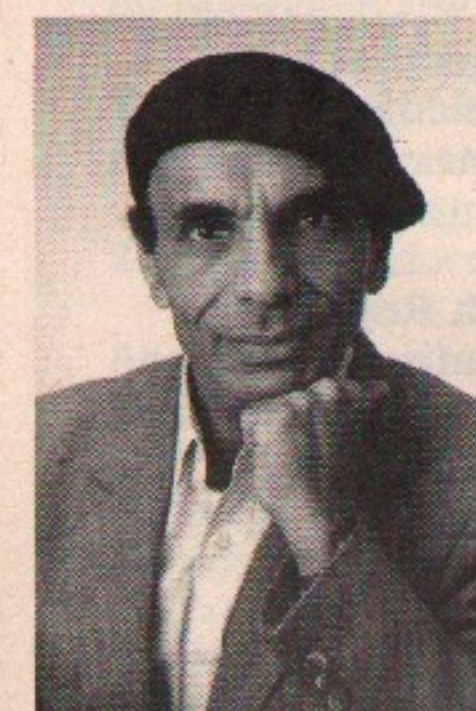
As Arkansas quarter horse trainer also discovered how easy it was, as part of a nine-man conspiracy that murdered 19 horses and bilked five insurance companies out of \$897,250. The trainer would buy a horse and "sell" it to an accomplice at a grossly inflated value—on paper only, since money was rarely 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



Renee Stockdale

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 killers think they're 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. 



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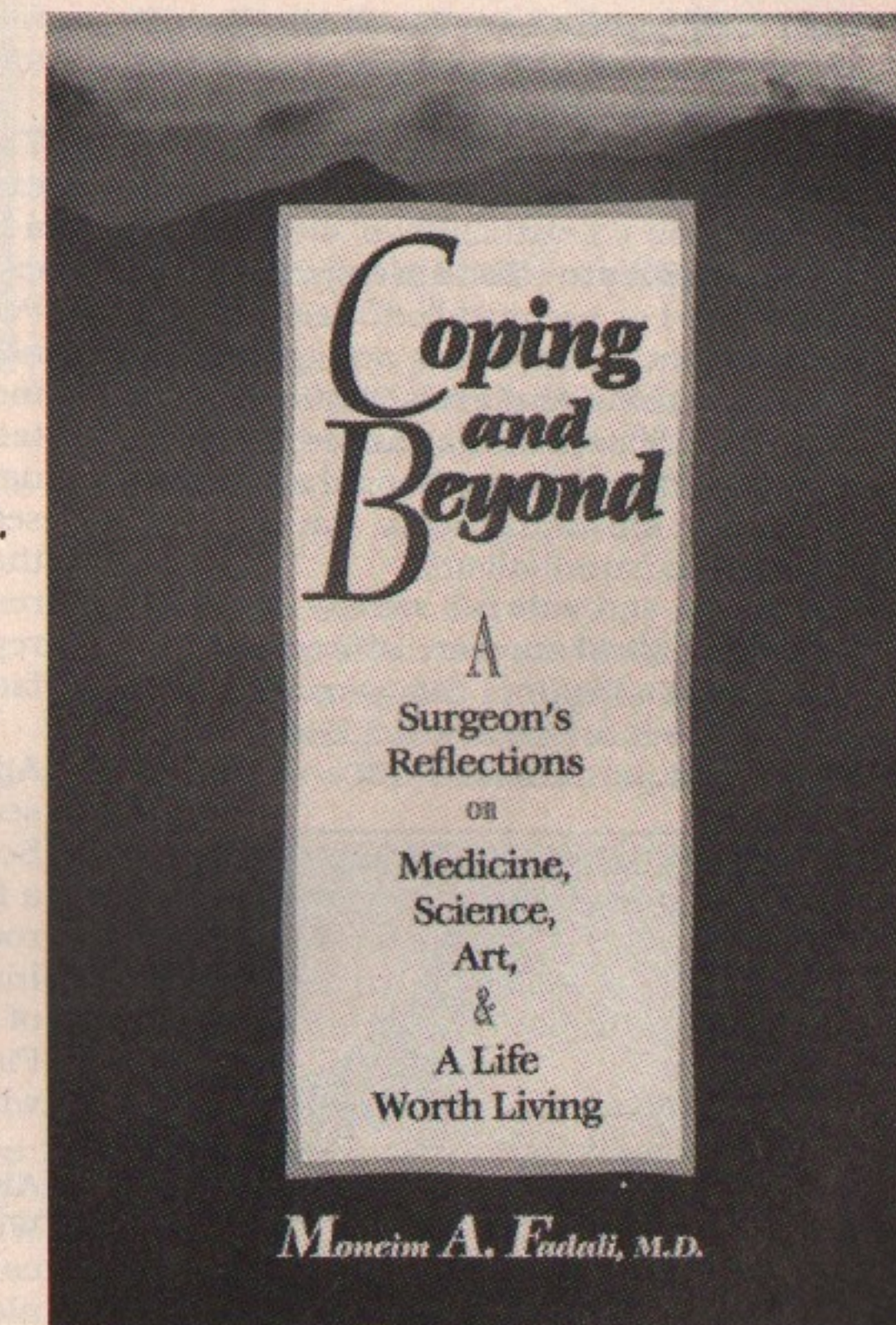
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NEWS SHORTS

Among the 10 top-spending political action committees last year were those of the American Medical Assn. (\$3 million) and the Natl. Rifle Assn. (\$1.8 million). No environmental or animal defense group made the top 15.

The Natl. Taxidermists Assn. has formed a War Chest Fund to defend hunting. The Taxidermists Educational/Political Action Society of Calif. drew help 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 animals 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," shifting the focus from pound seizure, already banned by 54 of the 58 Calif. counties, to biomedical research.

The Reedpoint, Montana "Running of the Sheep," a spoof of cattle drives, draws crowds of up to 12,000 to see events including Prettiest Ewe and Ugliest Sheep contests (in which the sheep wear costumes and are sometimes dyed or painted). In the main event, the sheep march four blocks through the town.

Animal relocater Todd Hardwick says abandoned or escaped "pet" boa constrictors and pythons are apparently mating in the Everglades. The snakes thrive in dry conditions caused by damming and drainage, while 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 2,830, 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 both remain at risk in much of their former habitat. Bald eagles, doublecrested cormorants, and 14 other shoreline predators are scarce

near the Great Lakes, researchers report, because toxic residues persist in lake sediments despite 20 years of cleanups. The western whooping crane population is meanwhile down to just nine males and four females, who for unknown reasons refuse to mate.

Hoping to speed up wolf reintroduction to Yellowstone, activist George Wuerthner has formed the Natl. Wolf Growers Assn. (parodying the Natl. Wool Growers Assn., which opposes wolf reintroduction), and says he's raised \$50,000 toward privately breeding wolves for release in the park. "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 lobby's anti-wolf campaign, more Montana 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 159 people who were exposed to a leukemia virus 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 129, including 99 children, declined to be tested. The university has just opened a new animal lab featuring high-tech security—not so much to protect the public from disease as to protect researchers from activists who have repeatedly raided other campus animal facilities to expose abuses.

Apparently chased by sharks, a harbor seal who had been tagged by the Nova Scotia Marine Aquarium jumped aboard 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.

Although the Michigan Div. of Wildlife puts the state's carrying capacity for deer at one million, to please hunters the division pursued a "Deer Range Improvement Program" that upped the deer herd from 500,000 in 1972 to 1.7 million in 1989. Deer/car collisions killed six people in Michigan last year—so now the division has

stretched the hunting season, citing an urgent need to get the herd down to "only" 1.3 million.

Across the U.S., deer/car collisions kill 100 people, injure 7,000, and kill 350,000 deer each year, says the Natl. Safety Council.

Over 1,000 deer live at the 4,442-acre Gettysburg Natl. Military Park, one of the few rural tracts in Pennsylvania to bar hunting. The deer tend to stay there, despite sparse food, because of heavy hunting in surrounding areas.

Maine drivers have won the right to paint out the red lobster on their license plates.

New York, among the states most hurt by acid rain, is expected to allow Inter-Power Inc. to build a coal-burning power plant near Albany, whose emissions would drift mainly over Vermont and Massachusetts. A 10-year Congressional study of acid rain damage has concluded that aquatic life has already been harmed in about 10 percent of eastern U.S. lakes and streams.

Fort Bliss and the Bureau of Land Management have opened over 200,000 acres of New Mexico's McGregor Range to hunting.

Trying to keep up with Republican nominee Clayton Williams, an avid hunter, Texas Democratic gubernatorial candidate Ann Richards went dove-shooting on Labor Day.



Seeking to preserve the now-rare variety, the privately funded Navajo Sheep Project is breeding churro sheep descended from those brought to Mexico by the Spanish in 1598.

Cal State Dominguez Hills has set up a desert tortoise hatchery, hoping to save that species.

Socialite Patricia Rose Kluge, known

for hosting massacres of up to 10,000 captive birds in a morning, has been named to the Univ. of Virginia board of trustees.

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

The Wistar Institute is now testing a genetically engineered oral rabies vaccine for wildlife on an island off Virginia. The vaccine, used in Europe for over five years, could halt the spread of rabies in the mid-Atlantic region without causing animal deaths. So far this year, 352 rabid animals have been found in Pennsylvania. The disease seems 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 Natl. Wildlife Refuge to exploratory drilling. The refuge is thought to cover the largest untapped oil reserve in the U.S.

The Philadelphia SPCA recently rescued 10 pit bull terriers, apparently used for fighting, from the home of a 20-year-old murder suspect.

According to the product label, "A Touch of Mink" brand lip-saver includes spermacetti wax, a product of endangered sperm whales. Killing whales or importing whale products is illegal in the U.S.—but this so-called "spermacetti wax" seems to be derived from mink oil, pressed out of the corpses of ranched minks who were skinned for the fur trade. While using mink oil is legal, mislabeling it is not. The lip-saver comes from Derman Mfg., of Salem, Oregon. Complain to both U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the FDA, whose 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. Connecticut Humane is known for a poor adoption rate, a high euthanasia rate, weak humane education and spay/neuter programs—and assets of over \$16 million.

Bandon, Ore., wildlife rehabilitators Dan Deuel and Mary Crumley have

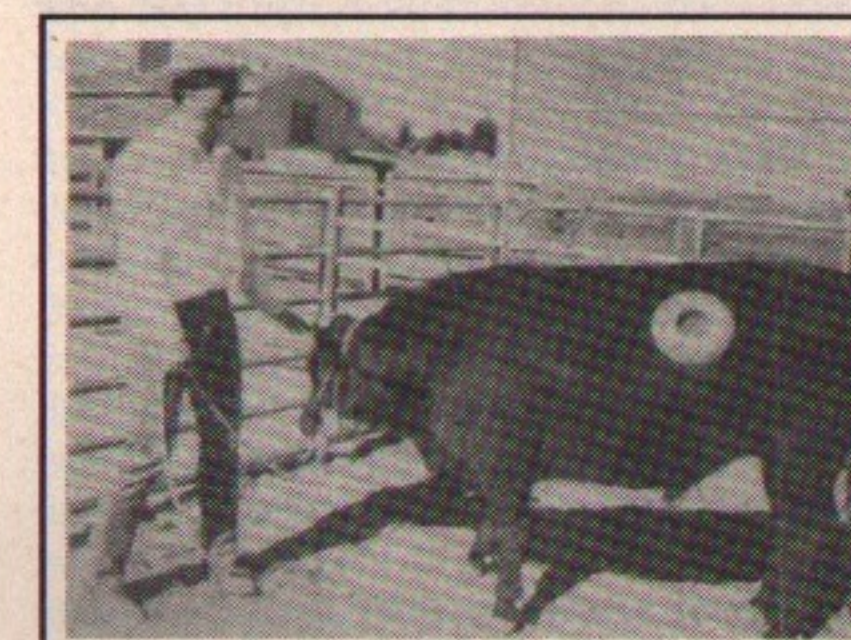
been bombarded by death threats, apparently from fishermen, for proposing to start a floating hospital for injured seals and sea lions.

Granada Biosciences Inc. of Houston gave away a cloned cow embryo (to be implanted in a host cow) in a drawing at the recent World Dairy Expo.

Oregon land developers are having to redesign two golf course subdivisions to protect the endangered silverspot butterfly.

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

Fewer than 100 of the first 80,000 visitors to the 13,000-acre Coachella Valley Preserve in southern Calif. have actually seen the endangered fringe-toed lizards the site was set aside to preserve. The lizards are noted for "swimming" beneath the desert sand.



Rose Liss (Round Up)

New Mexico State Univ. agriculture students have put windows in steers to observe their digestive processes, seeking a cure for bloat—an ailment caused when cattle overgraze to get enough nutrition from grasses of low nutritional value.

Joe Eldon Mills, of Tyler, Texas, has pleaded innocent to charges that he killed and directed the killing of two Bengal tigers, apparently for trophies, "by the use of veterinary anesthetics and by driving an ice pick into their skulls."

The number of cows on New York farms has fallen to 776,000, the lowest level since 1930. New York is the third-largest dairy state, behind Wisconsin and California.

Kalamazoo College psychology students train rats to race each summer in lieu of writing term papers. "Most of my students will go on to do research," says professor Lyn Raible, who founded the rat race competition in

1987, "and I want them to think of rats as more than laboratory animals on which to experiment. After working with the rats, the students see them in a different light."

Deming, Texas, draws tourists with summer duck races, offering \$7,500 in prize money.

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 136 complaints about the geese this year, up from 36 in 1989 and 22 in 1988. The Pennsylvania Game Commission recently responded by trucking 3,800 Canada geese to release points in Alabama and Mississippi.

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

Chief Auto Parts, of Dallas, has introduced a nontoxic antifreeze, based on the food additive propylene glycol.

Cullen McCann, 13, qualified as an Eagle Scout by organizing a crew of 50 volunteers to refurbish the Oklahoma City Animal Shelter.

Melbour Provision, a Brooklyn meat dealer, has been fined \$20,000 for selling pork contaminated with rodent feces.

The U.S. Forest Service has ruled that the Univ. of Arizona can build an observatory on Mt. Graham without further study of effects on the endangered Mt. Graham red squirrel.

Medical researchers are interested in the uniquely powerful immune 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 Brooklyn woman who collected strays and kept them in a warehouse.

The USDA is probing the deaths of 25 purebred puppies in an overheated and unventilated cargo hold aboard a United Airlines flight from Chicago to San Diego. Four days earlier, a Continental flight from Fort Lauderdale to Houston

Continued on next page

NEWS SHORTS

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Continued from previous page

was delayed for three and a half hours when the pilot turned back to save a cat from death in a cargo hold that depressurized due to mechanical failure.

Allergists at the Memorial University of Newfoundland and the Kaiser-Permanente Medical Center in San Diego have reported that babies are likely to escape food allergies if their mothers avoid dairy products, eggs, and beef during pregnancy and nursing.

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

The New England total catch of the 10 most common groundfish species fell from 359 million pounds in 1982 to 161 million pounds last year, as the haddock take dropped 84 percent.

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

The Natl. Marine Fisheries Service has moved to ban public feeding of marine mammals. Cruise ships that feed dolphins to entertain passengers are threatening to disrupt natural feeding habits and migration patterns.

The Journal of the American Medical Assn. of 8/8/90 surprised readers with a full-page poem by West Chester, Pa. Dr. Richard Donze on the plight of birds whose rainforest habitat has been "cleared / for fast-food cows / the ones that choke our hearts."

El Paso, Texas has cancelled the 10-

year-old Wild West Mountain Oyster Festival, which spotlighted the eating of cattle testicles.

A letter campaign to a Madison, Wis. judge saved Boogs, a cat who was slated for euthanasia after biting an animal control officer.

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, Eli Lilly, American Cyanamid, and Upjohn, the FDA has broken with precedent to publish extensive data indicating that milk produced through use of the bovine growth hormone BST is safe for humans. Such data normally isn't released until a chemical has cleared the regulatory process. Independent studies have suggested BST could produce cancer and birth defects. BST boosts milk output per cow by 10 to 20 percent.

The Natl. Institutes of Health directorship has now been vacant for over a year, the longest such 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 series of studies from Quebec, Hong Kong, California, and Kansas have linked Parkinson's disease to pesticide exposure.

Settling a Calif. Superior Court lawsuit, Docktor Pet Centers Inc. has agreed to set up a \$50,000 fund to make restitution to people who bought sick puppies, to donate \$100,000 to

Calif. humane societies, and to hire a veterinarian to inspect Calif. Docktor outlets.

The Calif. Trial Lawyers Assn. is reportedly blocking SB 2040, a state bill to protect wildlife rehabilitators from lawsuits that may be filed as result of their actions in fighting oil spills. Police and firefighters already have such protection.

Gamblers trying to win big at longshot odds allegedly switched a fast horse named Joshua's Sunny for a slow horse named Milagros during this year's Massachusetts fairground racing season. Milagros apparently was sold for dogfood.

Five train derailments since 1983 have repeatedly dumped tons of feed corn in the Marias Pass near Hungry Horse, Montana, to the delight of grizzly bears and the consternation of the U.S. Forest Service and Burlington Northern railway, who fear the bears will attack people who come to watch them feast. Three bears have been killed by trains so far.

George Bush has signed a bill requiring new U.S. tanker ships to be doublehulled, to prevent oil spills.

Federated Medical Resources, a lab animal breeding firm set up by Temple Univ., Hahnemann Univ., Thomas Jefferson Univ., the Univ. of Pennsylvania, and Philadelphia Medical College, has vacated a 77-acre site built with tax money in exchange for forgiveness of \$4 million in unpaid rent.

The New York State Fair scrapped a planned balloon launch after N.Y. governor Mario Cuomo worried that sea turtles and waterfowl might choke on the balloons when they fell.

Tennis star Martina Navratilova travels with five dogs and two cats.

The bankrupt Great Circus Bim Bom returned to the U.S.S.R. on Aug. 23, leaving their animals with a creditor in Newburgh, N.Y., still in the cages they left the U.S.S.R. in four months earlier.

Burglars took an unknown number of squirrel monkeys from the biomedical supply firm South America Unlimited of Queens, N.Y., then released them when they couldn't sell them. The monkeys ran loose for weeks.

Utah State Univ. now offers degree programs in wildlife damage

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management, funded by the USDA's Animal Damage Control program, whose slaughter of over 100,000 suspected predators annually far exceeds the cost of livestock losses to predation.

Genetic engineering is fueling a boom in vaccine research. The world market for vaccines is expected to grow from \$547 million a year now to \$2.5 billion a year in a decade.

The U.S. Dept. of Justice and two former associates have sued burn researcher Dr. John Ninnemann for allegedly faking data to get grants.

The Pittsburgh, Pa. zoo claims marauding raccoons killed seven of its eight prairie dogs and two of its three ibises.

Los Angeles County has rejected a proposed ban on roosters and restrictions on chicken-keeping.

South Burlington, Vt., sheep farmers Julie and Nile Duppstadt have obtained an ordinance allowing them to shoot coyotes within city limits. Most cities would ban keeping sheep within the limits.

Drought fueled forest fires that burned over 3.2 million acres in seven western states this year, including 1.4 million acres in Alaska, 12,000 acres in Yosemite, and 18,000 acres in the Sequoia Natl. Forest. But the worst year for fires was 1988, when 3.7 million acres burned.



Lawrence K. Ho
(Los Angeles Times)

Anti-fire bear Smokey II has died at age 20. The original Smokey died in 1976, at 26.

The Glendale, Calif., library boasts the nation's largest collection of cat-related art, music, and literature, a total of over 1,200 pounds.

Houston has opened a controversial \$3.7 million domed dog pound. The 350 cages feature self-cleaning spray systems that flush out fecal matter five times daily.

The USDA has banned certain types of elastic netting used to suspend meat during cooking and/or smoking

because residues from the plastic combine with nitrites in the meat to produce dibutyl nitrosamine, a suspected carcinogen.

The USDA has seized two lions and two tigers who were allegedly abandoned by the Royal Palace Circus in a Puerto Rican park.

Over 100 people took their dogs to audition for the canine part in the Broadway musical *Nick and Nora*. Sandy, the canine star of Broadway's *Lil' Orphan Annie* a decade ago, meanwhile rated a *New York Times* obituary.

The Bronx Zoo spends \$30,000 a year throwing a pair of open-bar bashes for state and borough politicians, judges, prosecutors, city workers, and their families. "The democratic process is beginning to break down, I think," explains zoo director William Conway. "It becomes necessary for each one of us to promote ourselves."

The Natl. Marine Fisheries Service recently brought 1,845 fledgling Kemp's ridley sea turtles from Mexico and released them 65 miles off Galveston, hoping to restore the highly endangered species to coastal Texas. But Carole Allen, founder of the turtle protection group HEART, said the fledglings were left too far out, as a concession to shrimpers, who apparently killed at least 34 sea turtles in the first week of the shrimping season alone, despite a federal order to outfit their nets with turtle exclusion devices. Over 16,000 Kemp's ridley turtles have been released in Texas waters since 1978. None are known to have nested in Texas.

Ecologists studying the relatively unpolluted St. Croix River, which divides Minnesota from Wisconsin, have discovered a new species of dragonfly and a shellfish, the winged maple leaf, who was thought extinct.

At least three chimp TV stars from the 1950s are still alive, in good health—Cheeta, 56; J. Fred Muggs, 38; and Zippy, at least 35.

After killing numerous skunks, Humboldt (Calif.) State Univ. researcher William Wood thinks he has the chemical formula of their scent—for which he admits, "I can't think of a practical application."

Outdoor Life editor Clare Conley has urged hunters to seek a Constitutional amendment guaranteeing their right to

kill animals. "It was a Constitutional oversight," he said, "not to include hunting and fishing as inherent rights."

In a promising precedent for PETA's appeal of the \$3.2 million libel verdict a Las Vegas jury recently rendered in favor of orangutan trainer Bobby Berosini, the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has overturned a similar verdict against NBC rendered by another Las Vegas jury on behalf of another casino headliner, singer Wayne Newton. In each case the jury failed to find evidence of malice, traditionally a key component of libel convictions.

The Sept. issue of the prestigious journal Science published two articles challenging the validity of animal-based cancer tests. Natl. Institute of Environmental Health Sciences director Dr. Bruce Ames and Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory Carcinogenicity Data Base Project director Dr. Lois Swirsky Gold argued that megadoses of suspected carcinogens cause excessive cell division that can produce cancer even when a substance isn't actually a cancer-causing agent. University of Nebraska Medical Center researchers Dr. Samuel Cohen and Dr. Leon Ellwein meanwhile noted that many substances produce cancers in specific kinds of animals without harming any other animals.

The Natl. Assn. of Real Estate Appraisers registered a cat named Toby as a member, then sued his owner when the case became known.

The USDA claims grasshopper spraying on thousands of acres of Idaho, the Dakotas, and western Minnesota won't harm wildlife. Critics charge that the current grasshopper plague was created by previous spraying and habitat damage, which killed off the species who once controlled the grasshoppers.

Rock star Don Henley headed a group who bought 25 acres of Walden Woods plus conservation rights to 25 acres more for \$3.5 million, to forestall development of the site where Henry David Thoreau authored *Walden* circa 1840. *Walden*, which argued for vegetarianism, is considered the seminal work of U.S. ecological awareness.

The Natl. Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has moved to strip veterinarian Dr. Martin Dinnes of his permits to keep and trade wildlife. Dinnes, who treated marine mammals for many marine parks and aquariums, is accused of killing a sea lion and keeping several others in unlicensed, substandard facilities.

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Knocking Fur To The Canvas

By
MERRITT CLIFTON

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

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 evicted Fur Vault boutiques from its department stores because fur sales fell 44 percent last year, writing off a loan to Fur Vault of \$235,000 and paying \$365,000 in damages just to break the contract. (Another furrier, Gittelman's, will try to revive the fur trade at Rich's this year.) Members of the Western North Carolina Animal Rights Coalition held a block party as John Carroll Furs went out of business in Asheville. Evans Inc., controlling ten percent of U.S. retail fur sales, declared losses of \$10.5 million in 1989-90, following losses of \$3.8 million the year before.

American Fur Industry Inc. spokeswoman Sandy Blye 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 unit sales were up 11 percent. But she neglected to add that the sales increase was achieved because former fur specialists diversified into leather goods. As ex-furrier Richard Meyerson explained to *Fur Age Weekly*, after moving into leather garment manufacturing, "For the price of one \$5,000 fur coat, a furrier can purchase a rack full of 25 to 30 leather jackets."

Actual fur sales declined to about \$1.1 billion, the lowest figure since 1982.

Fur Is Unpatriotic

The effect of anti-fur campaigns shows up most dramatically not in sales figures, however, but in trapping reports. As recently as the winter of 1986-1987, trapping 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 for trapped fur at home, pelts have piled up in warehouses, while auction prices have plummeted to as little as a third of the 1986-1987 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 1986-1987 to 3.8 million last winter, an unprecedented 77 percent decrease. The Canadian trapline kill dropped from 3.3 million in 1987-1988 to 1.5 million in 1988-1989, a 55 percent decrease, with last winter's data still coming in.

For the first time ever, North American fur farmers skinned 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 "pelting out," skinning all their animals and quitting the business, because the cost of raising mink and fox to maturity now exceeds returns.

Eager to escape the spectre of the leghold 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-style fur ranches of Scandinavia—where mink breeding is being cut back 35 percent, by agreement of the ranchers in an effort to raise prices—and Asia,

where Chinese mink farmers have apparently cut breeding by 40 percent. Cheaper garment makers can also be found in Asia. While imports accounted for only a third of U.S. fur garment sales in 1983, 70 percent of fur garments sold last winter were imported, as domestic fur garment manufacturing fell to an all-time low. Fur and fur garment exports also dipped sharply, after nearly doubling from 1985 through 1988-1989. Mink pelt exports alone were reportedly down by half. *Fur Age Weekly* actually began urging unemployed U.S. fur workers to apply for job search, relocation, and retraining benefits through the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance program, originally set up to help auto and steel workers.

No longer can the fur trade



Richard Piliero



Richard Piliero

pretend to create significant numbers of jobs in North America—not that it ever did create the jobs it claimed. While the industry asserted it employed 350,000 North Americans in the early 1980s, census data reveals actual fulltime employment never exceeded 63,000, two thirds in the U.S.—and that included all fur ranch hands, garment makers, retail sellers, and all jobs in accessory industries such as cleaning and storage, plus an estimate of trapping jobs actually created (obtained through dividing total reported trapline income, earned mostly by part-timers, by the equivalent of a year's fulltime employment at minimum wage). Contrary to Canadian claims that the fur industry employed virtually every adult male indigenous person in the nation, about 100,000, verifiable Canadian indigenous employment never topped 5,000.

Present actual job creation by the North American fur trade is no more than 10,000, mostly in sales. In economic terms, the fur trade today only exports jobs and dollars, from both the U.S. and Canada. Wearing fur isn't only cruel and decadent: it's unpatriotic.

Vertical Integration

The North American fur industry is wobbling, a few more solid economic hits away from following the European retail fur trade down for the count, but victory is still far from assured. The North American fur trade also crashed during the recession of 1953 (after Vice President Richard Nixon's wife Pat popularized cloth coats during the 1952 presidential election campaign), leveled off for the next decade, then skidded again from 1963 through 1970. Between the outcry that followed Jacqueline Kennedy's public display of an ocelot coat in the early 1960s and the end of the post-Vietnam War recession, the number of U.S. fur farms dropped from over 5,000, skinning eight million animals, to 977, skinning half as many. Unfortunately, antifur activists in the 1950s 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 Jindo 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 oversupply or undersupply, while maximizing profits by cutting out competition.

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 receipts. Fur farmers, seven percent of the workforce, got 10 percent. Garment makers, wholesalers, and retailers, 23 percent of the workforce, kept 67 percent. Foreign garment makers kept most of the 17 percent balance.

Six percent of dwindling 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 inspections, humane laws, labor codes, unionization, and other factors tending to cut into profits.

Further, if the fur is produced right where the garments are made, transportation costs are reduced (averaging 10 percent of the total cost of a typical fur garment). If both the fur sources and the garment makers are owned by the retailers, the producers are assured of a market, while the retailers have an assured supply of whatever garments are in demand. Then, when the cost of producing a fur garment is down, retail prices can also be lowered to draw more customers and undercut non-integrated retailers, without actually lowering the integrated retailer's profit margin. As non-integrated retailers go broke, the 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 longtime girlfriend Jerry Hall gave up furs recently upon learning Jagger disapproved of them, 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 antifur protests. But in the battle for celebrity endorsements, the fur trade can claim at least one heavyweight. Mike Tyson, who has allegedly also amused himself by tearing the heads off live pigeons, recently bought \$3,500 worth of mink items for his son.

Also reputedly slow getting the message, actor Christopher Reeve starred 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 booed a few weeks earlier when he told the crowd at the June 10 March for Animals that AIDS research on animals might be necessary.

Gossip columnists reported that actress Loni Anderson was recently pelted with vegetables when she wore a fur coat into a supermarket, while another actress, Victoria Principal, said she put her furs into storage after someone poured ketchup on a friend's fur coat at a Beverly Hills restaurant.

Continued from previous page

Jindo president Kim Young-Do's stated goal is capturing 10 percent of the \$5 billion global fur dollar volume. Operating 52 retail stores in the U.S., Europe, and Japan, Jindo now claims three to four percent, with a turnover of \$135 million last year. Young-Do hopes to achieve his goal through holding revenues from old markets steady while the fur trade as a whole declines; through acquiring other furriers, as struggling owners rush to sell out while they still have something left to sell; and through developing new markets in Asia and eastern Europe. In May, Jindo completed purchase of the Fur Vault Inc., one of the largest U.S. fur retail chains, which had posted major losses for three straight years. Otherwise, Jindo seems to have invested profits made from U.S. sales over the past five years to boost business in Japan, where total fur sales hit \$1.4 billion in 1988-1989, second in the world. Japanese sales are expected to rise even higher this year, as excise taxes on fur garments have been dropped, while antifur activity in Japan has barely begun.

Already other major furriers are looking to Japan. Oscar de la Renta has opened 14 fur boutiques in Japanese department stores; Wagner Fur International


farmers are hoping that the cheap pelts will result in cheap garments that will in turn boost U.S. retail demand, as happened in the mid-1980s when European sales fell, causing Canada to dump fur in the U.S. at bargain prices. *The Trapper And Predator Caller*, for one, anticipates that pelt prices would then go up, just in time for trappers to take advantage of furbearer populations who are finally recovering from the trapping boom of the early 1980s (when the number of U.S. trappers more than doubled).

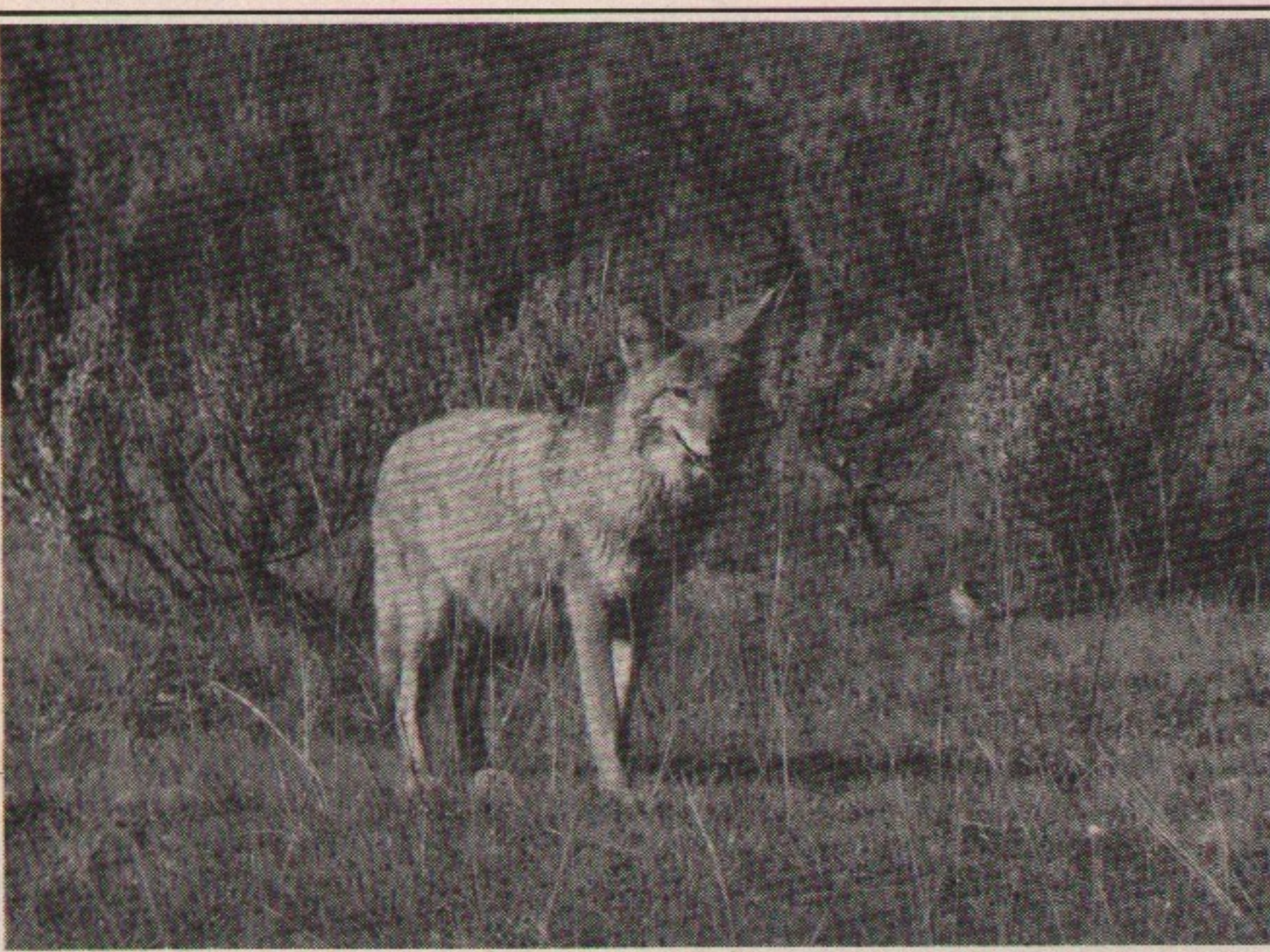
It could happen, if antifur public opinion is allowed to wane. If trapping remains equated with cruelty, however, the fur trade is likely to continue shifting pelt production to the little-regulated Asian fur farms—bad news for *The Trapper And Predator Caller*, whose ad sales have dropped by two-thirds. If fur can be kept unfashionable in both the U.S. and Europe, and a successful antifur movement can be generated in Japan, even the integrators will face declining business. A sign this was beginning to occur came from this year's Hong Kong International Fur Fair, dominated by Japanese traders, where sales were down 38.5 percent. Jindo, which began as a metalworking business, could then be expected to lead a corporate exodus of capital into other ventures, much as the big tobacco firms have gradually diversified away from cigarette-making.

Feather Merchants

For the present, fur is so far out of fashion that in the fall *Fashions Of The Times* supplement to *The New York Times*, only three of 82 advertisers depicted fur garments. Of 236 fashion items noted by the *Times* fashion editors, none were fur. (Two were shearling, and except for footgear, only one was leather.) Still, while the critics and most of the name designers have abandoned fur recently, citing moral opposition, the antifur movement can't assume they won't drift back to it if the qualms of their clientele fade. Designer Isaac Mizrahi, for one, 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 garishly dyed 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 fewer people are likely to protest on behalf of. Sales of feather coats approached \$2 million last year, about one percent of furriers' total volume.

Richard Piliro

As furriers grasp at feathers like a floored boxer trying to pull himself up by the ropes, the challenge to activists is to keep up the pressure, keeping the public aware whether or not 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 old as the slave trade and prizefighting, and for the past few generations even more lucrative. 



has eight new Japanese outlets; and one firm, Springer Inc., claims Japanese sales account for 70 percent of current revenue. Profits could subsidize U.S. losses—or much of the fur trade could simply move overseas, away from protest and controversy.

Regardless of the success of vertical integration and overseas retailing, trapping and North American fur farming income will probably continue to slump for at least the next several years. As *The Trapper And Predator Caller* warned in September, "vast amounts of fur from previous seasons is sitting in cold storage," held by speculators and dealers in hopes pelt prices will rise. Since cold storage costs money, all that fur is likely to be dumped, sooner or later, at whatever price can be had. But this also could benefit the integrators, who can be expected to seize the opportunity to use the availability of cheap North American pelts as a brake on any agitation by Asian and Scandinavian fur farmers for higher pay. Trappers and North American fur

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 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 shop.

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

ARASD 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

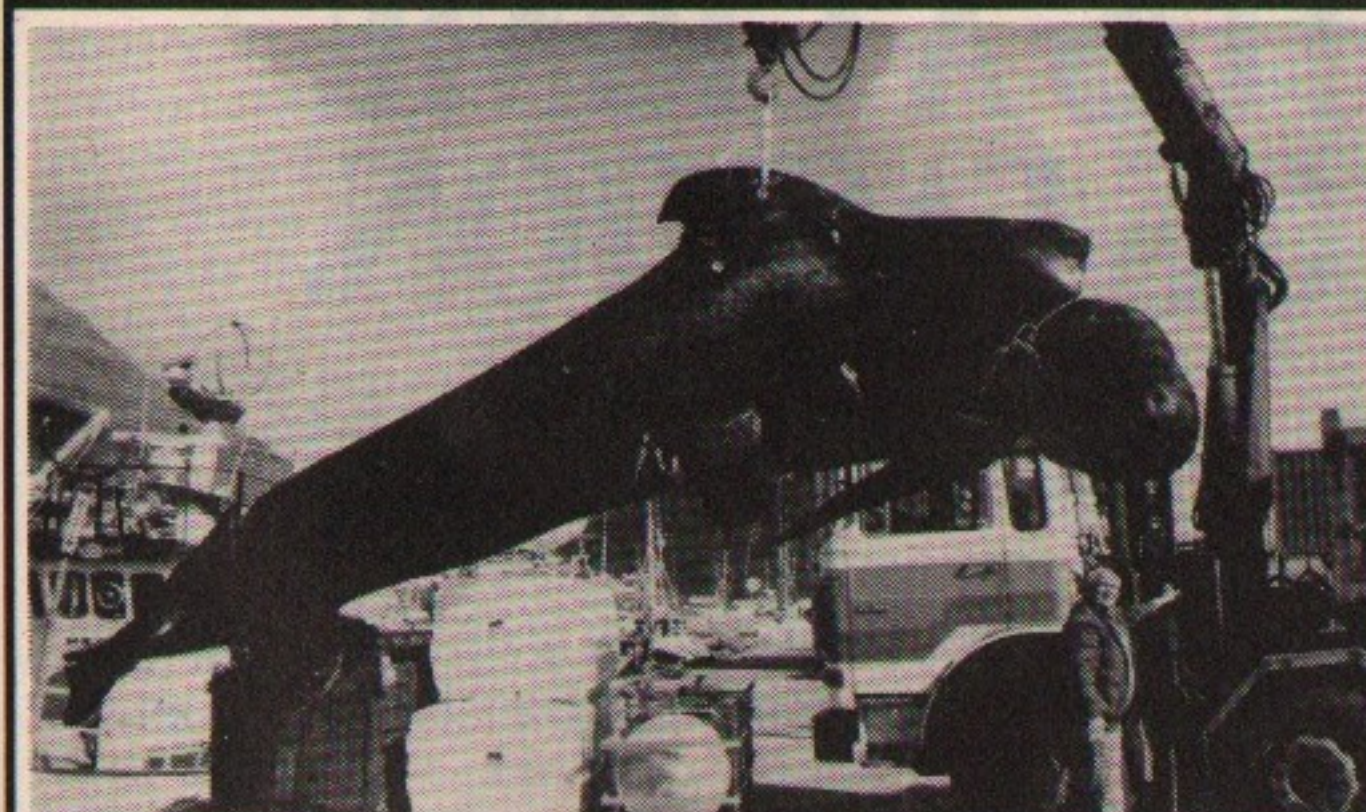
among the worst offenders in promoting dangerous and unecological behavior, the Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks is trying to import lynx from Canada to replenish a critically depleted population, but has refused to close the state's eight-week lynx trapping season. Both state wildlife biologist Bruce Campbell and 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. Garry Carruthers, State Capitol Bldg., Santa Fe, NM 87503.

The Massachusetts group Citizens to End Animal Suffering and Exploitation has filed charges against Lowell game warden Joseph Paolilli Jr. for using an illegal padded leghold trap to catch foxes. Paolilli is the only licensed trapper among the 110 Massachusetts game wardens. Padded 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 law forbidding use of any leghold trapping device.

The American Animal Hospital Assn. 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 936 veterinarians showed 79.3 percent disapprove of leghold trapping. 

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Illustration by ALAN REINGOLD

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ANIMAL NEWSLINE

Dissection Lab Animal Dealers Exposed

What's more gruesome than a classroom dissection lab?

Where the dead animals come from. Undercover probes by Friends of Animals and PETA recently documented extensive abuse by four of the biggest dissection lab animal dealers on the east coast—Al Wise, Carolina Biological Supply Co., and Ward's, all of Burlington, N.C., and Noel Leach, of Chase City, Va.

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

Wise, PETA believes, pays people "three to five dollars an hour to go around and collect cats or trap them."

Leach, FoA learned, pays \$5 apiece for cats bred by some of his neighbors. But that's not his only source. "Information obtained by FoA investigators," the FoA report said, "raises the possibility that Leach is illegally obtaining animals from the county pound, which is run by Wallace Carter, Leach's veterinarian of record." Suspecting the county dog warden might be "functioning as a buncher—picking up stray and stolen animals and transferring them to Leach via Carter," FoA traced dogs from Carter's facility to their deaths at Leach's. FoA found "Leach is killing hundreds of animals in a carbon monoxide chamber on his property," and

apparently also beating some dogs to death. Dead animals and veterinary waste are "slung carelessly into the woods." Animals scheduled for resale "are confined in metal and wood cages in temperatures often ranging above 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. A PETA plant working within CBSC observed similar treatment of dogs, rats, rabbits, and crayfish, marked by extensive abuse of individual animals who died hard, struggling with the workers. PETA videotaped comparable conditions at Ward's.

The FoA and 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 dissect 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 free pamphlet titled *Alternatives In Biology*



Tina Colman

Education. Other dissection opponents have set up a helpful hotline, 1-800-922-FROG. The organization most active in assisting conscientious objectors, however, is the Student Action Corps for Animals. "Since 1981," says director Rosa Feldman, "we have worked with thousands of junior high, high school, and college students who have gone through the dissection refusal process." SACA last year published a 70-page handbook on alternatives to dissection called *Animals Are Not Tools For A Lab*.

Despite SACA's record, the group is now almost bankrupt, Feldman states, because the number of conscientious objectors seeking help has grown much faster than SACA's donor list. Where most animal defense groups appeal for aid to membership, Feldman finds, "It is inappropriate to appeal to our members because the majority of our constituency is composed of teenagers and pre-teens, many of whom have parents who are not supportive of their animal rights lifestyle changes and their desires to risk their biology grades for the ethic of animal rights." (SACA may be reached at P.O. Box 15588, Washington, DC 20003-0588; 202-543-8983.)

—M.C.

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.

NASL ads seeking purebreds appeared in Philadelphia papers last spring. Then, in August, New Jersey dog dealer J. Patrick O'Neill told the Cleveland, Ohio, *Plain Dealer* that NSAL takes at least 35 percent of the thousand or more puppies he buys in rural Ohio and Pennsylvania each year. Long 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 advertised in the *Plain Dealer* seeking people to help him counter-picket NOAA). The

O'Neill selling to laboratories, however; the NASL connection may better explain where all the puppies go.

NSAL, a no-kill shelter with assets of over \$33 million, largely raised through sweepstakes appeals, is among the richest "animal protection groups" in the

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world. Critics have charged for years that it fosters animal abuse by taking only healthy purebreds, giving away merchandise with adoptions, 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 creditors, Mike Banner, who claims his boarding kennel was foreclosed Sept. 4 because the Fieldses didn't pay their bills. (See "No-Kill Shelters In Trouble Again," Sept. 1990.) Well-placed sources in law enforcement have confirmed that the Fields operation, now called Love & Care

For God's Animalife 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 suing the U.S. Postal Service for seizing contributions to the Fields shelters, the Fieldses are victims of jealousy by humane organizations, including HSUS and PETA, who accept the practice of euthanasia as a last resort to control pet

overpopulation. Paraphrasing Abraham Sharony, a former attorney for the Fieldses, Silverman further alleges Banner demanded more money from the Fieldses for keeping dogs than Ann Fields had agreed to pay him, threatening to kill the dogs if he didn't get it. Banner received \$43,000 in checks from Ann Fields, but claims those for most of it bounced. Banner apparently also tried to emulate 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 sifting 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 53 U.S. government military facilities using animals in research, and documentation of some of this experimentation has recently been obtained through the Freedom of Information Act.

Estimates based on these government documents indicate that military animal usage may exceed 540,000 animals annually. These studies are estimated to cost the American public over \$110 million a year, not including the cost of studies contracted out to universities or private labs.

For the laboratories in which a comparison was possible, animal usage increased 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 experiments without anesthesia appears to have increased by 118 percent from 1987 to 1988. Figures indicate that more primates are being used in experiments than dogs and cats combined.

In 1988 at the Armstrong Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, 34 primates had as much as 40 percent of their blood volume withdrawn and were then

centrifuged. A 1985 study at AAMRL implanted measuring devices into the spines of primates and then restrained them in vibrating machines for four days. Another study at AAMRL in 1986 put primates into full-body casts, suspended them from a metal



Tina Colman

frame, and then rotated them 90 degrees every 30 minutes for a period of 14 days, after which the animals were killed and their jawbones 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 pathobiology at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, "These findings indicate neglect, animal abuse, poor experimental technique, and grotesquely inadequate medical practices." Similar concerns about inadequate husbandry have been raised after examining documentation from the Armed Forces Radiobiological Research Institute in Bethesda, Maryland.

Rep. Charles Wilson of Texas has requested a General Accounting Office investigation into the use of animals by the military, and Rep. John Kasich of Ohio has requested Congressional oversight hearings. Letters to key members of Congressional Armed Services Committees may insure that hearings actually take place. Humane organizations recommend that comments be directed to Senators Sam Nunn (chair); John W. Warner; Edward Kennedy; Jeff Bingaman; Malcolm Wallop; and Albert Gore, Jr. Key members of the House committee are Representatives Les Aspin (chair); William L. Dickinson; Ronald V. Dellums; John R. Kasich; Charles E. Bennett; Patricia Schroder; and Robert K. Dornan.

—Michael Budkie

Eco-Tourism: Making Animals Worth More Alive

Last winter, working with the International Fund for Animal Welfare, Natural Habitat Wildlife Adventures convinced over 700 people to spend from \$1,275 to \$1,995 apiece to go see the white-coated baby harp seals their protests over the past decade had helped save from early slaughter on the ice floes off eastern Canada. The week-long visits left approximately \$600,000 in the economies of Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, about 20 percent more than killing the seals was ever worth.

Except in Newfoundland, where the ice floes tend to be too far offshore to visit safely, baby harp seals are clearly worth more now alive than dead. This, IFAW believes, is what will keep the whitecoat hunt dead, as it has been since 1983, despite strong pressure from fishermen who blame seals rather than pollution and their own overfishing for plummeting catches.

The seal-watching tours aren't making many jobs for former sealers, many of whom are still killing seals when they're a little bit older. But, more important to the maritime social structure, jobs are being created for chambermaids, barmaids, and waitresses, whose only job opportunities used to be at

minimum wage in the equally seasonal and notoriously unsafe fish processing plants. As women's income rises, social workers have noted improvements in nutrition and childcare, and declining child abuse and alcoholism, problems that have plagued the perennially impoverished, undereducated maritime provinces for decades.

Eco-tourism is even more successful in Africa. Zambia and South Africa still push traditional safaris, drawing a few thousand trophy hunters a year who pay \$10,000 and up apiece to bag animals recognized almost everywhere else as endangered species. Kenya, however, discourages hunting, and led the continent last year by attracting 735,000 visitors who spent \$250 million—a powerful incentive to continue determined efforts to protect the wild animals who brought them.

Eco-tourism is booming in Ecuador, too: 4,500 people visited the Galapagos Islands to see the unique wildlife there in 1970, but 30,000 a year visit now, and tourist permits are available for 87,000.

Clearly eco-tourism does change the economic structure of the regions visited, but, as in maritime Canada, most observers feel the



David White (IFAW)

changes in Africa and Latin America are positive—particularly when contrasted to the ecological destruction inherent in industrial development, and the social decay that accompanies tourism based on easy access to gambling and prostitutes. People who serve eco-tourists may still be servants, but can take pride in serving their nations and the earth as well as those who dispense the tips.

There is risk to fragile habitats and wildlife when too many people visit, or when pro-motors who don't clearly understand the aims of eco-tourism bait or chase animals to give their customers closer looks. For that reason, people considering an eco-tour should be sure the promoter is endorsed by a well-respected animal protection group, such as IFAW. (Tours receiving such endorsements are routinely listed in *Network Notes* under the heading "Good Trips.")

—M.C.

Poll Backing Hunting Was Bogus

The National Shooting Sports Foundation recently proudly informed press and public of the results of a poll commissioned from the Gallup Organization: 90 percent of the 1,000 people polled opposed hunter harassment by animal rights organizations, and 89 percent indicated they disagreed with the "positions and activities" of animal defenders. This added up, said NSSF, to "an overall rejection of the animal rightists' goals and strategies."

The poll could be seen as a stunning reversal for animal rights, since last January a Milwaukee *Journal* poll found that 75 percent of the public generally supports the

cause.

But there was one problem with the NSSF poll: the Gallup Organization disowned it. According to Alex Gallup, chairman of the Gallup Organization, the poll was conducted while he was out of the country and was anything but scientific.

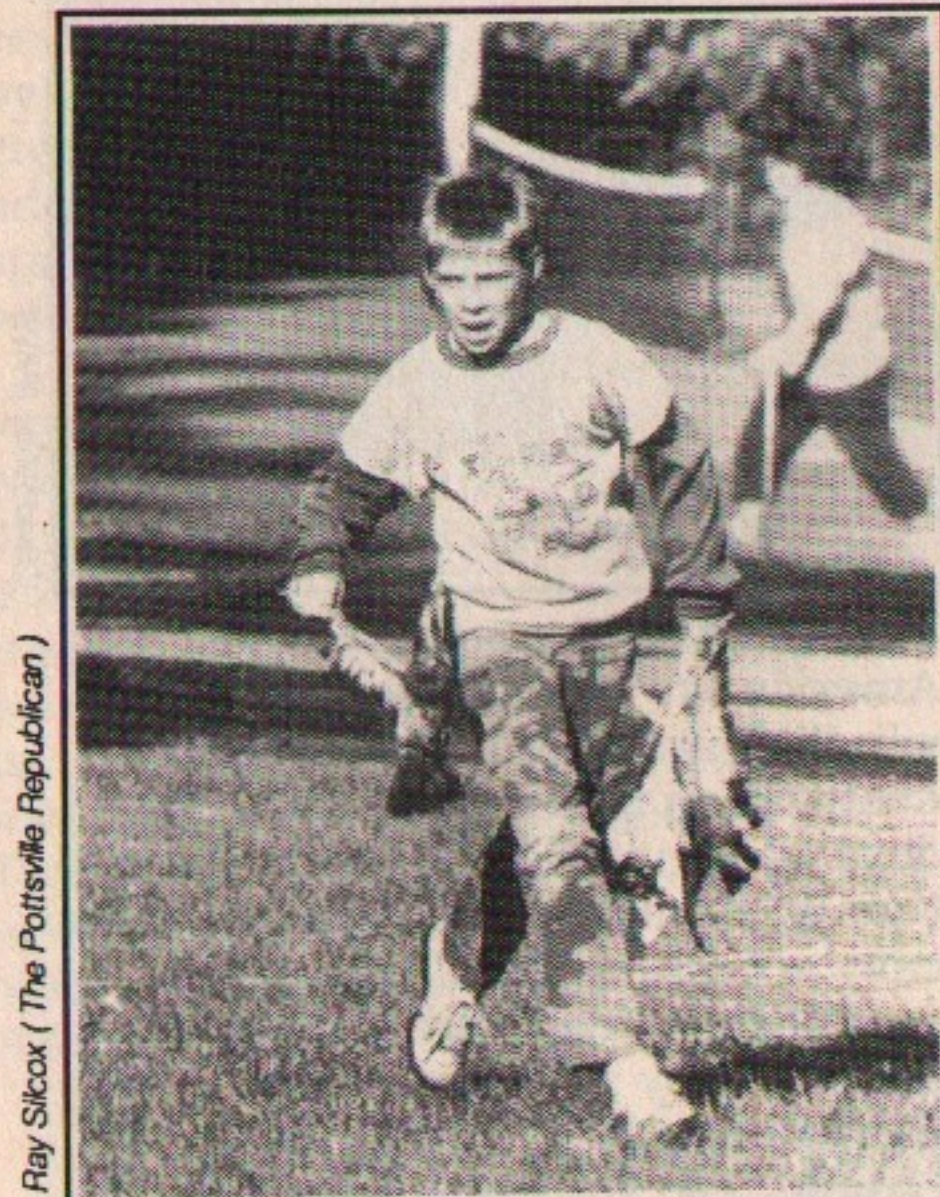
"It appears from my reading that the methodology was flawed and the questions loaded," Gallup said. "It was wrong to have conducted the survey this way, and I'm embarrassed and outraged that it was done by our organization. It would never have gotten past me." Gallup Organization policy is to refuse jobs commis-

sioned by advocacy groups. "People should discount this poll," Gallup fumed. "It was an administrative mistake, and it will never happen again. Someone here went berserk."

Besides loading the questions, NSSF apparently had the pollsters survey the parts of the U.S. with the strongest pro-hunting, anti-animal rights sentiment.

Interestingly, despite the built-in bias, some of the findings showed support for animal rights. A plurality of 72 percent admitted having either "a great deal" or "some" respect for animal defenders. About 35 percent favored a ban on laboratory animal research, while 51 percent either strongly or somewhat supported stricter laws protecting farm animals.

—Jim Motavalli



Ray Sikox (The Pottsville Republican)

Violence to animals became violence to people at the 57th annual Hegin's, Pa., 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 Heidi Prescott of the Fund for Animals and Jennie Woods of PETA led two groups in dashing between the gunners and the pigeons. The first three demonstrators held capsules of fake blood between their teeth, broke them as bystanders chanted "Shoot, shoot, shoot!", and feigned 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 the low end, Joe Taksel of Mobilization for Animals, Pennsylvania, put activist numbers at 150, well down from the 400 who marched and chanted at the 1989 shoot. At the high end, reporters Karen Hube and Daryl Nerl of the Pottsville Republican said there were 300 protesters this year.

Either way, they were far out-

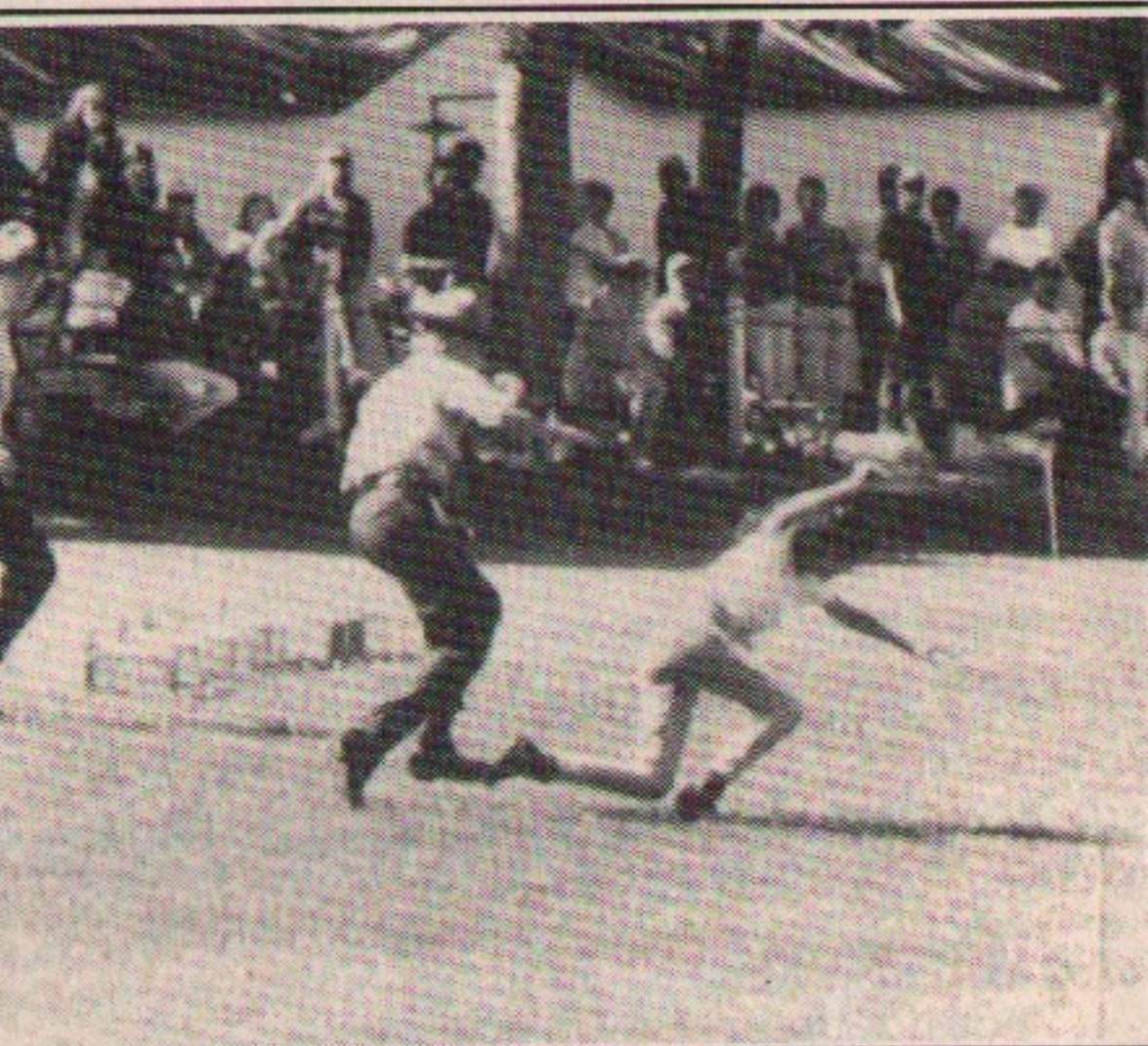


Ray Sikox (The Pottsville Republican)

numbered by the 248 shooters, a shoot record, and 8,000 spectators, several hundred of whom loitered outside the killing field in admitted hope of a confrontation. "People were there just looking to beat someone up," said Dana Stuchel 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 publicity given to shoot opponent Steve Hindi's offer to box a shoot organizer as a fund-raising 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."

But despite five hours of heckling and shoving, during which



Ray Sikox (The Pottsville Republican)

Chevy pickup came through and started bumping people," as videotape confirmed. "He was ahead of us by the time I saw it. One girl who was bumped dropped her sign in the back. The next car was a white Firebird, and it too started bumping people." Hindi stepped in front of it, thrust his buttocks toward the driver, and said, "Hey, asshole, hit me." The driver, 23-year-old Michael Stewart of Annville, Pa., did just that, sending Hindi sprawling over the hood. As Hindi clung to the windshield wiper recess, "He took off

Birdshooters, Police Attack Activists At Hegin's

shoot supporters hurled a dead skunk at the protesters, fighting didn't erupt until Pennsylvania state police captain John Kotron ordered the protest ended. A phalanx of 70 troopers, six members of the Schuylkill County Sheriff's Dept., two county detectives, and two Hegin's Township police officers "pushed the demonstrators down a gravel road right into four of the most violent shoot supporters," Taksel recounted. That brought a shoving incident. A more violent clash came when carloads of hecklers followed the protesters out, driving through the police line.

"Our people were leaving," explained Hindi, "when a black

up the road," Hindi recalled, "then threw on 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 bermuda shorts. Witnesses screamed for Hindi to look out, that Stewart had a gun, but Hindi said he never saw a weapon. Outweighing Hindi by at least 50 pounds, Stewart next tackled him, hurling him across the road. "I was facing a couple or three guys," Hindi remembered.

"Four of them jumped on Steve," confirmed Taksel, who thought it was actually a bystander who pulled a gun. "A woman threw her

it, and another four troopers tackled him. One throttled him. Unti 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," Unti noted. "There was no way to identify an officer."

Despite that, various individuals and groups plan suits alleging wrongful injuries and civil rights violations by 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 Hindi pleaded not guilty to disorderly conduct and criminal property damage. Greg Hindi and Unti 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 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 has to be done in the right context. The people who went out on the field didn't know what was best for the



Dave Newton (The Pottsville Republican)

campaign, and their action may set us back as far as getting legislation passed," which would ban 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 Hindi'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 Hindi 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.



body over Steve, who was really getting a beating, and then the cops rescued him." Hindi'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 Stutzman yanked a bullhorn away from Bernard Unti of the American Anti-Vivisection Society, who said he had only asked if it was okay for him to use

DATELINE: INTERNATIONAL

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



GLOBAL— Panda Rescue Failure Shakes World Wildlife Fund

In what is rapidly shaping up as one of this year's juiciest mini-scandals in Britain, the World Wildlife Fund (a.k.a. Worldwide Fund for Nature) has been recently forced to release a secret internal report which harshly questions the organization's methods and effectiveness in the conduct of its international conservation projects.

Ironically, the report, by John Phillipson, a retired Oxford zoologist, was commissioned by WWF itself to help it redefine its aims in the 1990s. Phillipson was instructed to call it as he saw it, "warts and all," but it's now obvious, especially in light of the ensuing controversy and embarrassment, that few top WWF officials expected such a scathing assessment. In fact, in a confidential memo Prince Philip, who heads the fund, saw the report as potentially highly embarrassing. "If we do let it out, all the mischief-makers will have a field day," he said.

The 200-page report

By DAVID P. GREANVILLE

was delivered last September after an 18-month investigation and was never intended for publication. Phillipson found that almost one-third of all WWF conservation projects suffered from serious administrative, reportorial, 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 international effort. In Phillipson's opinion, the fund's attempt to save the panda has been an utter failure typified by the more than \$2.5 million spent by the organization on a breeding and research station in Woolong, in the Chinese province of Szechuan, where only one live panda has been born (and has since died). Since the report's appearance, senior fund officials have admitted that the panda may indeed become extinct unless new approaches are promptly put into effect.

Once literally above scrutiny and controversy, 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 lifestyles of many of its top officials, including Prince Philip who is an avid hunter—have fallen increasingly under attack by more radical activists. (See "Whither the World Wildlife Fund," AA, May 89.)

Animal rights activists, in particular, have often been at loggerheads with the fund. During most of the protracted 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 all ivory commerce, the fund chose to endorse the so-called "pragmatic use" stance favored by countries such as Zimbabwe and South Africa. Both countries are on record as wanting to see the ivory trade continue, claiming that carefully enforced policies of "herd enhancement and harvesting" can assure both the pachyderms' survival and the preser-

vation of their habitat.

Critics have pointed out that such "pragmatic" policies of "resource utilization" do not take into account the rapidly worsening economic and political situation in much of Africa, where turmoil and continuing rapid population growth are likely to reduce even further the ability of governments to set aside animal habitats and control poaching even in heavily guarded areas.

Perhaps as a result of these arguments, or in an opportunistic switch designed to join a winning bandwagon, 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 promising a much more open and professional approach toward the management of its operations. De Haes recently declared that henceforth WWF planners, working closely with regional representatives, would try to reflect more accurately local knowledge and conditions in the projects the organi-

Dateline:International

zation has in progress in more than 70 countries. In addition, the WWF's top brass, looking beyond the narrow confines of strict animal conservation, is promising greater emphasis on sustainable development, the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

These are welcome changes, but it is a shame, as the *London Times* editorialized, that it took a newspaper leak and the threat of an imminent television documentary expose to force the fund's hand. **Main sources:** The ANIMALS' AGENDA British correspondents, The *London Times*.

FRANCE— French Cannery Boycott Tuna

The marine division of the French Cannery Syndicate, an industry group, decided last May to adopt by unanimity a resolution banning the purchase of any tuna caught at the expense of dolphin lives. The new policy, which will remain in effect indefinitely, reinforces a similar policy adopted by Starkist and two other major U.S. tuna packers last April 12.

Until the ban, France imported a considerable amount of tuna from the Eastern Tropical Pacific, where most of the carnage has been taking place. More dolphin lives are likely to be spared if other European nations imitate France's example. At presstime, neither Spain nor Italy, which imported in 1989 up to 40,000 tons of tuna, had joined the French boycott.

Activists fear that the Pacific Ocean tuna, especially those fished by Latin American fleets, will

now enter Italy at discount prices and possibly flood the rest of the Western European market. This is a matter of deep concern for the leading French tuna brands such as Petit Navire, Pompon Rouge, Capitaine Cook, and Pepere le Bayon, since such competition might cut deeply into their territories and endanger the employment of 3,500 people who work in tuna canneries in Brittany, St. Jean de Luz, and Boulogne. **Main sources:** La Fleche/ Robin des Bois, and The ANIMALS' AGENDA correspondents.



ITALY— Hunting Referendum Fails

After a long campaign in which several parties of the left and the budding Italian Green movement finally succeeded in putting the issue of hunting and pesticides to a vote on 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 to stay away from the polls by none 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 remain hopeful 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 traced to the highly creative way in which the animal/environmentalist forces presented the issues to the public. Under slogans such as "All of us love animals. Two million hunters love them to death"; and 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 further education.

Some Italians were clearly grateful for the educational aspects of the campaign. In a country where both egalitarianism and good cuisine are 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 and thereby deprive another person of his or her right to peaceful enjoyment found a warm response. Similarly, many Italians were discomfited upon hearing that common apples may use up to 145 types of pesticide; that grapes routinely carry up to 138; that an innocent salad may contain 106; and that even breakfast juices may hold traces of up to 100 or more insect poisons. The coalition, of course, favors organic modes of farming. **Main sources:** Animal Amnesty (Milan), and The ANIMALS' AGENDA correspondents.

Italy is in some respects an extraordinary political phenomenon, especially in terms of environmentalist and animal rights activity. Although both causes are fairly new, they have made great strides in less than a decade, and it is noteworthy that it was in Italy and not the U.S. or even Britain, where animal defense feeling seems to run much deeper, that

INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

Edited By Merritt Clifton

Seal clubbing began Sept. 7 at the Cape Cross nature reserve in Namibia. The Seal Action Group of South Africa was uncertain what the Cape Cross quota would be, "or when or if slaughters will follow in Atlas Bay and Wolf Bay," two colonies "that have suffered 98 percent pup mortality in the past two years." South Africa was to decide Sept. 30 whether to let Taiwanese aphrodisiac broker Hsein-I-Hsu kill over 30,000 seals at Port Nolleth to get their genitals. Reneging on a promise to the government of the Republic of China (Taiwan), Hsu later said he would pursue slaughter regardless of world opinion. Hsu declined a serious buyout offer from a Cape Town businessman, who wanted to convert his seal processing plant to make fish meal. Protest to South African Ambassador Pieter G.J. Koornhofs, 3051 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20008.

Hoping to make trophy hunts a major source of income, Mongolia has begun a first-ever wildlife census.

Ventilation failure killed 9,832 of the 81,261 sheep aboard the *Cormo Express* on a recent run from New Zealand to Saudi Arabia. Up to 83,000 sheep have died in the first 50 shipments made since New Zealand lifted a ban on live sheep exports in 1985. A government inquiry is underway. (See "The Myth of the Good Shepherd," May 1990.)

Due to low wool prices, Australian shepherds recently shot two million sheep, too old to sell for meat. Said one shepherd, "Some of these sheep aren't worth a bullet." Angry French shepherds attacked over two dozen truckloads of sheep imported from Britain, cutting the throats of 386 lambs aboard one truck, poisoning 94 sheep on another, and burning 219 sheep alive inside still another. The driver of the burned truck rescued 220 more sheep, but most had to be euthanized later. Demanding government aid, over 12,000 French farmers fought 2,000 riot police at the town of Nevers. Outraged Welsh shopkeepers retaliated against the sheep killings with a boycott of French goods.

The Alberta Fish and Game Assn. has joined Native Americans and environmentalists in opposing the Canadian government's plan to kill 4,000 of the 4,200 bison at Wood Buffalo Natl. Park to halt the spread of brucellosis—but says if the bison are to be killed, hunters should do it.

U.S. district judge Thelton Henderson has banned tuna imports from Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Vanuatu, until they can prove their tuna boats don't kill dolphins at more than twice the rate of the U.S. fleet.

Exposes of cruel training methods disrupted the recent World Equestrian Games, held in Stockholm. West German media revealed that contrary to Swedish law, some trainers rapped horses' legs with a wooden pole to make them jump higher, put acid on the horses' legs and pins into riders' boots to make their skin more sensitive to the raps, shocked the horses with electric spurs, and used pins inside nosebands to make them stop sharply.



Meeting fears that standardizing European Economic Community product safety requirements will mean more animal testing, the European Parliament's Commission on Consumer Protection is preparing a list of cosmetic ingredients that need not be tested. Commission chair Karel Van Miert also wants to create a special label to certify cruelty-free products.

The World Society for the Protection of Animals is trying to verify reports that Iraq, after invading Kuwait, took the scarcest animals from the Kuwait National Zoo to Baghdad, while

the rest were left to starve for a week until Iraqi troops, hungry due to the world trade embargo against the invasion, killed and ate them. A lion who escaped apparently killed a child. The best Kuwait race and show horses were also taken to Baghdad, refugees said, while the rest starved until eaten. Dogs and cats were reportedly shot on sight, lest they eat food that could go to humans.

Gas masks are a hot item in Israel, since Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein threatened to annihilate the nation with chemicals. Many Israelis also seek masks for their dogs and cats. *The New York Times* reported, adding "The entrepreneur who comes up with such a device stands to make a fortune."

The Canadian Wildlife Service has stripped Alberta pilot Bill Lishman of his permit to keep wild geese and endangered trumpeter swans he trained to fly with his ultralight. Lishman said he wanted to restore the birds to old migration paths, but CWS believes his real aim was selling "nature" videos. (See "International Briefs," Sept. 1990.)

Convicted of cruelty to over 170 dogs for the second time in five years, Quebec puppy miller Leo Jean got three years probation and a fine of \$1,000, to be paid to the Sherbrooke SPCA, who bought Jean's animals and equipment for \$1,500 in hopes of putting him out of business. The case led local papers to back the Canadian SPCA's effort to get Quebec to pass tougher anti-cruelty legislation. An anti-cruelty bill was stalled in the Natl. Assembly by Jewish opposition to a clause requiring animals to be stunned before slaughter (contrary to kosher law).

French environment minister Brice Lalonde on Sept. 6 declared a 16,250-acre sanctuary for the nation's last 12 to 14 brown bears—less than a tenth of the habitat they need. Upset that "beat and drive" boar hunting was banned in the sanctuary, hunting groups threatened to "beat and drive" there anyway, and kill the bears "accidentally" if possible. Back Lalonde, and ask for more space for the bears, by writing President Francois Mitterrand, Palais de L'Elysee, Rue du Faubourg St. Honore, 75008 Paris, France.

Trinidad and Tobago fishermen have joined the Trinidad and Tobago SPCA in protesting Taiwanese driftnetting in the Caribbean.

The Supreme Court of Canada has affirmed the right of provinces to insist margarine be dyed unnatural colors, to quash competition with butter makers. Margarine was banned in Canada until 1949.

Quebec premier Robert Bourassa, whose career is founded on the ecologically destructive James Bay hydro-electric project, failed to include any environmentalists, Native Americans, or women on a 35-member panel set up to plan Quebec's future.

Calgary now requires cat owners to keep cats on their own property. Vancouver has a limit of six cats per residence.

Conservation Intl. has closed deals in which two U.S. firms will buy \$150,000 worth of buttons made from tagua palm nuts, an ivory substitute taken from the Ecuadorian rain forest. Button sales could help stop rainforest logging.

Dali, Spain, has bought the city bullring. The Catalan Green Movement seeks letters to the mayor, asking that the ring be used for other purposes. Write Ajuntament de Figueres, At. Sra. Maria Lorca, Figueres-Girona, Spain.

The Office of Technology Assessment has advised Congress that the \$275 million international effort to kill locust swarms in Africa waged

throughout the 1980s did more harm by dumping tons of insecticide into drought-stricken environments than good in protecting already withered crops. The locusts became resistant to many of the chemicals, and often quit swarming only after all the crops were eaten. Meanwhile malnourished people became especially susceptible to insecticide poisoning.

Mexico has accepted a debt-for-nature swap in which 200 million trees will be planted near Mexico City in trade for forgiveness of \$150 million of international loans. The deal should help relieve Mexico City air pollution, the world's worst.

An endangered chameleon died from a parasitic condition aggravated by stress a day after spending eight hours under the lights during taping of a TV ad by the British Columbia (Canada) Social Credit Party. The chameleon reached B.C. from Madagascar over a three-month period via Los Angeles Reptiles Inc., Pet Farm Inc. of Miami, and World's Exotic Pets of Victoria, B.C., none of whom treated the parasites.

The Canadian Anti-Fur Alliance placed the "Shame of Fur" billboards developed by the Anti Bont Comite of the Netherlands and HSUS in the 10 largest Canadian cities throughout October.

The Intl. Primate Protection League asks that letters protesting the light sentence Singapore gave animal smuggler Kurt Schafer be sent to the Director of Primary Production, Natl. Development Bldg., 3rd Story, Maxwell Rd., Singapore 0106. Schafer, caught shipping six baby orangs and two siamangs last February (three of them packed upside down), paid only a \$600 fine. (Singapore's fine for not flushing a public toilet is \$100.) The five surviving orangs have been returned to Borneo and the siamangs to Sumatra.

"Despite poorer performance on an individual bird basis, it pays to crowd broilers," the farm journal *Feedstuffs* recently reported, citing a study by Dr.

Simon Green of the British feed firm Dalgety Agriculture Ltd.

Since Japanese aphrodisiac dealers began paying big bucks for reindeer horn, the Lapps have built their deer herds up to about 200,000, 20 percent more than experts believe the Arctic tundra can feed.

Shamisens, a traditional Japanese musical instrument, are strung with catskin—mostly from stolen cats until the recent rise of protest groups such as Tokyo's Victims of Cat-Catchers. Now the catskin comes from South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand, where cats are eaten.

Overfishing has cut the catch off Rishiri Island in northern Japan by two-thirds in 10 years.

Rock-eating snails produce about 11 percent of the nitrogen available to fertilize desert soil, report researchers working in Israel.

Dr. Harry Heimlich, inventor of the Heimlich maneuver to save choking victims, has persuaded the Israeli Ministry of Defense "to stop operating on live dogs to desensitize paramedics to the carnage of battle," according to Concern for Helping Animals in Israel.

Australia has begun captive breeding of eastern quolls, found only in Tasmania but once common over much of the continent. The eastern quoll is the rarest of four species of quolls, a rat-like bird-eating marsupial who filled the ecological niche of housecats until made scarce by competition from feral cats.



Underscoring the difficulty of saving the rainforest in an impoverished, undereducated

nation largely terrorized by big landowners with either army ties or private militias, the Pastoral Land Commission of the Roman Catholic Church of Brazil reports that landless workers are often forced into slavery in Amazonia, while Amnesty International charges that death squads killed 457 teenagers and children in the three biggest Brazilian cities last year. So far this year, 11 unionists have been killed in the Para region alone.

Vegetarian marathoner Cindy New (see profile, Oct. 1990) clocked 2:47 to win the Montreal Intl. Marathon for the second time in three years.

Crowds of tourists, even late at night, harass Malaysian leatherback sea turtles so much on their nesting beaches that many don't lay eggs. Despite a ban on the sale or eating of leatherback eggs, poachers sell them as aphrodisiacs for about \$1 each. Only 40 leatherbacks nested last year, down from 100 six years ago and over 2,000 a year in the 1960s.

As a member of the U.N. peacekeeping force on Cyprus in 1973, Hans Jorg Wiedl of Austria was so appalled by Cypriot reptile killing that he returned upon discharge to found the Cyprus Herpetological Society. Four species of snakes native to Cyprus went extinct between 1960 and 1973, but none since Wiedl, a.k.a. Snake George, began his public education effort.

Mexican zoos, notorious for animal smuggling, have been warned by the government that any elephants imported in violation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species will be confiscated.

Researchers trying to enforce the CITES ivory trade ban have found ways to trace the origin of tusks by analyzing DNA molecules and isotope ratios.

Conservation Intl. has secured a \$5 million debt-for-nature swap with Madagascar, to finance an inventory of endangered species. Three-fourths of the native plants and animals on Madagascar are unique to the island. Most are at risk from logging and slash-and-

burn farming, which have destroyed 80 percent of the island's rainforest in the past few decades.

To satisfy ranchers who claim abundant bush-tailed opossums may spread disease to their cattle, New Zealand has spread 100 tones of poison pellets and is passing out free opossum trapping permits. Brought from Australia in 1858, the opossums multiply fast because the ranchers already wiped out their native predators.

International Notes: Sandra van de Werd of the Anti Diergebruik Komitee locked herself into a cage outside the Amsterdam Zoo on August 3 as an exhibit of homo sapiens. "I'm almost insane from all the stupid remarks of the public and the lack of privacy," she told *The ANIMALS' AGENDA* two weeks later. ♦ The 30-year-old Humane Research Trust underwrites alternatives to animal-based biomedical study. For a catalog of cruelty-free products sold to fund the work, write Brook House, 29 Bramhall Lane South, Bramhall, Cheshire SK7 2DN, United Kingdom. ♦ Quest Cancer Test promotes routine tissue screening to prevent cancer deaths, "to set an example in practical terms as to what can be done without the use of animals," says Jean Pitt, who began the group after cancer-fighting methods based on animal research failed to save her son. Get details from Woodbury, Harlow Rd., Roydon, Essex CM19 5HF, United Kingdom. ♦ Coordinating Animal Welfare has issued a handy *Wildlife Project Book* for use by schoolchildren. Inquire to P.O. Box 589, Bristol BS99 1RW, United Kingdom. ♦ Fuerzas Ecologicas de Liberacion Animal, perhaps Mexico's most active group, recently introduced stunning equipment to the Guadalajara slaughterhouse, got a federal ban on poisoning wildlife, and organized protests against hunting and circuses. Contact FELA at Vidrid 2078, Sector Juarez, C.P. 44100, Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico.



American Mobilization to Enact the Rights of Animals Constitutional Amendment

LIFE, LIBERTY, JUSTICE AND EMPATHY FOR ALL

Symbolically speaking, AMERACA, the organization, bears three meanings. An originating **MOVEMENT**; a guiding **MANDATE**; and a fulfilling **MOBILIZATION**. Each represents the historical progression of one preeminent idea-----the idea of "Proclaiming Liberty throughout all the land unto ALL the inhabitants thereof" ----- the inscription on our founding liberty bell. AMERACA, the organization, is part of the symbolic idea of the conception, the birth, and the maturing of democracy in its highest form. The idea of the historical past, the dynamic present, and the inspiring future of a peoples' deepest desire for their nation to be truly free. The idea that this nation's supreme manifest destiny has been the HOPE, is now the DEMAND, and will be the PERFECTION of justice for all. Part of the idea by which an originating **MOVEMENT**, a guiding **MANDATE**, and a fulfilling **MOBILIZATION** helps bind together the sentiments of seven generations of true freedom believers in a unified joining of hands to climb the higher moral ground.

AMERACA, the **MOVEMENT**, was symbolically conceived on the 4th of July, 1776. It was the originating **HOPE** of life, liberty, justice and empathy for **ALL**. It was the genesis of an all encompassing, welling up of a deeper feeling of truth, a higher moral idea, a driven inner sense of manifest destiny that most assuredly compelled some of our forebears to a new frontier of thinking and acting toward **ALL** the inhabitants of this new land of the free. It was the overpowering inner command that surely must have moved a great multitude of thoughtful, true liberty worshiping people to change the direction of their sustenance beliefs as they looked above themselves and beheld illuminated glimpses of a higher moral law. It was that certain revelation to a heretofore, untold number of deep thinking patriots of unknown name, who upon reading the Declaration of Independence, gained greater insight of all creation, and empowered as such with broader enlightened reason, gazed shamefully at their dinner plates of meat, fish, fowl and other flesh; and thus being filled with that great Ethic of Empathy, were most certainly moved to proclaim-----Never, never, never, never, never, never, never again! Although unwritten, those deeper heartfelt commands emanating from our founding document were nevertheless, humanity's most profound grasp of the higher spirit of '76; for at those moments of awesome revelation, there undoubtedly came the overpowering realization that the symbolic root cause of **ALL** oppression and cruelty inflicted upon their animal kin, **AND** their human brethren, may indeed lay symbolically upon their dinner plate-----the decaying symbol of their morally blinded willingness to inflict harm on others, and perhaps for no truly inescapable or absolutely essential, self preserving need! AMERACA, the **MOVEMENT**, was throughout our history until now, and necessarily so, also the embodiment of the reserved demeanor of a patient, long suffering people remaining fully devoted to that high democratic value of free choice, which in, of, and by itself, impelled that people to never impose their moral choice upon their fellow human beings in that matter of assertion which, for their unique moment in time, was of a totally transcendent nature and beyond the domain of human provability. Nevertheless, that transcendent matter of unprovable assertion which went beyond the scope of the empirical capabilities of our forebears, is now, with this new generation of technological competence, no longer in the realm of unreachable knowledge. That natural notion, arising from all human beings' need for assurances of self survival and physical well being, has been, and understandably so, deeply embedded in this nations' long held "balanced" nutrition custom maintaining that the consumption of creatures' flesh was an absolute essentiality for normal human health and longevity. However, that long standing belief by which we Americans have granted ourselves the assumed fundamental right to kill animals for those reasons of normal health and longevity, is henceforth, at this advanced moment in time, an unreasonable assertion and no longer capable of withstanding the close scrutiny of truth. The verity of this pronouncement is substantiated by the long term experiential evidence of a great number of physically sound flesh abstainers in this, the seventh generation removed from our founders. Furthermore, for reasons of empirical credibility, it has been categorically proven without any reasonable shadow of a doubt, through the unbiased evidence of scientific analysis, that the abstention of all forms of flesh from the American diet has no detrimental effect on physical well being or longevity. With rare exception, we Americans all proclaim a strong belief in the highest democratic values. Inasmuch as any people who have always believed in the absolute essentiality of consuming flesh, but have subsequently become aware of that scientific conclusion to the contrary, it therefore becomes only reasonable to assume that they would thenceforth be impelled by their sense of common democratic decency to never again take sustenance in the flesh of sentient creatures. On the other hand, if such persons of self presuming good democratic conscience, would opt to ignore the calling of higher democratic ideals after being clearly informed of those proven opinions, it is only reasonable to proclaim, and with much sadness, that those persons fail miserably to comprehend the greater truths inherent in our founding principles of life, liberty, and justice for **ALL**. Such **WILLFUL** blindness toward high democratic ideals is not unlike that which in past eras has turned the same blind eye toward the tyrannies of other oppressive institutions, such as Slavery and Fascism.

AMERACA, the **MANDATE**, is the AMERICAN DECLARATION OF ANIMAL LIBERATION. Hopefully, it will be "Born" on the 10th of July, 1991. It is the **DEMAND** for Life, Liberty and Justice for **ALL**. Hopefully, this document of utmost significance will proclaim, among other vital assertions-----That all conscious, feeling, sentient beings, whether they be human or non-human, are created equal in terms of their own unique capacity to suffer; that those beings which choose harmlessness as their nature, except for those transcendent reasons encircling inescapable or absolutely essential, self preservation needs, are nevertheless, unconditionally endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are the harmless pursuit of their own unique form of happiness absolute freedom from harmfulness by others, and the absolute uncompromised right to life itself.

In that these and other crucial assertions that exist pursuant to the greater insight and broader enlightened reason emanating from the inherent truths resting in this nation's founding document, it is only prudent and reasonable that they be incorporated into the law of our land as part of the AMERICAN ANIMAL RIGHTS ACT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT (AARA). There comes a time, in the long history of the oppressions suffered by the inhabitants of a land, whereas those exploited inhabitants must be banded together to express their many grievances by the greatest means possible. It is of supreme import that grievances of such great enormity address those injustices in an item by item, point by point manner in the form of a written proclamation **DEMANDING** full redress of the many wrongs inflicted upon them by that system of oppression. The ultimate means to **quicken** justice for any severely mistreated nation of people or nation of other conscious, feeling beings is that of an all inclusive, inexorably written, explicit **DEMAND** for full liberation from that system's oppressive customs. On July 4, 1990, commencement of the initial version of the AMERICAN DECLARATION OF ANIMAL LIBERATION took place on the greatly revered steps of the U.S. Capitol. The final form of the DECLARATION will be written by many devotees with many contributing perspectives who will be assembled to compose this paramount task from each of our fifty United States. It is essential that the initial version of the AMERICAN ANIMAL RIGHTS ACT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT (AARA) also be drafted at the same time of completion as the AMERICAN DECLARATION OF ANIMAL LIBERATION. Most importantly, it is only fitting and proper that these documents, bearing such momentous gravity, be officially consummated by the approving signatures of a multitude of true freedom believers from each and every state of this justice craving land. At such time that a reasonable number of signers from each state have executed these documents, they will then be submitted to the U.S. Congress. It is hoped that the final step in this particular phase of the crusade for the animals will be made, time permitting, in 1991, the 200th anniversary year of the Bill of Rights. If timeliness does not prevail, they will be presented during 1992, the 500th anniversary year of America.

AMERACA, the **MOBILIZATION** is **YOU**...it is your platform to make your statement as you take your stand for the animals. It is **YOU** if you wish to stand up for what is clearly right and prudently denounce what is clearly wrong; there is no greater wrong in this Nation than the yearly extermination of 20 million innocent beings abandoned in our homeless shelters; 25 million tortured and butchered by the vanity serving fur industry; 60 million brutalized and destroyed by the laboratory industry as it turns a blind eye toward the enlightened methodology of alternatives to animal testing; well over 300 million ripped apart by the sporting industry and far beyond **TEN BILLION** slaughtered in the holocaust of the food industry. AMERACA is **YOU**...if you believe that the complete **EMPATHETIC** abstinence of sentient creatures' flesh in any form, is symbolically prerequisite to, and forerunner of, true and lasting animal **AND** human liberation, from all other forms of exploitation, cruelty and destruction. AMERACA is **YOU**...if you believe that the time has come to **PRIORITIZE** ethical vegetarianism into a highly visible **CRUSADE** for the animals; and that this crusade should be anchored in the Spirit of the greater truths that are inherently within our founding documents; and as such are clearly evident through greater moral insight and broader enlightened reason. AMERACA is **YOU**...if you believe it is wrong for a democratic people to extend preferential and kind treatment to one group of sentient creatures while allowing prejudiced and disastrously harmful treatment to be leveled against a somewhat different group of harmless, sentient creatures. AMERICA is **YOU**...if you believe this blinded tradition of deadly discrimination is best named Creatureism, and as such is no less a menace to a true Democracy than the slavery of Racism or the genocide of Fascism. Empathy is a high ideal; it is "the intense desire to enter through imagination into another's state of being, with the hopes of understanding becoming so intimate and keenly perceptive, that the feelings and thoughts of one are fully experienced by the other." AMERACA is **YOU**...if you believe that our Nation needs a great new ethic of higher democracy to stand beside our Lady of Liberty and our Lady of Justice; and that great New Ethic should be the Lady of Empathy; for when Liberty and Justice fully embrace Empathy, this entire Nation will truly stand tall. AMERACA is **YOU**...if you wish to be a volunteer on the high moral frontier and carry the banner of life, liberty, justice and empathy for **ALL**...as you inform, educate, write, lobby, coordinate, petition, entertain, support, and/or demonstrate in an absolutely non-abusive way by picketing, boycotting, marching and singing in front of the super markets, super restaurants, laboratories, apparel and hunting/fishing outlets in your community and throughout all this hurting land. AMERACA is **YOU**...if you wish to contribute your ideas, experience, time, talents or other resources to the composing, distributing, petitioning and signing of the final version of the American Declaration of Animal Liberation as well as the initial version of the American Animal Rights Act Constitutional Amendment. Be a Believer in the Movement - a Creator of the Mandate - a Member of the Mobilization - Be all that you can honestly be - be proud - be in AMERACA. If you wish to become an active participant in this vitally needed organization, drop me a note and let me know in which way you desire to volunteer. If you prefer not to be active, but do wish to become a supporting member, please let me know. There is no charge to become a charter member of AMERACA. Classic T-shirts and banners with slogans are available at a nominal charge.

WELCOME TO AMERACA!

AMERACA 2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., Suite 1776, Washington, D.C. 20006

Myles Sahlgren, National Coordinator

Historical Origin - 1969 - New Valhalla Society - A Humaneness Enlightening, Ethical Vegetarian, Utopian Aspiring Retreat

Legislative Affiliations - American Animal Rights Act Association - National Animal Rights Act Association

Community Affiliations - Americans Marching to Enact the Rights of Animals Constitutional Amendment

International Affiliations - PEACEQUEST - Empathy International

MS-1 7/10/90
Agenda-II 9/10/90

Elegant Dining

I noticed her in the audience during my talk: a slender woman, impeccably dressed, blond hair tied at the nape 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 is so...so graceless."

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 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 style that has traditionally been represented by lobster Newburg and coq au vin, we're going to have to come up 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 complementing a green salad or vegetable with red pepper or Italian plum tomatoes."

Devising meals that meet these criteria takes less money than creativity. It's a matter of appreciating that our eyes and nose and even our ears and fingers come to dinner along with our taste buds. The gourmet's secret is knowing how to appeal to all the senses. These suggestions from Mr. Forsberg and others can give that fifth star of panache to meals that are already ethical, 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. Never overcook. —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 cilantro, arugula, watercress, or red radicchio lettuce.—Go for fresh produce whenever possible. Frozen 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 dijon mustard and balsamic vinegar. Get basmati rice, either white or brown 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'd prefer to avoid it entirely, substitute red or white grape juice. —"The novice 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 oregano when you can and use twice as much as you would for dry herbs; 2) Buy whole spices, and grind them in an inexpensive electric coffee grinder just before using to release their fragrance and flavorful oils; 3) Buy ground herbs and spices in tiny quantities from specialty shops that do a volume business; 4) 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. Including tofu, tempeh, millet, or wheat gluten in the meal is fine, but let most of the menu be recognizable to your guests. —Use fresh fruit as a centerpiece and then serve it as dessert, providing each diner with a small plate and paring knife.—Allow for some surprises in taste (such as cantaloupe and curry) and appearance: pink geranium petals next to black olives is a

suggestion from Alexandra Stoddard's book *Living 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 freeze 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 sauteeing, 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, for brunch or luncheon, and enjoy dinner by candlelight or firelight. —Set a tantalizing table. It doesn't take a lot of matched, expensive china. Use a pottery pitcher, a basket for rolls, colorful cloth napkins, Grandma's quilt as a tablecloth for a casual meal. —Have background music that sets the mood but doesn't interfere with conversation. —Should you serve wine with the meal, stick with white wine or rose to accompany vegetable dishes like mushroom stroganoff and red wine for pastas and heavier 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 life!"

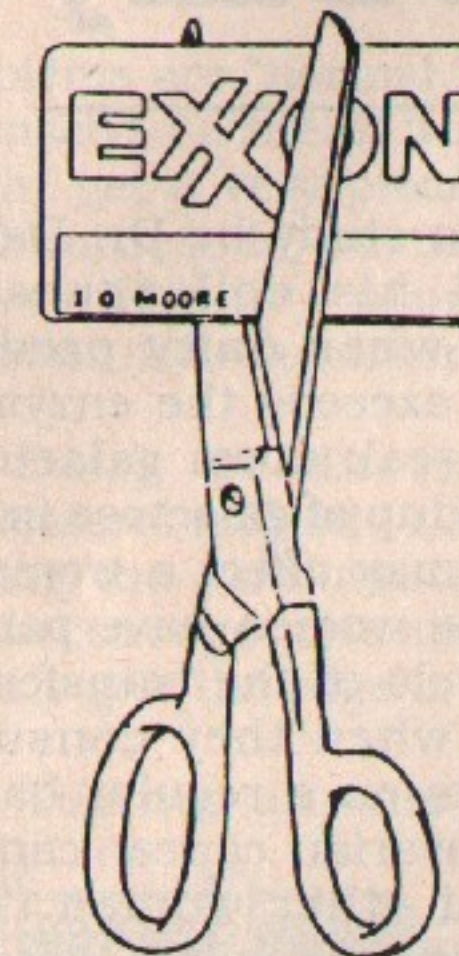
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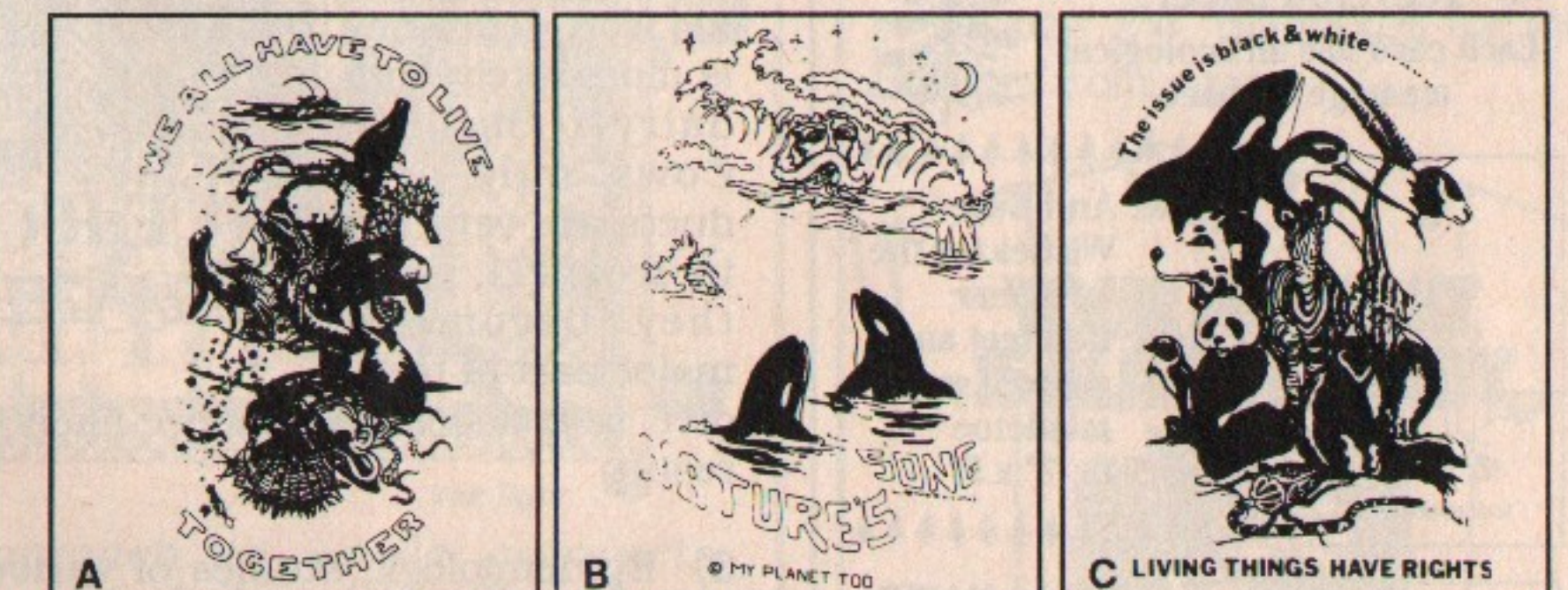


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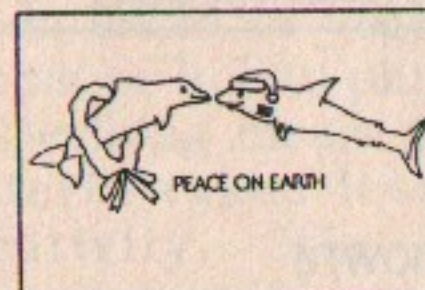
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M E D I C I N E: IN LAY TERMS

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
slaughter 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 hamburger.

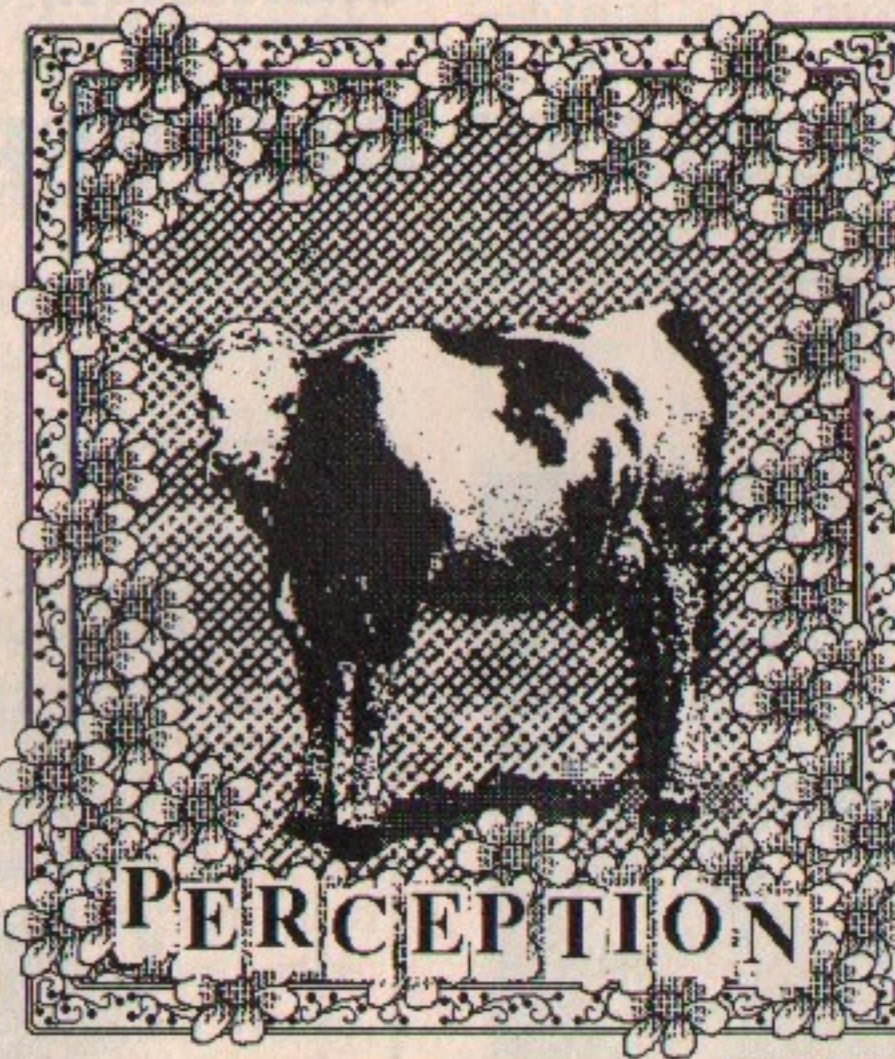
2) Iron deficiency
is more likely on a
dairy-rich diet. Cows' milk pro-
ducts are very low
in iron (1), so if
they become a
major part of the
diet, iron deficiency is more likely to
result.

3) Epidemiologic studies of various
countries show a strong correlation
between the use of dairy products
and the incidence of childhood-
onset diabetes (2). This is only a
statistical association, but research-
ers 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 *transferase*.

According to a study by Dr. Daniel
Cramer and his colleagues at
Harvard (3), when dairy product
consumption exceeds the enzyme's
capacity to break down *galactose*,
there is a buildup of *galactose* in the
blood, which may affect a woman's
ovaries. Some women have partic-
ularly low levels of the *transferase*
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 produc-
tion increase the
production of *gal-
actose* from *lac-
tose*.



Walt Taylor

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.

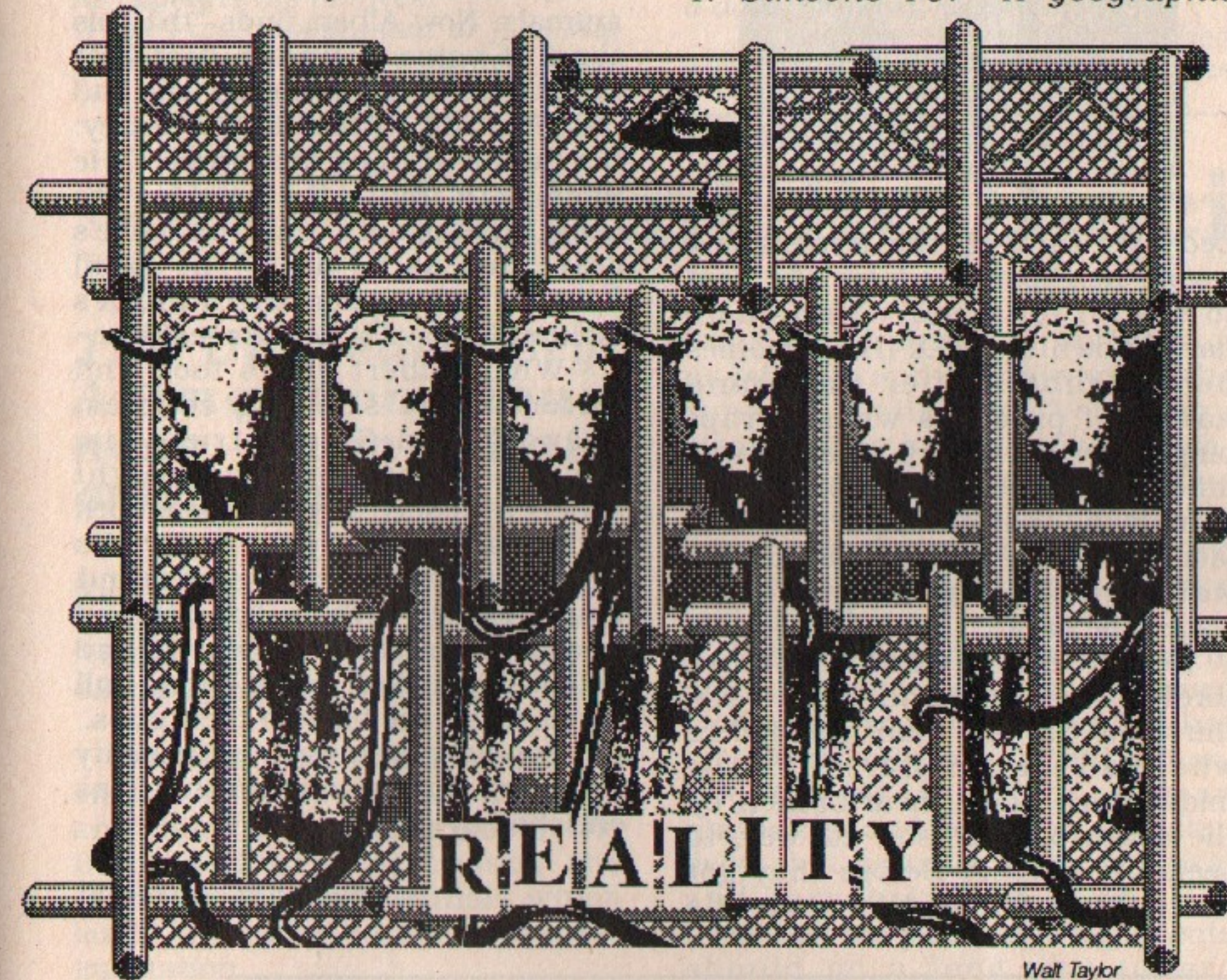
6) Many people, particularly those
of Asian and African descent, are
unable to digest *lactose*. Diarrhea
and gas can result. On the other
hand, they may be the lucky ones:
lactose intolerance may be one of
nature's ways of keeping harmful
substances out of the body.

7) Milk is one of the most allergenic
foods known. Respiratory problems,
canker sores, skin conditions, and
other subtle and not-so-subtle
allergies can be caused by dairy
products. The sad thing is that
many people never know they have
a dairy sensitivity: they think their

problems are "normal." If they'd 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 com-
paring the cardiovascular status of
ovolactovegetarians and vegans
clearly give the edge to the latter.

9) Toxins, anyone? Like other



Walt Taylor

products from animals, breast
secretions contain frequent
contaminants, from pesticides to
drugs. In this light, the dairy
industry slogan "something for every
body" takes on a clearly different
meaning.

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.

By Neal D. Barnard, M. D.

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Dr. Barnard is president of the
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Responsible Medicine (P.O. Box 6322,
Washington, DC 20015;
202-686-2210).

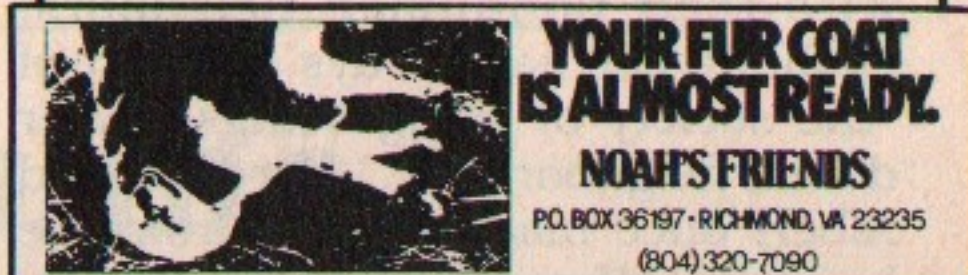
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REVIEWS

Coyote Stories

Skywater

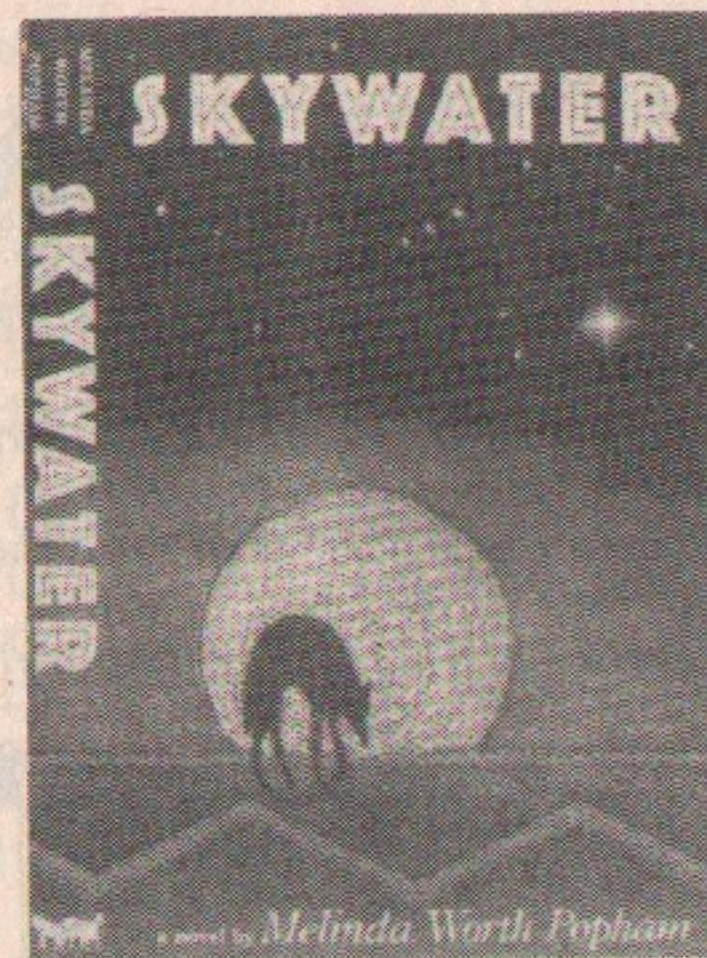
By Melinda Worth Popham; Graywolf Press (2402 University Ave., Ste. 203, St. Paul, MN 55114), 1990; 206 pages, \$17.95, hardcover.

Both Wallace Stegner and Thomas McGuane have called Melinda Worth Popham's *Skywater* a fable for our time.

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. Hallie Ryder has always felt part of "the society of living beings in her desert neighborhood." Her husband Albert once made a living from the bounties 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 humans, is groundwater pollution caused by tailings from copper mines. The Ryders have been made ill by the water and know that, despite serious drought, they must foul their tank and send 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 in part justified.



Led by Brand-X, the Ryders' six coyote neighbors do leave the area to search for water. The Ryders have known Brand-X (Hallie names her neighbors after the brand names of products whose wrappings litter the desert) since he was an orphaned pup, but have no way of knowing that his departure is in fact an exodus—a quest not just for water but for the source of all water: the ocean.

Few humans would be more likely to understand Brand-X's thirst for the sea than the Ryders who had originally left their midwestern home, heartbroken by the death of their son at war, to seek the Pacific. Before they got there, they fell in love with the

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

Because Popham has so successfully individualized the coyotes, their deaths touch as deep as does the death of Hallie Ryder. It seems right that Brand-X and his mate Chieko, pregnant with their pups, return to the Sonora after Hallie's death to share the ending of their quest with Albert.

Before her death, Hallie had always been the one to talk to the animals. Now Albert finds "that his tone of voice sounded just like Hallie's, as if, at her death, she had passed it 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 Hallie's grave just as he does. The fossil fish that once marked Brand-X's lookout is now Hallie's gravestone:

When Albert offers food and water to the starving coyotes, Brand-X and Chieko 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 Chieko, " chests and heads high, ears forward, and spirits big," their quest come full circle, await the birth of their pups.

Popham creates a community not so much diminished as enriched by death.

—Marion W. Copeland

Books for Youngsters

Only Fiona

By Beverly Keller; Harper and Row, New York, 1988; 185 pages, hardcover, \$11.89. For children ages 10 to 13.

Fiona Foster, a true animal rights youngster, is not new to children's books, but this time she has grown up a bit. We first met Fiona in the early '80s in a couple of picturebooks: *Fiona's Flea*, in which she refuses to kill a flea; and *Fiona's Bee*, in which she rescues a

bee from a dog's water dish and brings it to a park.

Fiona saves animals throughout *Only Fiona*—usually the smallest creatures. Often circumstances spin out of Fiona's control, but they're always resolved in the animals' favor.

In chapter one, Fiona is on a mission to save a colony of ants from her parents' bug spray. In other chapters, she saves a beetle from a spider web and a bee stuck in a wedding bouquet, and mounts a campaign to rescue a fish from his outgrown tank in a dentist's

office. In each situation, Fiona presents a reasonable argument first. When that doesn't work, she resorts to action.

Although it is never stated outright, Fiona's family appears to be vegetarian. (In the earlier *Fiona's Bee*, however, she is pictured with some kind of burger.)

Beverly Keller is an author gifted with an excellent ability to see the world through a child's eyes. *Only Fiona* is a lighthearted, sometimes zany, yet believable tale.

Continued on next page

REVIEWS

Continued from previous page

Fowl Play, Desdemona

By Beverly Keller; Lothrop, Lee and Sheperd, New York, 1989; 183 pages, hardcover, \$11.95. For children ages 10 to 13.

In her latest book, *Fowl Play, Desdemona*, Beverly Keller gives her readers a full dose of animal rights, through the voice of Dez's friend Sherman. Sherman is secretive at first about his dedication to the cause, but when he's caught making "Save-a-Turkey" posters at Thanksgiving, he explains his motives: "When I was about...four or five...my folks took me out to a turkey farm.

They told me I could pick my own turkey...One turkey came right up to me. 'That one,' I said. I could just tell this was my turkey. And I thought how it would be to ride home snuggled against those white feathers. The man showing us around said 'That one,' to a boy, and then took us down a dirt path to a shed with one of those wavy tin roofs. My father gave him money, and I stood and waited to take my turkey home...After a while, the boy came in the shed carrying it. It had no head and no feet—and they'd pulled all its feathers off. But I knew this was my turkey. This was the one I'd picked. My father had to put it down and run after me.

By the time Sherman is finished with his testimony, which includes

information about factory farming and fur trapping, he has not only convinced his two listeners to give up meat, he gets them to help put his posters up.

There are other poignant moments that remind us how children tend to feel about animals before they are desensitized. These main themes are intertwined with others that deal with the average concerns of 12-year-olds, making for a very readable, and sometimes humorous, story.

—Helen Rosenberg

Ms. Rosenberg is a children's librarian.

Scientific Discipline

The Unheeded Cry: Animal Consciousness, Animal Pain and Science

By Bernard E. Rollin; Oxford University Press (200 Madison Ave., NY, NY 10016), 1989; 308 pages, \$29.95 hardcover, \$14.95 paper.

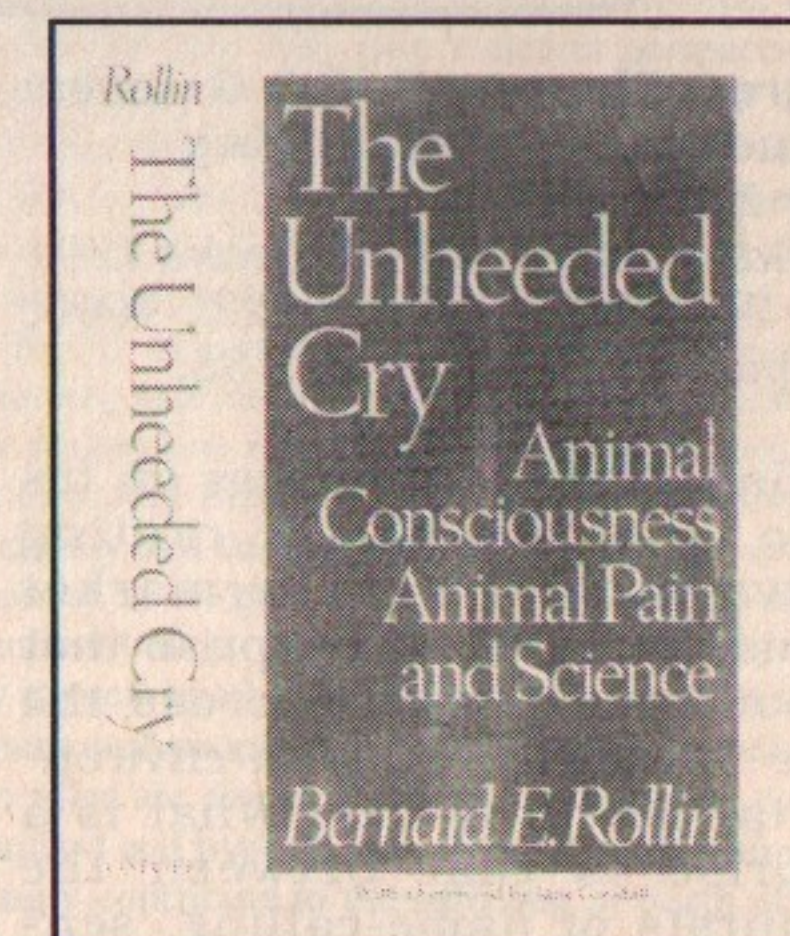
Although Bernard Rollin is not an antivivisectionist, his thorough and thought-provoking book, *The Unheeded Cry*, discusses the indoctrination of scientists which leads to animal abuse in experimentation.

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 undoing the centuries of ideological conditioning responsible for this scientific and ethical blindness.

—Zoe Weil



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

Classics Revisited

Adam's Breed

By Radclyffe Hall, 1926;

Radclyffe Hall (1883-1943) is best remembered for her novel *The Well of Loneliness*, a 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 the most famous trial 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 waiter, Gian-Luca. Even as a young child he is aware of human cruelty to animals. At five years of age, the boy suffers great anguish

Continued on next page

REVIEWS

Continued from previous page

at the sight of the neatly slit and bleeding baby goats hanging outside the butcher shop. At 15, he thrashes a waiter twice his age and size when the older man torments a cat.

As an adult, Gian-Luca is sickened, both physically and spiritually, by the enormous amount of meat he must serve wealthy diners: tons of veal, plucked chickens and geese, all prepared for that "long vista of jaws." This is not eating to survive, this is food for status.

When Gian-Luca can no longer tolerate his job, he escapes to the forest in an attempt to live harmoniously with nature. He befriends a roan pony who is then

captured to work and die in the mines. Gian-Luca learns that there is no escape from human cruelty, but that the answer to it lies in compassion and love. Pity, he learns (albeit too late), is not love. Love is participation and coping with the "seeing eye."

In *The Life and Death of Radclyffe Hall*, Hall's friend and biographer Una Troubridge writes: "[Hall] taught me to appreciate the rights of animals and conferred on me the painful privilege of the 'seeing eye,' until in the end I also could not fail to remark on the underfed or overloaded horse or ass, the chained and neglected dog, the untamed bird in the dirty, cruelly tiny cage. But before my eyes were cleansed, I remember

once to my shame saying angrily [to Hall]: 'You spoil everything! We can never go anywhere that you don't see some animal that makes you unhappy.'"

And perhaps that is the greatest strength of this strong novel. Radclyffe Hall was a writer of great craft. With her believable characters, strong images, and lively dialogue, she begins to answer some fundamental questions about human nature: why we've created a world full of cruelty and pain, and how we can transcend it.

—Naomi Rachel

Naomi Rachel is an award-winning writer living in British Columbia.

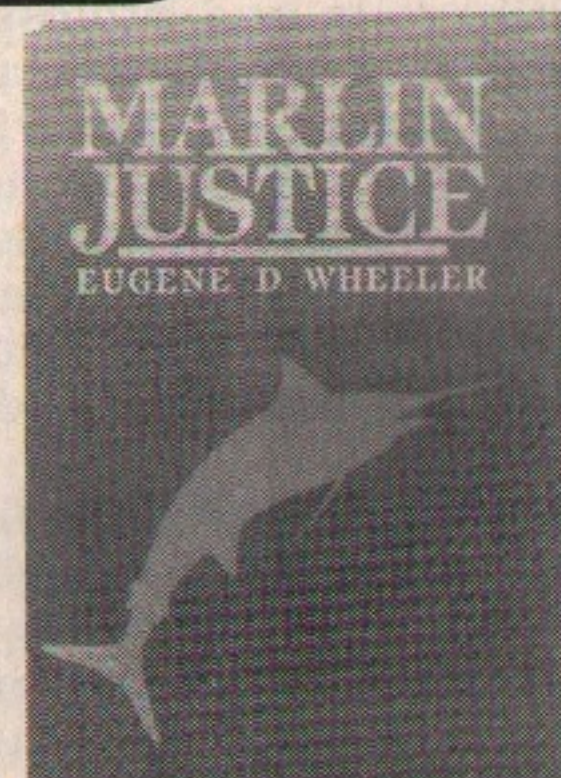
SHORT TAKES

Clearer, Cleaner, Safer, Greener: A Blueprint for Detoxifying Your Environment

By Gary Null; Villard Books (201 East 50th St., NY, NY 10022), 1990; 320 pages, hardcover, \$18.95.

Gary Null comes across on his radio talk show as the ranting equivalent of a supermarket tabloid. Thus it's no surprise that he sometimes comes across the same way in his opus on environmental health issues. What is a surprise is that between the outbursts of name-calling, sensationalism, and occasional unabashed plugola, Null and/or his ghostwriters present reasonably comprehensive (if sometimes somewhat dated) resumes of the health impacts of the greenhouse effect, acid rain, water pollution, factory farming, pesticides, food additives, food irradiation, nuclear waste, electromagnetic radiation, and waste disposal. The reader astute enough to recognize shortcuts, detours, and points where Null hopes to cover *non sequitur* with *tour-de-force* may find this a useful starting point for understanding the issues covered. It is not, however, the gospel, whatever Null's pretensions may be.

—M.C.



Marlin Justice

By Eugene D. Wheeler; Pathfinder Publishing of California (458 Dorothy Ave., Ventura, CA 93003), 1990; 180 pages, \$9.95 paperback, \$16.95 hardbound.

A lame narrative style handicaps an otherwise fun story of a retired engineer who catches a marlin on a Mexican holiday, regrets it, is tried for his crime in a dream of an underwater courtroom, and escapes a death sentence by pledging to prevent further marlin catches. The ex-engineer develops several promising methods of keeping marlin away from trophy fishermen before the *federales* apprehend him. Would-be aquatic hunt saboteurs: take notice.

—M.C.

The New Vegetarians

By Rynn Berry; Town House Press, Chestnut Ridge, NY, 1988; 190 pages, \$10.95, softcover (available from Pythagorean Books, P.O. Box 8174, J.A.F. Station, NY, NY 10116—add \$2.00 for postage/handling).

Fourteen famous men and women tell why they became vegetarians. Interviewed are writers Isaac Bashevis Singer and Brigid Brophy, actors Cloris Leachman and Dennis Weaver, comedian Dick Gregory, and other celebrities who discuss the effect vegetarianism has had on their lives.



RYNN BERRY

The word GRAAL is a variation of the word GRAIL and is defined as "An eminently desirable and ultimate object of an extended effort or quest." The ultimate object of GRAAL, the organization, is to encourage society to form a spiritual bond with the Animal Kingdom in the hopes of forever liberating all harmless, sentient creatures from the oppressive human traditions by which they suffer. The GRAAL asserts that this effort, this quest, is best served by promoting the higher virtues and greater enlightened reason emanating from the inspired concepts of Empathy and the Golden Rule. The Golden Rule is a sublime truth. It is "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you." Empathy is a sublime truth. It is "the intense desire to enter through imagination into another's state of being, with the hopes of understanding becoming so intimate and keenly perceptive, that the feelings and thoughts of one are fully experienced by the other." The GRAAL claims that the genesis of belief in the higher truths of the Universe begins in the people of a Nation when the virtue of Empathy becomes incorporated as a sacred ethic in the minds and hearts of that people, to such extent that it fully embraces all sentient beings, whether they be of human or animal origin. The GRAAL is an outreach of GRAILQUEST which is a spiritually centered organization established for people who have been born into the five major faiths of the world (Christian, Moslem, Jewish, Hindu and Buddhist), as well as those who are not adherents of organized religion, but nevertheless, also share the same common desire to believe in a power which surpasses all earthly powers; a Power which transcends complete human understanding; a Power which is the single source of humanities' highest aspirations and greatest truths; a Power which is Ultimate Goodness; a Power which is The Divine Maker—The Supreme Creator; a Power which leads those who quest for ultimate reality away from the subtle shadows of falsehood and destruction into the clear light of truth and creation. The GRAILQUEST believes there are Seven Supreme Virtues in the Universe (Empathy, Compassion, Mercy, Truthfulness, Forgiveness, Sacrifice, Unconditional Love) and that devotion to the virtue of Empathy begins the journey to the core of Quintessential Being. The GRAAL asserts that until we have embraced all conscious, feeling creatures with the genuine compassion stemming from Empathy and the enlightened reason stemming from the Golden Rule, neither we as individuals or as a people will be true believers in the Sublime Goodness stemming from The Creator. The GRAAL believes that true spiritual growth in an individual cannot progress past a fundamental level of spiritual understanding, until one's inner beliefs ascend and go beyond the capacity of concern for only oneself; or those close to oneself; or those who are of some prospective benefit to oneself, whether they be human or animal. There exists in the core message of the GRAAL the same deep dedication to the protection and preservation of conscious, feeling, harmless creature life, that all thoughtful human beings have toward guarding vulnerable, innocent or greatly disadvantaged human life. The GRAAL promotes a deep spiritual reverence for ALL life. The spiritual rationale of the GRAAL deems it morally wrong to force harmless, sentient beings, human or creature, to make unwilling sacrifices for oneself; but that it is morally right for oneself to make willing sacrifices for others who are clearly at the mercy of belief systems which have not yet become enlightened with the fullest understanding of compassion. The founding sentiment of the GRAAL toward innocent animal life is best summarized by its likening to the deep persuasions of the following prayer from another era of a lesser scientific understanding; but with a clear understanding of the Spirit being greater than the Flesh. "Dear God, they say we are to have dominion over all the animals, fish, birds and other living, feeling creatures to the extent that we are entitled to destroy them to serve our own bodily needs. I can no longer do that and at the same time consider myself a compassionate man. They also say that my body needs the protein of animals, birds, fish or other creatures in order to remain healthy. I pray this is not so; but if it is true, that my body will weaken and my longevity will shorten for the lack of creatures' flesh—Then so be it. For to me, it is far better to pass on sooner full of mercy, than it is to live longer for the lack of it." (1971). Of course, the once valid apprehensiveness of a fleshless diet derived from the once common belief presuming westernized bodies could not sustain good health on such a revolutionary diet, is no longer a justifiable fear; for it has been categorically proven without any reasonable shadow of a doubt, through the conclusive evidence of experimental and experiential analysis, that the abstention of all forms of flesh from the human diet has no detrimental effect on physical well being or longevity. A purpose of the GRAAL is to clearly inform people of these irrefutable conclusions in order that they may gain a clearer perspective of their moral accountability to the animals. Nevertheless, the PRIDE of attitudes and traditions are not easily changed without great challenges to their moral worthiness. With much long-suffering deliberation the GRAAL greatly weighed the Supernatural Truths of Empathy and The Golden Rule versus the Natural Truths of Spiritual Free Will and Democratic Free Choice. Therefore, with prudent and firm resolve, the GRAAL feels it is only reasonable to assert that it is a GREAT moral wrong to WILLFULLY disregard those proven opinions which invalidate the need to consume flesh. To any reasonable person of conscience, this declaration holds true except for those transcendent reasons that lie beyond human capabilities and which encircle seemingly inescapable and absolutely essential self preserving needs; such as the circumstances of Eskimos surviving in an environment devoid of plant life. The GRAAL encourages the empathetically impelled abstinence of flesh rather than dietetically motivated abstinence in the hopes that society will discover and deepen its spiritual bond for ALL that suffer in the animal kingdom as well as throughout all of Humanity. Broadly speaking, from the perspective of clarifying certain deep root causes of other great wrongs existent in the world, GRAAL asserts that the EMPATHETIC abstinence of sentient creatures' flesh is SYMBOLICALLY prerequisite to, and forerunner of, true and lasting animal AND human liberation from ALL other forms of exploitation, cruelty and destruction. The GRAAL asserts that all human beings have made, and in various ways will continue to make, moral errors against others, as measured in the purest terms of the Golden Rule; for all humans are imperfect beings. However, it is self evident that moral errors committed against harmless sentient beings, whether human or creature, evolve into the greatest moral wrongs when the attitudes or actions of individuals or a people, willingly and knowingly express apathy toward the enlightenment that would end the suffering or destruction of those harmless beings. As a spiritually inclined and democratically motivated people, most of us profess to believe in the Golden Rule and naturally the Golden Rule becomes especially significant to us in those situations when roles are reversed and pain is inflicted upon us by others. A purpose of the GRAAL is to encourage society to understand that the most loathsome double standard and hypocrisy is that of oneself claiming belief in the Golden Rule, and for no absolutely essential or inescapable reason, then allowing oneself to knowingly contribute to the suffering or death of harmless, sentient human or animal beings. Furthermore, GRAAL claims that it is morally wrong to show benevolence toward one group of harmless, sentient creatures while knowingly showing prejudice and apathy toward a distinctly different group of harmless, sentient creatures. The GRAAL has named this deadly bias as Creatureism and considers it the moral equivalent of Slavery's Racism and Fascism's Genocide. Pursuant to the spiritual rationale of this self evident truth, it is only reasonable to conclude, for example, that harmless forms of minimally sentient creatures, as well as shrimp and tuna, have the same right to pursue their own unique form of happiness, and to be free from human harm in the same equal manner as are the porpoise, the eagle and any family pet. On the other hand, the same reasonableness of spirit would have us conclude that harmful mosquitoes and rabid dogs certainly do not have the same right to Liberty as do harmless cattle, poultry or elephants. To enhance and deepen the meaning of its spiritual focus for the animals, the GRAAL encourages an activist oriented agenda among its members. The GRAAL members are from all walks of life from children to the advanced in years who take a stand for the animals in a myriad of ways. The GRAAL is a synergistic exponent of the spiritually redeeming Mandate "Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land unto ALL the inhabitants thereof." If you feel the spiritual rationale of the GRAAL and its devotion to Creation can be part of an enhanced meaning in your life; and if you would like to help others rediscover that part of their original innocence which latently yearns to be once again, spiritually bonded to the most vulnerable in all of Creation; and if you feel compelled to stand up for what is morally right and to stand against that which is clearly a great moral wrong, we invite you to become a member of the GRAAL. GRAAL members actively inform, educate, write, lobby, coordinate, petition, entertain, march, picket and sing for all Creation wherever the needs of the animals will be best served. If you wish to contribute your time, abilities and support to the GRAAL as an active member, please enclose a short note explaining in what capacity you may wish to become involved. If you prefer not to be active but do wish to become a supporting member, please send your name and address to the address below. There are no fees required to become a charter member. Beautiful Tee shirts are available at a nominal charge.

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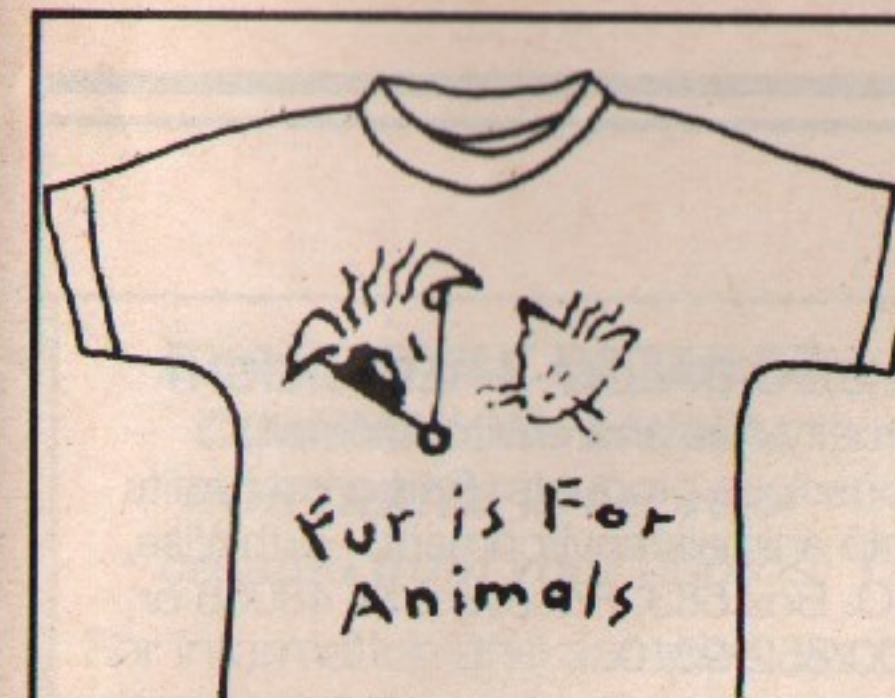
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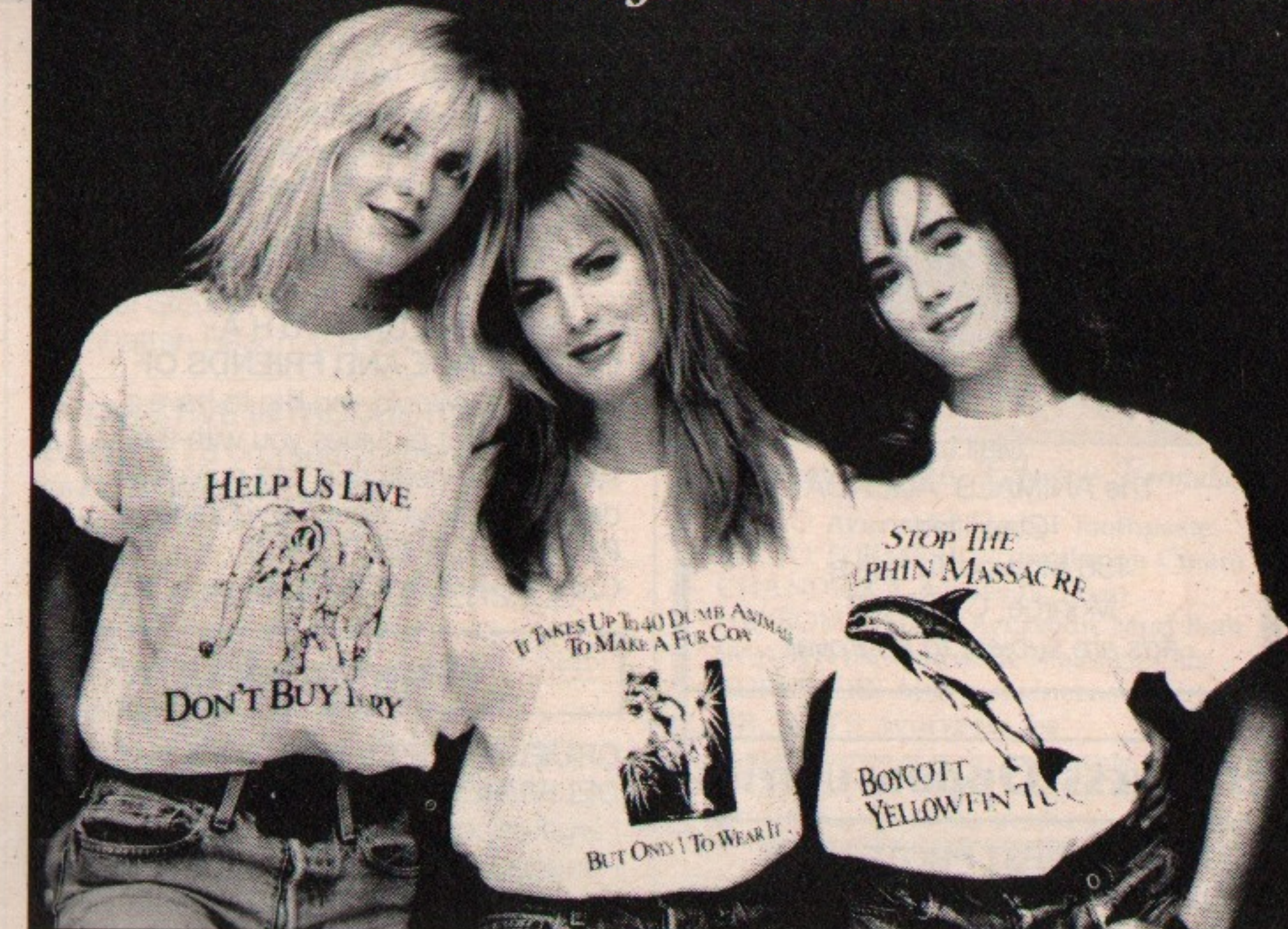
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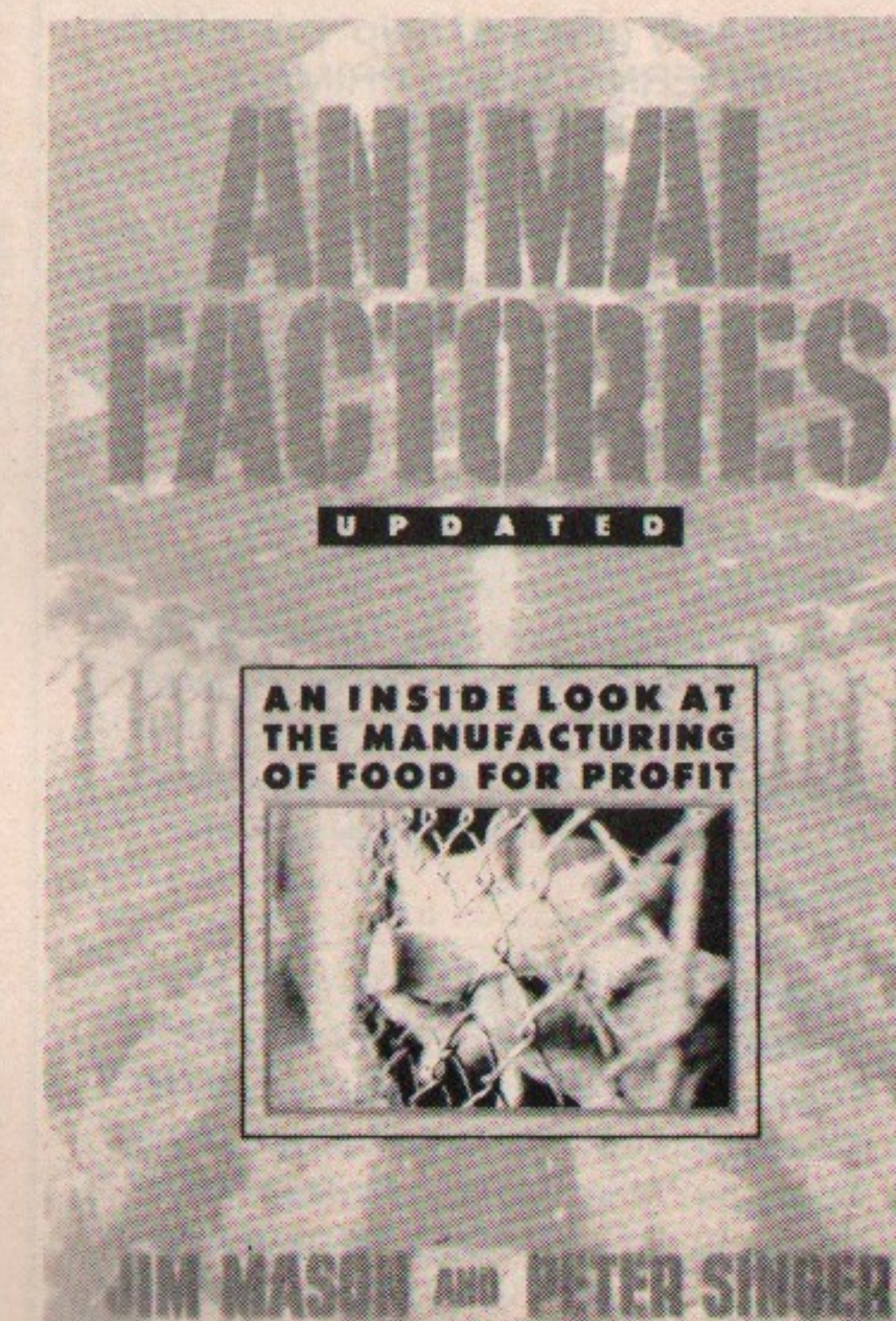
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URGENT: For three years have been altering stray cats in Northern NJ. Have exhausted every cent saved, working 3 jobs, not enough. Need people to help trap or I will be forced to stop. There is so much to be done. Please: Annette Lamberti, 27 Jackson St. Little Falls, NJ 07424.

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The Animals' Agenda

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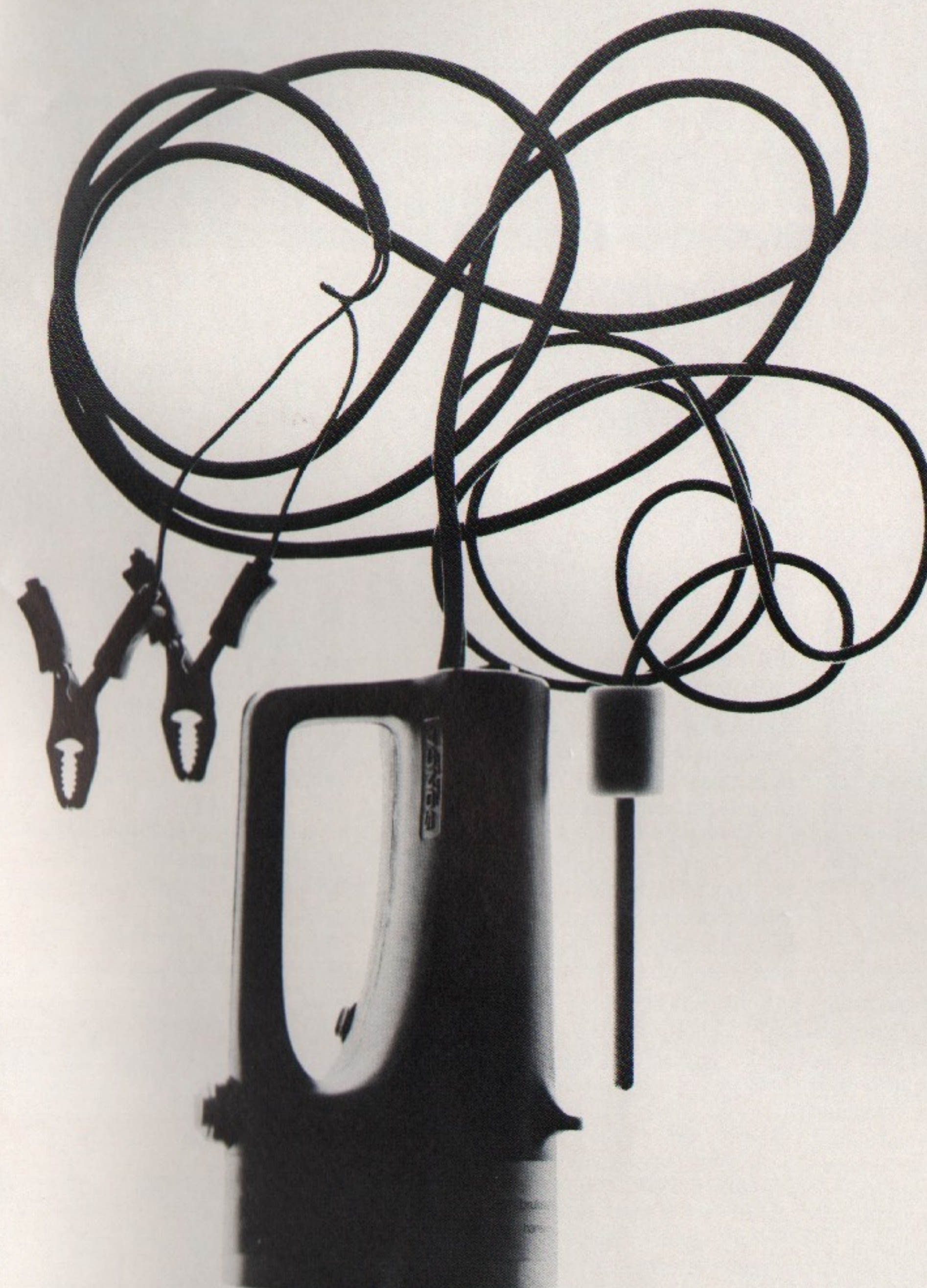
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