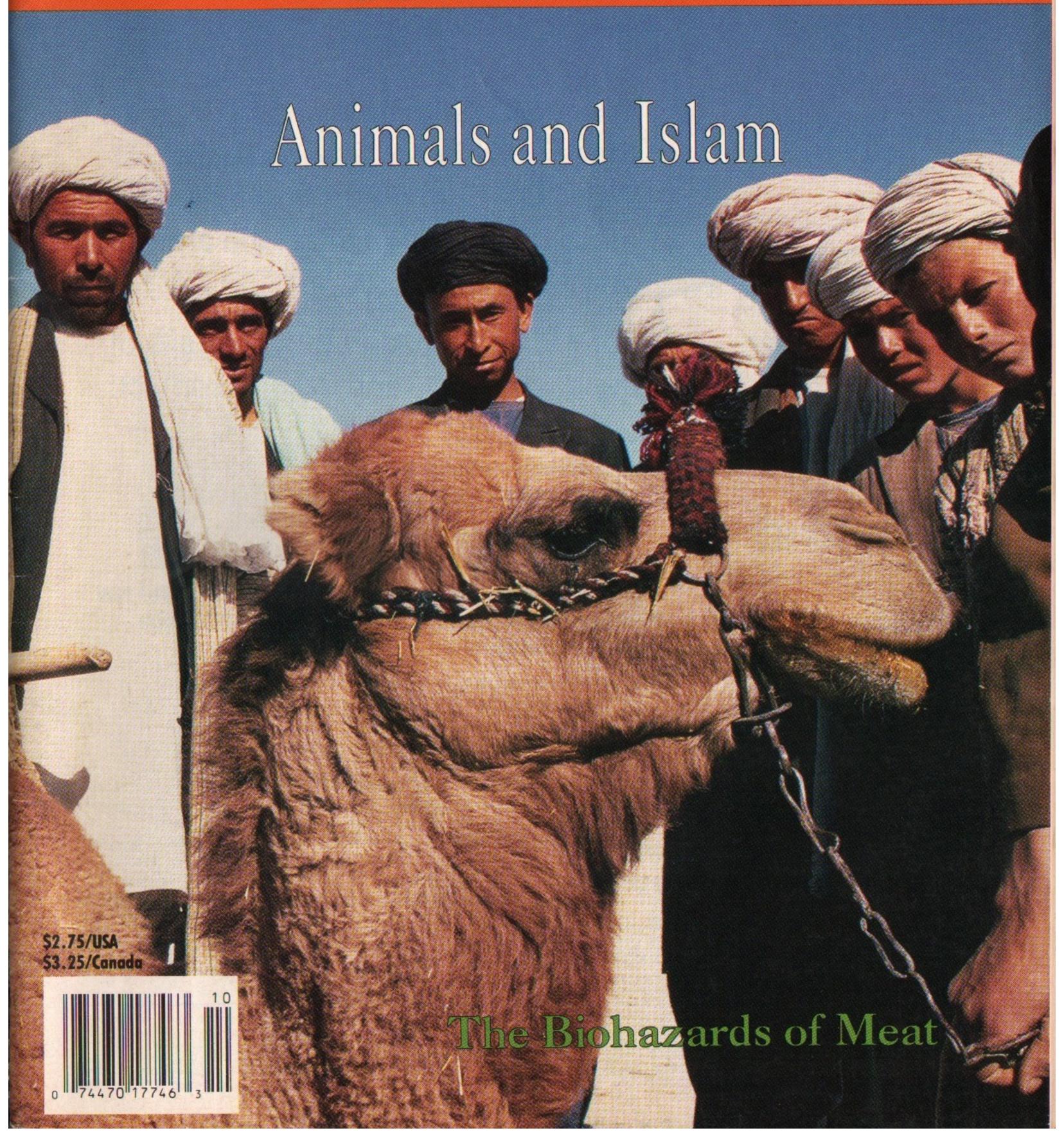
# ANIMALS AGENDA

HELPING ANIMALS AND THE EARTH . October 1991





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OCTOBER 1991 VOLUME XI NO. 8

#### 10: Animals and Islam

BY JIM HOGSHIRE

While animals are frequently abused in the Islamic world, as in much of the Christian world, the Koran teaches that animals do have souls, and that cruelty to them will be punished.

#### 16: Fat of the Land

BY ALAN B. DURNING

The meat-centered American diet is the leading cause of global environmental degradation.

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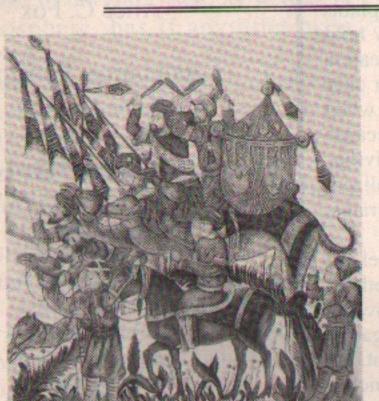
BY TOM REGAN

Purported radical manifestos may intend to incite backlash rather than revolution-and may be authored by opponents rather than advocates of a controversial cause.

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BY DAVID E. KAY

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BY VICTORIA MORAN

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## PAGE TWO

#### **Measuring Success**

There's no question that the animal rights movement has arrived as a social issue worthy of consideration. Animal rights were placed on the public agenda several years ago. And though I admit that I may be optimistic because I need to be in order to remain effective at my work, I am convinced that the most basic premise of animal rights philosophy—that it is wrong for us to cause animals to suffer—has already been accepted by all but a small percentage of Europeans and North Americans. Admittedly, the humane movement has not so much taught the public something new as forced people to recognize something obvious. Still, we should be celebrating this achievement. Celebrating any victory, and this is not a small one, strengthens us to continue our work by reinforcing the belief that we can change the world. If we don't believe in the eventual success of the cause of animal liberation, or if we allow our optimism to be rubbed out, the effect of our work will be diminished, if we are not paralyzed altogether.

Thus I was dismayed to encounter a serious case of pessimism at an animal rights gathering. Someone I had considered a positive thinker informed me that the opposition backlash was eroding all the earlier movement gains. Not only that, this person disputed the inevitability of social progress, pointing to racism as proof that the anti-slavery movement had accomplished little, and asserting that the move away from a meat-based diet is only temporary. This latter pessimism was not moved by a barrage of environmental and health reasons supporting the ethical case for vegetarianism, and there seemed to be no use arguing about improvements in the human condition either. Certainly, racism is still a malignant force among us, but minorities have achieved basic human rights in Western society, under the law if not always in practice—no mean accomplishment considering that human beings could be bought and sold as "property" just a little over a century ago.

Since that encounter, I've come across a few more cases of unabashed pessimism. Thinking that it might be symptomatic of movement-wide burnout, I consulted the work of social theorist Bill Moyer, of the Social Movement Empowerment Project (721 Shrader St., San Francisco, CA 94117), as I've done frequently in the past two years when perplexed by activist behavior. In his newest publication, The Practical Strategist, a guide for evaluating, planning, and conducting social movements, Moyer explains that because activists are unfamiliar with the normal road of movement success, many "irrationally hold deep-seated feelings and beliefs that they are powerless and their movement is failing, and thus create a self-fulfilling prophecy...These feelings and beliefs have devastating results. Many activists: 1) not only have difficulty recognizing and celebrating movement successes, but even become angry and upset when people say that their movement is succeeding; 2) have difficulty thinking and acting strategically because they don't believe their movement can be successful; and 3) assume unproductive attitudes and activities out of feelings of powerlessness." Such feelings "lead many activists to lose hope, become demoralized, burn out, drop out, play ineffective or even destructive roles of activism, adopt less effective programs, and make movements unappealing to the majority of the public."

One of the destructive roles of activism Moyer refers to is what he calls the "negative rebel," a self-defined radical who advocates militant actions and/or revolutionary ideologies which may be nothing more than empty rhetoric, disconnected from any real means of achieving change. These negative rebels alienate much of the movement as well as most of the public, claims Moyer, and they feed off negative thinking: "Negative rebels become prevalent within a few years after the take-off of a new movement. By that time, many activists have become depressed and desperate, because their naive hopes of quickly achieving total success are dashed."

Judging that the movement is failing because it hasn't won complete victory yet is common among activists, says Moyer. "Activists often say their movement is failing because it has not stopped, say, the nuclear arms race or air pollution. But this 'logic' is not used to judge any other undertaking. Performance is normally judged by whether we are making satisfactory progress toward achieving a goal, not by whether or not we have already achieved it... Using this measure, activists inevitably believe their movement is failing right up until it finally succeeds! Thus, they are unable to identify and appreciate any success along the way.

Another example of anti-success thinking pertinent to the animal rights movement comes with "changing movement goals faster than they can possibly be achieved." Over time, Moyer explains, "social movements adopt an evolving series of medium-term goals as part of the struggle to achieve larger, longterm goals...It is reasonable to expect that achieving any one of these goals would take 5 to 10 or more years. Yet, social movements often adopt a new medium-term goal as their major focus every two or three years.'

When old goals are achieved, says Moyer, "they are rarely celebrated or recognized as successes. Astonishingly, the achievements of old goals are often denigrated as failures! They have been replaced by more important goals, and achievement of the old goals is viewed as irrelevant or even as a powerholder ploy to appease the public into thinking progress is being made! This not only denies movement success, but also further demoralizes activists and contributes to feelings of powerlessness and despair."

Most veteran animal activists have gone through periods of burnout. It occurs when the emotional, mental, and physical toll of fighting human cruelty and ignorance is more than we have to pay. When we find ourselves psychically bankrupt, the only remedy is escaping from the struggle for a time. Columnist Victoria Moran gives advice on coping with activist burnout in this month's Compassionate Living. Unfortunately, some activists burn out and drop out permanently. The sense of failure described by Moyer is clearly a factor in the most severe cases, and it's something we need to develop tactics for countering. Cultivating a realistic view of movement progress will allow us to acknowledge success. And celebrating that success can ignite the optimism we need to win all the battles ahead.

—The Editor

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## **LETTERS**

#### War Damage Worse

Although the July/August '91 Dateline: International on the environmental effects of the Gulf War did acknowledge that U.S. and Allied actions had contributed substantially to the damage, I was nevertheless disappointed to read in The ANIMALS' AGENDA that Saddam Hussein's actions were "deliberate" while it was unclear whether the damage originating from U.S. actions "was intentional or

The Gulf war was not against Saddam Hussein, but against the people and country of Iraq. As such, the environmental damage done by or on behalf of the Allied forces was quite as deliberate as that by the Iraqi army. This is particularly true of the damage to the terrestrial ecosystem, to which far too little attention has been given; in fact, partly for political reasons, the damage to the Gulf itself, as well as to the atmosphere, has if anything been exaggerated.

Here are two examples of devastating and deliberate harm to what has for millennia been an incredibly productive region-harm no less reprehensible than the defoliation of the forests of Vietnam and the poisoning of its soil. First, the armour-piercing shells used against Iraqi vehicles were weighted with depleted uranium. This is only slightly radioactive, but has a half-life of tens of millions of years. More important, it is intensely poisonous. Tons of it are now spread throughout the area of fighting and will lie on that land for the rest of human history, at

Second, Turkey was encouraged by the U.S. in an act of environmental warfare by closing for a month the giant Ataturk dam, thus impeding the flow of the River Tigris and denying precious water to millions of farmers. Although much of the farming was mechanized, Iraq being the most developed technically of all the Arab countries, it did still depend to a considerable extent on animal power, as well as involving animal husbandry. It may be a long time before we know what the combined effects of a human-caused drought and the land warfare were, but it cannot be doubted that both humans and animals suffered, and continue to suffer, terribly.

> -Sidney Holt Citta della Pieve, Italy

#### **Dalmations Bite Least**

In the April '91 Network Notes, it was written: "Independent, energetic, and

October 1991

aggressive, Dalmatians are also increasingly recognized as dangerous around children."

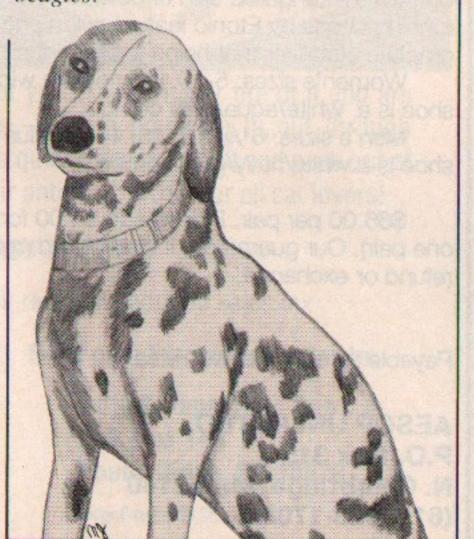
My wife and I are proud com panions to a four-year-old female Dal Zappa, whom we found as a puppy at the Japan Animal Welfare Society in Dalmatians as "dangerous" is far from true of the breed, unless the dog is mistreated, in which case the dog could be dangerous no matter what the breed.

The book A Dog of Your Own by Joan Palmer (Salamander Books Ltd., London) lists the Dalmatian's good points as: equable temperament; loyal; reliable with children. And The Books of Lists, by Wallechinsky Wallace and Wallace (1977), lists the Dalmatian as one of nine "breeds or dogs that bite the least."

Our Dal, while a good guard dog in the house, is a sweetheart around children and strangers outside. The only potential danger I can think of is if a child is holding some food; then the Dal, with an insatiable appetite, wil approach, thinking any food held out is for her. This might scare the child Otherwise, Dalmatians are not dangerous.

-Richard Sadowsky

Editor's Note: Just a few years of intensive breeding in the U.S. (both by puppy mills and by hobbyists) has seriously harmed the health and nature of many breeds of dog. Dalmatians are only the latest of a long list of popular breeds whose best qualities have been eroded by overbreeding and inbreeding; other victims include German shepherds, collies, dach shunds, St. Bernards, Great Danes, and beagles.



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#### Cat Breeds

There were numerous errors in Elizabeth Forel's letter about cat shows in the July/August issue.

The Scottish Fold is not prone to earmites. There is nothing about the construction of the Fold's ear canal that makes it more attractive to mites than any other cat's.

The Ragdoll is not bred "so that his pain threshold is higher than normal" and is not at risk for "unrecognizable injury." The chowderhead who "founded" the Ragdoll breed claims that after Josephine-the cat from which all Ragdolls supposedly descend-was hit by a car, her subsequent kittens and all their kittens and all their kittens' kittens were impervious to pain. No one with half a brain or half an inclination to use it takes this claim seriously.

There are 44, not 53, breeds currently accepted for championship competition by one of the six cat-registering bodies in North America. It is also incorrect, if not intentionally misleading, to say that "approximately 40" of those breeds are

Continued on next page

## **LETTERS**

Continued from page 3

either "totally contrived or the result of mutations." Eleven breeds are based on mutations, and 18 others were created by combining two or more existing breeds. To say that a breed like the Ocicat—fashioned from a Siamese, and a few American Shorthairs—is "totally con trived" is like saying that pie a la mode is a contrived food.

> -Phil Maggitti Elverson, PA

#### Dalai Lama Not Veg?

In July/August News Shorts, an item said that the Dalai Lama was a vegetarian. For what it's worth, unless he converted sometime during the last couple of months, the Dalai Lama is a carnivore. When he was in Albuquerque recently, his fellow travelers, also Buddhist I presume, were interviewed by newspaper reporters while eating hamburgers at a local restaurant. Also, during a speech at the Univ. of New

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Mexico, he admitted he wasn't vegetarian, although he had good things to say for vegetarianism and the animal rights movement.

> —Judy Crane Tijeras, NM

#### **Veg Patriarchy**

Carol Adams danced a fancy

fandango in her response to the mild criticism by Ralph H. Lutts of her theory of the essential link between male dominance and meat eating [Letters, May '91]. Lutts pointed to Hindu India, with a population of 700 million, 83 percent vegetarian, yet indisputably a male-dominated society with a large number of very oppressed women.

Adams' reply-in essence that she was really only looking at meat eating in patriarchal societies, and that societies other than Euro-American were outside the scope of her book—merely underlined

the silliness of her position. If an author is about to make sweeping generalizations about the human condition, why limit oneself with such blatant ethnocentricity? And then to pontificate that, "It is my understanding that the eating of animals and the establishment of male dominance appeared in human history at the same time, and that a causal relationship existed

Continued on page 7

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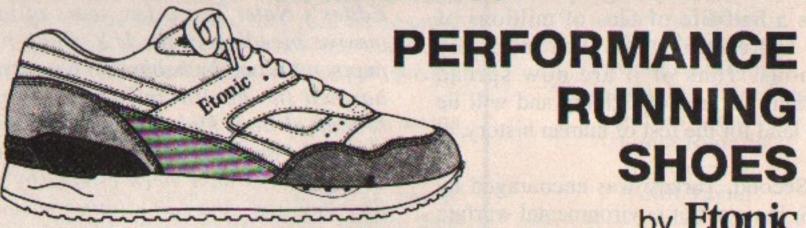


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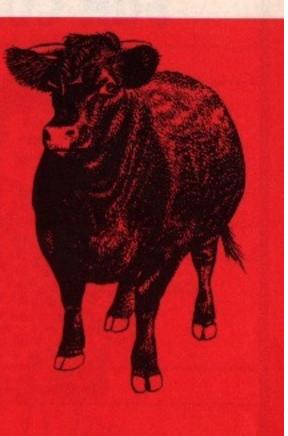
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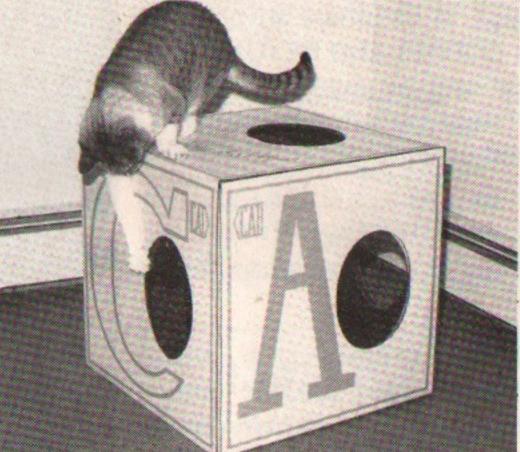
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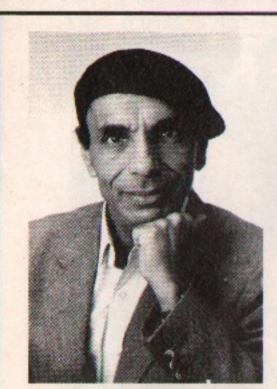
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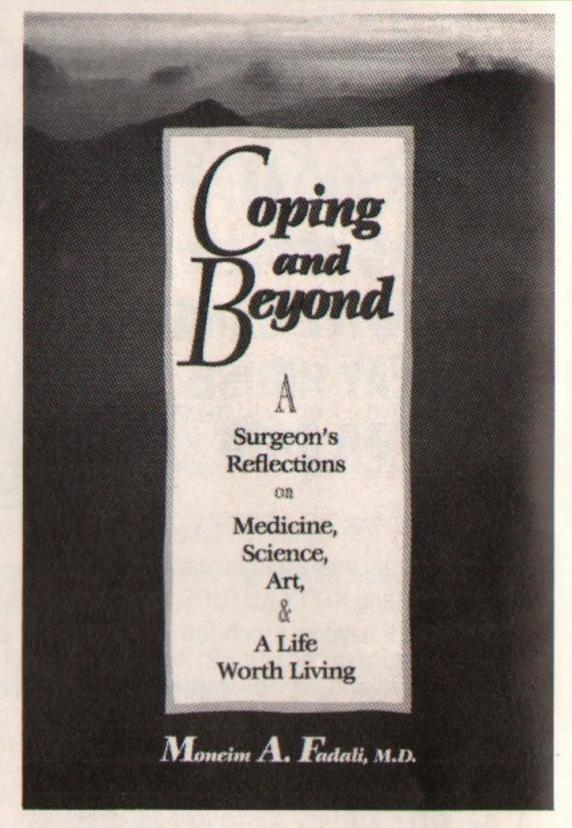
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Continued from page 4

between them." Utter rubbish! The likeliest explanation of the development of the human carnivore is that when our precursors moved down from the trees onto the savannah, fruits and greens were no longer so available, and their diet expanded to cover the shortfall-which had absolutely nothing to do with male dominance or patriarchy, which probably predated this event by a few million years.

Adams is guilty not only of ethnocentricity, but also of speciescentricity. If she would take a careful look at the gorillas, one of our closest relatives, she would find a patriarchal society, dominated by males, and vegetarian to the last man or woman gorilla. Most of the ape family have similar social and dietary arrangements, an indication that nature found them stable and effective.

> -John Mitchell Cambridge, MA

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Editor's Note: Chimpanzees, our closest relatives, occasionally kill and eat other animals, but orangutans and gibbons (the other great apes) are also vegetarian.

#### Live Bait

Regarding your article on fish in the July/August issue, my boyfriend spoke to some fishermen about catching big muskie while on holiday in Peterborough, Ontario, near Toronto. These two men said that a local fish guide takes people out in his boat and most of the time guarantees a muskie. He tells them to look the other way while he puts the live bait on the line. One of the men said, "Next thing, there was a plunk in the water and the guide had attached a baby kitten to his fishing hook and was dragging the then live kitten in the water." According to him, none of the six other men in the boat objected, as within ten minutes they had a muskie on the end of the hook. They said the guide has also been known to use baby ducks. He puts a hook through the duck's leg and the swimming action attracts the big muskie.

It's very common for fishermen to use live frogs or minnows as bait, but I had never heard of fishing with kittens and ducks. I reported this to a representative of the Ministry of Natural Resources who said he would have to catch the fishing guide in the act, because without proof nothing could be done.

> -Barb Potter Ingersoll, Ont., Canada



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## ETWORK

#### **Group News**

Animal Rights Mobilization, formerly Trans-Species Unlimited, has merged with the Rocky Mountain Humane Society. Both groups have relocated to 240 Josephine St., Suite 204, Denver, CO 80206; 303-388-7120. ◆ The Nashville Coalition for Pet Protection, an umbrella group for the Nashville Humane Assn., Tennessee Network for Animals, and Tennessee Humane Assn., seeks to increase licensing fees for fertile animals and strengthen anti-cruelty laws. The NCPP may be reached at 615-834-6125. ◆ Environmental Action has moved to 6930 Carroll Ave., 6th Floor, Takoma Park, MD 20912. The telephone number remains 202-745-4870. ◆ Ten leading Texas sanctuaries, shelters, and wildlife protection groups have formed the Coalition to Ban Canned Hunts, to lobby for appropriate state legislation. For details, contact coordinator Dana Forbes, 713-978-6346 or 952-5024. ◆ The Hawaii Animal Welfare Cooperative has changed names, and is now the Hawaii Animal Welfare Lobby, still at P.O. Box 10516, Hilo, HI 96721; 808-966-4423.

#### **Dogs And Cats**

Call the authorities when you see animals wandering alongside busy freeways—and don't attempt a rescue unassisted. Would-be animal rescuers may be injured by traffic, may be charged with dangerous conduct, and in one recent New Jersey case, an unsuccessful rescuer was charged with abandoning the dog she tried to pick up when passersby misinterpreted her actions. The charge was later dropped on a jurisdictional technicality. Although the figures cited by various sources vary widely, comparison of same-source figures from circa 1985 and 1990 show that euthanization of homeless dogs and cats is down roughly 40 percent, reports ANIMALS' AGENDA contributing editor Phil Maggitti, who credits vigorous spay/neuter campaigns for making the difference. ◆ About 200 Connecticut veterinarians are honoring vouchers for free spaying or neutering of animals adopted from municipal shelters, under a \$500,000, two-year spay/neuter

#### **Edited By Merritt Clifton**

drive by the Connecticut Humane Society. The drive is expected to help about 9,000 of the 52,000 animals the municipal shelters will receive during the two-year period. ◆ Humane Society of the U.S. vice president for companion animals Phyllis Wright, who had announced her retirement, has instead stayed on to coordinate a campaign promoting pet adoptions from shelters, while discouraging both commercial and amateur pet breeding until and unless the shelters are no longer having to euthanize healthy animals due to lack of homes. Unlike most other national animal protection groups, HSUS has never before opposed "reputable" breeding. ◆ Beingkind, a three-person animal rescue group, made headlines twice in six weeks during the summer by collecting stray dogs and cats from the vicinity of the main New York City post office and the Brooklyn Bridge. The animals received veterinary care, were spayed or neutered, and were temporarily placed with foster families pending permanent placement

#### Offerings

What To Do If Your Horse Is Lost Or Stolen, a handbook by Amelita Donald of the American Horse Protection Assn., is available on request from Edwin Bright, Dallas County Extension Agent, 10056 Marsh Lane B-101, Dallas, TX 75229-6006. ♦ Wildlife Damage Review is published to accomplish "the elimination of the Animal Damage Control" branch of the USDA, which kills around 250,000 mammals and 4.6 million birds per year, for the benefit of ranchers. Copies are available for donation from P.O. Box 2541, Tucson, AZ 85702. ◆ Sangre de Cristo Animal Protection, Inc. has published vegetarian dining guides to Albuquerque and Santa Fe, and is working on similar guides covering Taos and Las Cruces. For copies, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to P.O. Box 5179, Albuquerque, NM 87185. ◆ Vegetarian Dining In Manhattan and Brooklyn and Which Cheeses Do Not Contain Animal Rennet? are \$2.00 each from the Vegetarian Resource Group, P.O. Box 1463.

Baltimore, MD 21203. \* A Vegetarian Eating Guide for Montreal is \$1.00 plus postage from McGill Univ. for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, 3480 McTavish, Montreal, Quebec H3A 1X9, Canada. ◆ A 26-page bibliography of books and articles about women and animals and ecofeminism is \$7.00 from Feminists for Animal Rights, P.O. Box 10017, N. Berkeley Station, Berkeley, CA 94709. ◆ The Left Wing, "a forum for avi(counter)culture," is \$9/year from 190 Highland St., Boston, MA 02119. + Animal Eyes, a cassette of 10 songs by European animal advocate Jorge Roos, is \$7.95 from the Voice of Nature Network, P.O. Box 68, Westport, CT 06881. ◆ Copies of a pamphlet asking, "Can you tell the difference between yourself and a hamburger?" are available from The Vulture's Quill, P.O. Box 1124, Ukiah, CA 95482. ♦ No Denial, "a handbook for becoming a socially, environmentally, and personally responsible citizen of Planet Earth," is \$4.95 from Legion Of Light, P.O. Box 1557, Mt Shasta, CA 96067

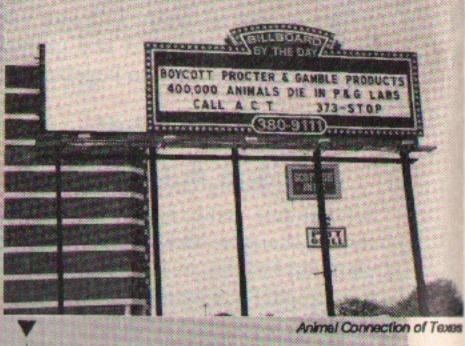
#### **Manuscripts Wanted**

Society And Animals: Social Scientific Studies of the Human Experience of Other Animals seeks submission of appropriate scholarly papers. Get details from PsyETA, P.O. Box 87, New Gloucester, ME 04260. ◆ Envee, a new "monthly newsprint literary magazine," seeks submissions of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, photography, and art, "with a special emphasis on animal rights and ecological issues." Subscriptions are to be \$6/year. Write to 1370 Trancas #217, Napa, CA 94558.

#### Campaigns

The Coalition Against Animal and Drug Abuse, a project of In Defense of Animals, is asking Congress to quit funding experiments by New York University psychologist Ron Wood, who has spent \$2.5 million since 1985 to addict rats, mice, opossums, dogs, and primates to toluene, marijuana, heroin, and cocaine. For details, contact IDA, 816 West Francisco Blvd., San Rafael, CA 94901;

415-453-9984. ◆ Led by mascot Reggie McVegie, Mountain Residents for Animal Rights (P.O. Box 108, Lawson, NSW 2783, Australia) is demanding that McDonald's restaurants begin serving veggie burgers. Send letters of support to McDonald's Corp., 1 McDonald's Plaza, Oak Brook, IL 60521-1900. ◆ The Sierra Club has begun a national petition drive to urge Congress to reject George Bush's proposed national energy strategy, which would permit oil drilling in the Arctic Natl. Wildlife Refuge and in ecologically fragile coastal habitats. The strategy recently cleared the Senate as the Johnston/Wallop Bill, S. 341. Get details from 730 Polk St. San Francisco, CA 94109.



◆ Procter & Gamble has reportedly added an extension to the corporate telephone network just to deal with the protest calls generated by In Defense of Animals' demand that P&G cease animal testing.

◆ Earth Island Institute has opened an office in Thailand, with a staff of three, to monitor Unicord/Bumble Bee tuna canning operations to insure that they accept no tuna netted "on dolphin."

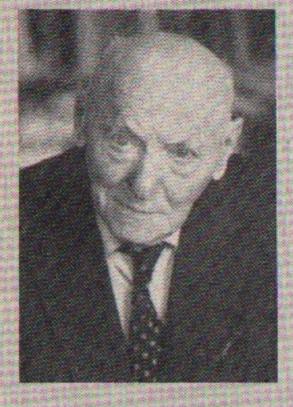
#### Tactics

After finding last year that many TV stations wouldn't broadcast antivivisection spots depicting animal suffering, SUPRESS has developed a 60-second antivivisection spot, "Nick And Ralph," which numerous Los Angelesarea stations are using. The first 75 airings reportedly brought 1,300 calls requesting more information. Get details from P.O. Box 1062, Pasadena, CA 91102. ◆ Ohio activist Donna Robb recommends requesting "nuisance wildlife" trapping reports from your local jurisdiction (city, county, or state)

## OTE S

under the Freedom of Information Act. Her own requests have turned up numerous violations of state wildlife laws on the part of the trappers. • AT&T employees in Massachusetts recently used the interoffice electronic mail system to share their horror about the effects of the glue traps used by the office maintenance contractor, and to circulate information on humane alternatives. The maintenance contractor is now testing a humane trap.

#### **Obituaries**



Isaac Bashevis Singer, winner of the 1978 Nobel Prize for Literature, died July 24 in Surfside, Fla., at age 87. A longtime vegetarian and animal rights advocate, Singer served on The ANIMALS' AGENDA advisory board. "I think that everything connected with vegetarianism is of the highest importance," Singer wrote toward the end of his life, "because there will never be any peace in the world so long as we eat animals."

♦ Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund president Frederick Sutherland, 53, was killed July 16 in a van crash near Lake Tahoe. Under Sutherland, SCLDF took a leading role in the legal battles to save old growth forest and clean up the Exxon Valdez oil spill. ◆ Thomas J. Maimoni, of Salem, Mass., has been charged with murdering Martha Brailsford, 37, a longtime member of Citizens to End Animal Suffering and Exploitation. Maimoni, whom police indicated had several times changed his apparent identity, allegedly tied Brailsford—still alive—to an anchor and threw her off his yacht circa July 12.

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Lobster trappers found her remains several days later, prompting vulgar commentary on the air from nationally syndicated anti-animal rights radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh. Brailsford's sister, Muriel Garvey, is also active with CEASE.

#### **Victories**

New Jersey has banned the sale of wild-caught exotic birds. The campaign for the ban was led by Sue Russell of the Society for Animal Protective Legislation.

- → Hudson, N.H., has banned use of steel-jawed leghold traps, by request of psychotherapist Jean Serino. → Civil rights activist Buzz Alpert recently led a successful fight to halt pigeon poisoning in Evanston, Illinois.
- ◆ Both houses of the Illinois state legislature have passed a bill banning human vs. animal fighting, including bear wrestling and bullfighting. The bill was advanced by Illinois Citizens for Humane Legislation. ◆ Famous-Barr Co., of St. Louis, has discontinued fur sales after repeated protest by the St. Louis Animal Rights Team.

#### People

Dolphin Project founder Ric
O'Barry was honored by the U.S.
Committee of the United Nations
Environment Program on Sept.
12, at the U.S. Capitol.

Nationally recognized

◆ Nationally recognized illustrator James Sante Avati has donated a new logo to the New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance.

#### Actions

Action for Animals and In
Defense of Animals picketed the
Calif. Rodeo in Salinas on July
21, while Orange County People
for Animals protested July 27 at
the Orange County Fair rodeo.



◆ Protesting rainforest logging in Borneo, Swiss activist Bruno Manser chained himself to a lamppost outside Westminster Abbey during the July economic summit in London, England.

◆ The Health Care ConsumerNetwork, led by former United Cerebral Palsy poster child Lawrence Carter, demonstrated August 7 against amputation and brain damage experiments done on cats by partially paralyzed researcher Sharon Juliano of the Uniformed Services University of Health Services. Juliano has cited her own condition in defense of her work, which according to Carter, does "nothing to address the real needs of people affected by neurological illness."

#### Letters

IAMS, a leading petfood maker, recently offered dog breeders \$5.00 per puppy sold over a sixmonth period. Protest to IAMS Co., Specialty Markets Dept., 7250 Poe Ave., Dayton, OH 45414-9810. ◆ Australians for Animals reports that the government of New South Wales has decided to log the Chaelundi Forest, which includes the most dense population of koalas in Australia. Protest to Michael John Cook, Australian Ambassador, 1601 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036-2209. ◆ The Fund for Animals seeks

The Fund for Animals seeks letters to Congressional Representatives and Senators demanding that the U.S. Fish and Wildife Service end hunting of grizzly bears—an endangered species—in Montana. ◆ "We're not a crazy animal rights group," Humane Society of the U.S. vice president David Wills recently told reporters. "We don't throw blood on people with furs." Point out to Wills that even Fur Age

Weekly recently admitted that there isn't even one documented case in the U.S. of any animal rights activist ever throwing blood (or spraying paint) on anyone wearing fur, and that his remark helped perpetuate an

c/o HSUS, 2100 L St. NW, Washington, DC 20037. ◆ The magazine I Love Cats has recently carried "Support Research" ads from the American Heart Assn., which provides office space to the provivisection group Connecticut United for Research Excellence. Point out to the editors that people who love cats don't support vivisecting them, and that cats have been the primary victims of such notorious vivisectors as Adrian Morrison (Univ. of Pa.), John Orem (Texas Tech), Patricia Gordon-Lickey

(Oregon State Univ.), Michael

Russell Valois (Univ. of Calif. at

Carey (La. State Univ.), and

inaccurate negative stereotype:

Berkeley): 950 Third Ave., 16th
Floor, New York, NY 11022.

◆ Animal Rights Forum asks that
letters of opposition to Vermont's
proposed moose hunt be
addressed to Timothy Van
Zandt, Commissioner, Vt. Fish
and Wildlife Dept., 103 South
Main St., Waterbury, VT 05676.
Get details from ARF, P.O. Box
1367, Montpelier, VT 05601.

◆ Ask Delta Air Lines to follow

the lead of Lufthansa and KLM by refusing to ship wild-caught exotic birds: Ronald Allen, President, Delta Air Lines Inc., Hartsfield Intl. Airport, Atlanta, GA 30320.

#### Coming Events

October 1 is World Vegetarian Day. October 2, Gandhi's birthday, is World Farm Animals Day. 

The United Federation of Teachers Humane Education Committee is hosting a workshop on using Kind News (a publication of the Natl. Assn. for Humane Environmental Education) in New York City on Oct. 26. Get info from 212-410-3095. ♦ The Vegetarian Society of South Jersey will host its second "Moving Ahead To Better Health Expo" on Nov. 9. For further info, call 609-983-3964. ◆ Decade of the Animals, a conference called to review the history of the animal rights movement and chart the future, will be held Nov. 8-11 in Washington D.C.; for details, call 301-530-1737. ◆ The Performing Animal Welfare Society will host a conference on animals and entertainment in

Sacramento, May 8-10, 1992.

Get details from P.O. Box 849,

Galt, CA 95632; 916-393-3340.

رت الجمال أو الخراف. وقد قال النبي عَلَيْكُم : إن أي شيء يقطع من الحيوان أثناء حياته فه إليَّة : إن أي شيء يقطع من الحيول أناء حمله فهو (ح) أم الأولول أكله بي عليه قال :

« ماقطع من بهيمة وهي حية ، فما قطع منها فهو ميتة .

، النبي عليسية قال:

رواه ابن ماجة والبزار والطبراني في

ي حية ، فما قطع منها فهو ميتة .

رواه أحمد وا

رواه أحمد والترمذي ومن هذا القول تتبين لنا الرحمة بالحيوانات وعدم إحداث ألم لها تتبين لنا الرحمة بالحيوانات وعدم إحداث أمراك حتال يتسبب أي سان في إحداث أي ألم لأي حيوان فقد أوصى الرسو إحداث أي ألم لأي حيوان فقد أوصى الرسو إحداث أي ألم لأي حيوان فقد أوصى لرسو عالم المعلم وأشهر ماقال الرسول عليسلم في هذا الشأن هو: « لاتتسرعوا ف

أي شيء لحيوان مذبوح إلا بعد أن يصبح كالحجر الميت » (١). رسول عليسية في هذا الشأن هو: « لاتتسرعوا في عمل ح إلا بعد أن يصبح كالحجر الميت » ( BY JIM HOGSHIRE عمر بن الخطاب رضي الله عنه الناس بأن يمهلوا ر بن الخطاب رضي الله عنه الناس بأن يمهلوا الذبيحة ويعطوها الوقت حتى تخرج روحها تماماً (٢).

nd the earth: He [God] has assigned it to all living creatures. -Koran 55:10

Consider these scenes from our culture:

\* The 1979 movie The Black Stallion, opens to show an Arab groom aboard a ship mistreating a horse. When a little boy attempts to comfort the horse, the Arab is enraged by the show of kindness and drives him away, twisting the boy's ear. Later in the movie, as the ship is sinking, this same Arab character attacks the boy with a knife and steals his life jacket.

\* Salman Rushdie's book The Satanic Verses enrages Muslims with what they say are gross distortions of their religion and history. Particularly upsetting to animal rights activists is Rushdie's assertion that Islam requires the slow killing of animals to ensure the most painful death possible.

\* In an October 1989 ANIMALS' AGENDA article, Rabbi Sidney Jacobs helps to explain animal cruelty in Israel by deducing that Jews from the Middle East, "assumed the same dim view of domestic animals as do the Muslims among whom they lived..." Another issue noted that hundreds of thousands of goats will be "sacrificed" by Muslims during the feast celebrating the end of the Ramadan fast.

Islam may be the most widely misunderstood religion in the West. In addition to widespread ignorance about their faith, Muslims must overcome the extra hurdle of debunking what people think they already know about Islam before it's possible to start talking about the religion as it really is. Islam is a relatively simple religion. For Muslims, there is one God (Allah), the same God worshipped by Jews, Christians, and other monotheists. The Koran is the word of God as revealed to his Prophet Muhammed. Muhammed is not worshipped by Muslims, but his words and examples are taken to heart.

Tuning into Western culture, one gets the impression that all Arabs are either grunting, dirty, and slightly inept oil sheiks or grunting, dirty, and slightly inept terrorists. Further compounding the

problem for Islam is the way we have of regarding the words Muslim and Arab as interchangeable (as does Rabbi Jacobs). Arabs are not necessarily Muslims; many are Christian. Nor are Muslims necessarily Arab. The word Arab refers to a Semitic people native to Arabia, who migrated into nearby lands in ancient times. Non-Arab nations with an Islamic majority include Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. Islam also has a strong following among black Africans and Americans and in parts of the U.S.S.R., India, and Southeast Asia.

Given the villainous image of the Arab/Muslim in popular culture, it is easy to believe that Muslims mistreat animals. They seem capable of anything: the more heinous, the more believable.

But is this true? Do Muslims really perceive and treat their animals differently than Jews or Christians?

Dr. Jack Shaheen of Southern Illinois University has devoted himself to tracking down and analyzing instances of the "bad Arab" stereotype and has published his findings in numerous articles and in his book, The TV Arab. Currently at work on a larger book on Arabs in Hollywood, Dr. Shaheen is well aware of the problem.

"That scene in the Black Stallion film is a classic example," says Shaheen, "It's a total fabrication." Indeed a search of James Farley's well-known children's novel turns up nary a single Arab. Shaheen speculates that this sort of malicious treatment of Arab and Muslim culture is routine because of "hatred, ignorance, and the fact that they can get away with it." But to believe that Arabs or Muslims are particularly cruel to animals flies in the face of

"Muslims, Jews, Christians...they all treat their animals the same," says Shaheen. Anyone who's ever been to an Arab country will know that."

To those who insist they have witnessed acts of cruelty in the Arab world, Shaheen says he is not surprised, "There are one

billion Muslims in the world," he says. "There are 46 Muslim nations. Not all Muslims observe their religion perfectly.

"Here in the U.S., how many people have we seen mistreating animals? Can we assume, then, that Christians as a whole brutalize and mistreat animals? What we're talking about is selective framing here."

It is a fact that animal slaughter is public in the Middle East; in the West, animal abuse tends to be institutionalized, with slaughtering performed behind the closed doors of abattoirs. However, there are open displays of barbarism in Christian society, including Spanish and Latin American religious celebrations whose central feature is tormenting animals. Most of us do not assume in such instances that the cruelty comes as a result of the religion.

Neither does cruelty come as a result of Islam. Rather it happens in spite of it.

#### Animals in Islamic scripture

"Animals in Islam are perceived as creatures of God and are protected accordingly," says Samir Abed-Rabbo, director of the Center for Arab and Islamic Studies in Brattleboro, Vermont. "In fact, Islam goes a little bit farther by educating Muslims that even flocks of birds and herds of animals are nations like us. They have a culture and they have a language. The Koran teaches that animals are nations like us, like human beings."

In Islam, animals, too, are considered to be Muslim and are rewarded by God for good deeds. However, Muslims believe, because animals lack free will and the knowledge of good and evil, they cannot commit sin. All their actions are in perfect accordance with God's wishes. This does not mean that animals are less than human beings. In Islam, animals have souls, and will enter Paradise like all other good Muslims. To a Muslim, animals are equal to human beings. The Koran (understood by Muslims to be the revealed word of God) uses the term ummah (nation or community) for both humans and animals. It uses the same word, Nafs or Ruh to signify "living thing" or "soul" for all creatures—human and nonhuman.

This view stands in contrast to common Western belief that animals do not have souls at all. Even more startling is the Western practice of holding animals accountable for their actions, common in medieval Europe but by no means wiped out. Early this century when a circus elephant stomped his trainer to death, a Kentucky sheriff found it necessary to give the beast a trial and then, using a crane, hang him for the crime of murder.

Even hunting, practically a religion in itself for a very obvious minority of Westerners, is regarded as potentially problematic by Islam.

Continued on next page

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Continued from previous page

"There is a period of three months called Al-Ashohour Al-Haram during which it is forbidden to hunt or fight," says Abed-Rabbo.

In addition, Muslims on pilgrimage to Mecca are forbidden to hunt or even argue with each other. The Prophet Muhammed is said to have forbidden using the skins of wild animals as carpets or clothing. He once chided a man for speaking to a crowd from atop his camel saying he was using the animal as a pulpit, for which there were more suitable things, and not as a means of transportation, which the man might genuinely need.

Sport hunting is forbidden in Islam, though falconry, the use of falcons to hunt other birds, is popular in the Middle East. Animals are never to be used as targets, and any animals killed for sport are as forbidden to eat as pork. Islam is very straightforward about this. It is sinful to kill an animal for no useful purpose. Some scholars have even postulated that the needless killing of animals is tantamount to suicide.

"When man subjects an animal to unnecessary pain and suffering and thus cuts short its natural life, he figuratively commits a suicide on behalf of that animal and a spiritual part of his own self dies with the animal," writes Al-Hafiz B.A. Masri, author of Animals in Islam.

"You are not supposed to kill animals for pleasure," says Abed-Rabbo. "There's nothing in the Koran that says people are entitled to kill for pleasure. And not only hunting for pleasure...you are not supposed to pick apples off the tree and throw them on the ground. The Prophet discouraged waste.

"Muslims are not to waste—to take your fill is permissible but to waste is not permissible. If the need of the family is one deer, you are not supposed to kill two. God has entrusted man not only with ground...with everything."

And, in Islam, people will be judged by the way they treat animals. This is made abundantly clear by a large number of the sayings of Muhammed as well as those of other prophets of Islam, including Jesus.

"We are told, for instance, this story about Christ," says Abed-Rabbo. "Christ was walking through the streets of Palestine one day with a number of his disciples when they saw a dead mouse on the road. One of the disciples referred to the mouse saying 'how ugly and smelly that mouse is.' Christ turned around and said to him, "You shouldn't say that. You should say how beautiful it is, even in its death." The implication is that all of God's creatures are beautiful.

Every Muslim school child is familiar with the story (told by the Prophet) of a thirsty man lost in the desert who at last comes upon a well. He dips his shoe in the water but then notices a dog there, unable to reach the water. The man lets the dog drink first and is thereby rewarded with heaven. A woman who took a cat in from the cold is also assured a place in Paradise according to Muhammed. There is also the story of a woman who, although outwardly very pious and good, mistreats her pet cat horribly through neglect. She earns hellfire.

Muhammed railed at some men who had raided a bird's nest and thus hurt the feelings of the anxious mother he observed circling the group. He once posted a guard over a dog who was about to give birth. Muhammed condemned people for branding animals or for cutting off parts of their bodies to mark them. And many people have heard the story of how Muhammed once cut off his sleeve rather than disturb a sleeping cat. It is also well documented that Muhammed and his companions even delayed prayers until after their camels had been unsaddled, fed, and watered.

In contrast to the scene in the Black Stallion, there is a Hadith (a saying or anecdote about Muhammed) in which Muhammed himself is taught a lesson about kindness to animals. When he was seen wiping the face of his horse with his gown he was asked why. "Last night I had a reprimand from God regarding my horse for



having neglected him," answered the Prophet. It is this type of attitude of reverence for all forms of life that permeates Muslim animals but also with the trees, natural resources under the culture, says Abed-Rabbo. "So to say that Islam doesn't respect animals you are saying not only the Koran and the Sunnah [the Hadiths] but also the culture doesn't respect animals and that's wrong on all three accounts."

> Another mistaken belief about Islam concerns the "sacrifice" of animals. In Islam the rule is simple: There is no such thing as animal sacrifice. Animal sacrifice (or any other sort of physical offering) is considered to be idolatry and hence repugnant to God.

> It is, however, permissible to slaughter an animal in the name of God and distribute its meat to poor people. Typically the person who gives the animal doesn't eat any of the flesh himself. But no Muslim is required to perform this act of charity by killing an animal. Abed-Rabbo points out that this sort of "sacrifice" is a way of giving thanks.

> "You can give what you want," he says. "For instance a farmer might have a good year and so he says, I will give one ton, or ten tons of grain to show thanks. Let's say the man is a trader and he makes a big profit—he may commit himself to give away a certain portion of his money beyond the charity normally required of a Muslim."

> Yet there is much misunderstanding of this Islamic tradition. At the end of Ramadan, hundreds of thousands-perhaps millions—of sheep, goats, and cattle are slaughtered. Some are killed in celebration and eaten, much as many Christians celebrate Easter, the end of Lenten fasting, by feasting on lamb. Thousands of other animals are killed as charitable offerings, in what amounts to pointless carnage. Pilgrims to Mecca who can afford to do so often take along a sheep or goat, to be slaughtered "for the poor," but so many animals are killed at once that the poor have far more meat than they can consume before it spoils in the desert heat from lack of refrigeration. The demand for animals to be slaughtered at Ramadan, and especially at the end of a pilgrimage to Mecca, has created a booming export market for sheep ranchers from Australia and New Zealand—and has resulted in additional tens of thousands of sheep dying from heat, disease, and overcrowding aboard the transport ships. (See "The Myth of the Good Shepherd," May 1990.)



Left: Pilgrims killing animals in Mecca may pay little attention to Koranic rules on humane slaughter. Above: The killing fields of Mecca. Photos by Haji Abdul-Rahman

#### Muslim Slaughter

Islam permits the eating of meat and therefore the slaughter of animals, but only the meat from ritually slaughtered animals is to be consumed. Consonant with Islam's respect for all forms of life, the Muslim method of slaughter is intended to display regard for the animal. A prayer must be said before the killing takes place, it must be done without first trussing up the animals or subjecting them to degradation, and it must be done as swiftly and as painlessly as possible. It is even forbidden to keep animals waiting too long before their death or to allow them to witness the deaths of any other animals. The recognition of the psychic pain of fear is implicit.

In one Hadith the prophet came upon a man who was sharpening his knife in the presence of the animal he was about to kill. The Prophet said to him: "Do you intend inflicting death on the animal twice? Once by sharpening the knife within its sight, and once by cutting its throat?"

Sadly, Muslim ritual slaughter, which was supposed to be more humane, is today in the West ridden with the same problems as Jewish kosher slaughter (see "Ritual Slaughter," ANIMALS AGENDA, April '91, p.42). Modern slaughterhouse methods and sanitary regulations involve shackling and hoisting of animals, including conscious animals for Jewish and Islamic ritual slaughter. While the prestunning of animals is not forbidden by Islamic law as it is by Jewish law, among nations with a significant Muslim population, only the Muslims of India tend to accept pre-stunning.

#### Islamic activism

"Whosoever of you sees an evil action, let him change it with his hand; and if he is not able to do so, then with his tongue; and he is not able to do so, then with his heart—and that is the weakest of faith," said Muhammed.

There is also no doubt that Islam even approves of the use of force to prevent needless suffering. Although he never had a chance to liberate animals from a laboratory, we have no trouble imagining at least one of the Prophet's companions, Omar, in such a role Indeed, Omar was perhaps one of the world's first animal rights activists.

The story is told of how Omar once happened upon a man who was about to slaughter a sheep who was obviously suffering from thirst. Omar began to beat the man telling him, "Go, water it properly at the time of its death, you knave!" Another time Omar saw a man sharpening his blade while holding a sheep down with his foot firmly planted on the animal's snout. Of course, Omar took the opportunity to whip the man until he ran away, permitting the hapless sheep to escape.

To be sure, Muslims have differing views on animals just as do people and cultures all over the world. It is true, for instance, that Arabs do not regard dogs to be appropriate household companions. For Arabs, the role of a dog is as a scavenger or as a work dog, and dogs are often treated unkindly. But this does not mean that dogs are considered unholy in scripture. While the Prophet was fleeing from his enemies in Mecca, he and his companions spent the night in a cave, sleeping along with a dog they brought along as a guard. To further protect Muhammed, the Koran recounts how God made a spider quickly spin a web over the mouth of the cave to trick Muhammed's pursuers into thinking it was uninhabited—thus saving the Prophet's life.

Many of the chapters of the Koran (called surahs) are known by the names of animals owing to the prominent place the animal takes in the surah. The Cow, the Bee, the Cattle, and the Spider are examples. Perhaps the best example of God's love for his animal creations occurs in the surah called "The Ants," in which God clearly endows these insects with the faculties of speech and emotion, even having them speak to Solomon, who could also speak to and understand birds.

Many Muslim countries are extremely poor, having great difficulty providing for the welfare of their own people, so it is not surprising that there is as yet no Arab equivalent of the SPCA. But this is not really true of the Gulf Arab states, which have used much of their oil wealth not only to benefit their peoples, but their animal populations. Shaheen refers to Gulf countries of Bahrain and Qatar as particular examples of countries which have set up extensive wildlife preserves. "All along the Gulf they've set up these preserves," he says, "and they're just beautiful."

The existence of these wildlife preserves was recently brought to the attention of the American public by the Gulf War oil spill, which threatened not only desalination plants along the coast of Saudi Arabia but also coastal bird refuges. Thousands of Saudi civilian volunteers turned out, despite the risk of being strafed or gassed by warplanes, to help set up floating booms to protect the wildlife refuges and cleanse oil-covered birds.

But Christians and Jews do not have a corner on the market of hypocrisy. Muslims can be just as stupid, cruel, and wrong as anyone else, but it is not religiously sanctioned.

"Who doesn't abuse their religion?' asks Shaheen. "Good Catholics aren't supposed to get divorced, after all. We should judge people as individuals. We don't judge Christianity by the acts of the Grand Inquisitor, and we shouldn't judge Islam by the acts of the late Ayatollah. Nor should we judge Judaism by the acts of the late Rabbi Meir Kahane, should we?"

#### **Equal in creation**

"If animal rights activists knew about Islam, they'd all become Muslims," said Ginnie Bee, founder of the International Network for Religion and Animals. She had just finished listening to a speech on animals and Islam given by Muslim scholar Al-Hafiz B.A. Masri. Masri has done extensive research into the subject and authored two books, Islamic Concern for Animals (1987, Athene Trust, reviewed in ANIMALS' AGENDA, Jan./Feb. '88) and Animals in Islam (1989, Athene Trust). In his books, Masri utilizes his extensive knowledge of Islam (he has memorized the entire Koran) to explore the religion's view of animals. Masri concludes that animals and humans are equal as creations of God. He finds that God provides animals and human

Continued on next page

13



Pamela Whiting / Unicom stock photos

beings with equal bounty.

"Then let man look at his food: how We pour out water in showers, then turn up the earth into furrow-slices and cause cereals to grow therein—grapes and green fodder; olive trees and palm trees and luxuriant orchards, fruits and grass...," the Koran tells us. Masri points out that the last line of the verse is most telling. It reads: "Provision for you as well as your cattle." (Koran 80:24-32)

Masri's book provides dozen of examples of this equality from both the Koran and the Hadiths. But beyond merely teaching people that God loves animals and that they should be kind to them, Masri says Islam even addresses itself to such "modern" concerns as vivisection and factory farming.

"When the Holy Prophet migrated to Medina from Mecca in 622 A.C., people there used to cut off camels' humps and the fat tails of sheep. The Prophet ordered this barbaric practice to be stopped," writes Masri. "The temptation for the people to perform this sort of vivisection of the animals was that the juicy humps and fatty tails could be eaten while the animal remained alive for future use. To remove this avidity, he declared: 'whatever is cut off an animal, while it is still alive, is carrion and is unlawful to eat." The Prophet also forbade inciting animals to fight each other, thus outlawing cockfights, bear-baiting, and the like.

Masri says that any interference with a live animal that causes pain or disfigurement is contrary to Islamic thought. The pagan practice of slitting the ears of certain animals and letting them out to graze, dedicated to idols, is addressed in the Koran.

"It was not God who instituted the practice of a slit-ear shecamel, or a she-camel let loose for free pasture, or a nanny-goat let loose...," thunders the Koran (5:106). "God cursed him [Satan] for having said: 'I shall entice a number of your servants, and lead them astray, and I shall arouse in them vain desires; and I shall instruct them to slit the ears of cattle; and, most certainly, I shall bid them—so that they will corrupt God's creation.' Indeed! he who chooses the Devil rather than God as his patron, ruins himself manifestly." (Koran 4:118, 119).

Noting Islam's strong preference for respecting the natural lives of all creatures, Masri is troubled by the ecological as well as the religious ramifications of factory farming. "The politicians and the economists of those Islamic countries which have started

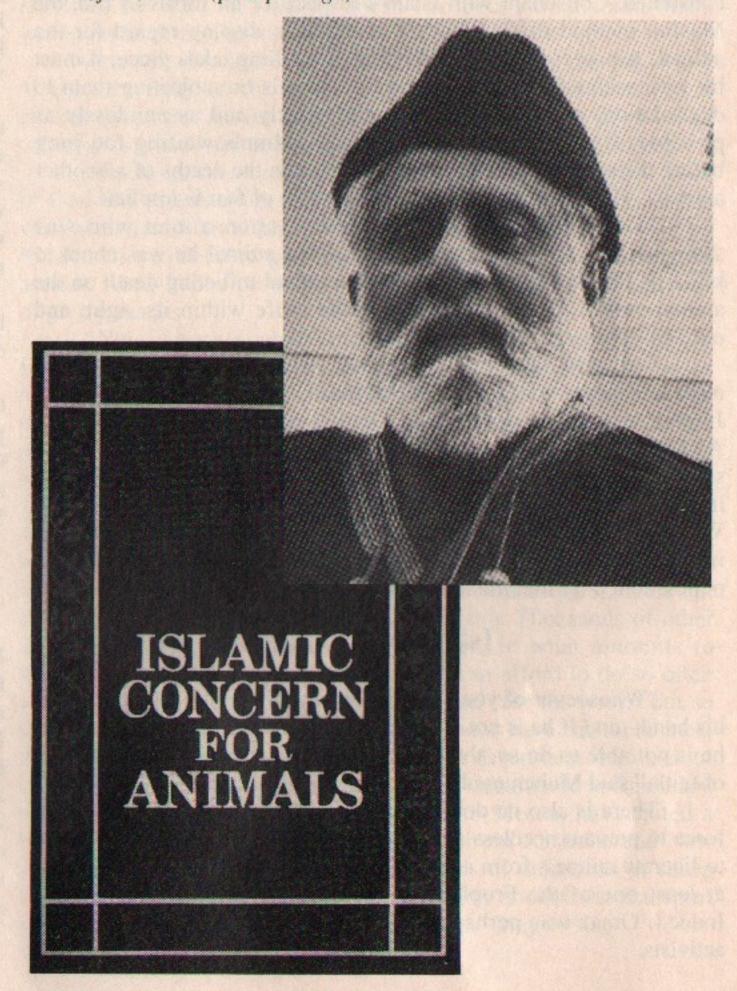
following blindfolded in the footsteps of the West should ask themselves a few pertinent questions at this stage—before they get their countries entangled inextricably in the Western system of farming and animal husbandry. Do these animals, upon which man has always depended for his food, have certain basic rights? For instance the right to companionship of their own kind, the right to an appropriate diet to keep them in health and the right to a natural life and a painless death? If their Divine Creator gave them legs, is it not blasphemy to shut them in crates where they are unable to walk? Are we perhaps forcing them back upon their own evolution by taking them from the fields and the hills and putting them in rows, unmoving—like rows of vegetables? In so doing, are we perhaps reversing our own evolution and becoming more bestial ourselves, unable to know right from wrong?"

Tough questions indeed. But questions for which Islam provides answers.

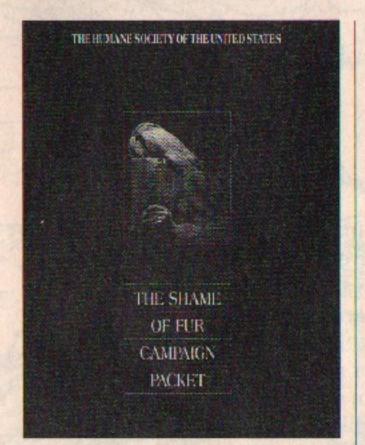
"There is no man who kills [even] a sparrow or anything smaller, without its deserving it, but God will question him about it.

"He who takes pity [even] on a sparrow and spares its life, God will be merciful to him on the Day of Judgement," said Muhammed.

Al-Hafiz B.A. Masri is attempting to form an international Muslim association for animals and nature; for information, write to: 7 Hurst Road, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 9AQ, U.K. Masri's books, Islamic Concern for Animals and Animals in Islam were published by the Athene Trust, 20 Lavant Street, Petersfield, Hampshire GU32 3EW, U.K.; telephone (0730) 64208. Animals in Islam is available in hardcover for \$24.95 (plus \$1.50 for U.S. postage, \$5.00 overseas) from the International Network for Religion and Animals, 2913 Woodstock Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910. INRA also offers a 30 minute VHS video, Creatures of God, narrated by Al-Hafiz B.A. Masri, for \$25.00 (plus postage).



## PASS THE WORD: FUR IS OUT



#### The Shame of Fur Campaign Packet

An activist kit designed to help you spread the word about animals used in the fur trade. Includes Close-Up Reports, wall poster, stickers, fact booklets, ad slicks, and more.

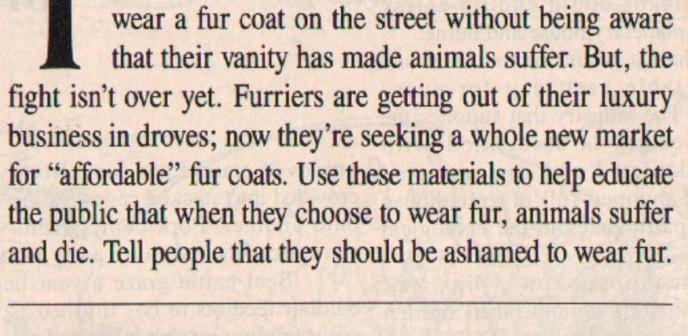
PM2105
\$5.00



"Fur Shame" Button
Black, white, and red, 2½" in
diameter, with picture of a
raccoon.
PM2104



The Shame of Fur
Informational brochure describing
the cruelty of fur fashions, trapping, and ranching.
PM2101
50c
25/\$4.50



hanks to animal-protection activists, people can't

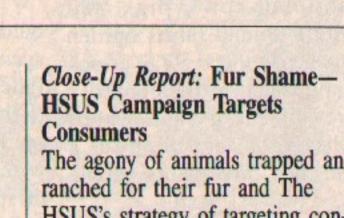


Close-Up Report: Fur Is Out; Compassion Is In An expose of the barbaric fur industry and a summary of results

dustry and a summary of results from the first year of The HSUS's massive anti-fur education campaign.

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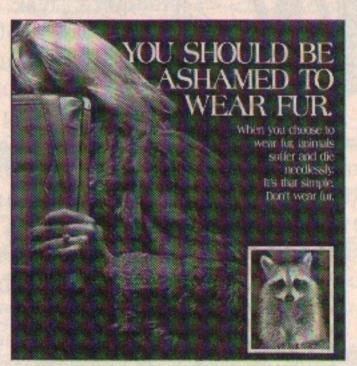
30¢



The agony of animals trapped and ranched for their fur and The HSUS's strategy of targeting consumers of fur garments are the subjects of this report.

GR3120
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"You Should Be Ashamed to Wear Fur" Wall Poster Four-color, 19¾ " × 20" poster PM2102 \$2.00 3-5/\$1.50 each 6 or more/\$1.00 each



"Fur Shame" Stickers
Twelve per sheet, with design
matching "Fur Shame" button.
Each stamp is 13/8" × 17/8" in
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Fat of the Land

BY ALAN B. DURNING

hen most Americans sit down to dinner, they're only a bite away from unwittingly worsening the environment. The overlooked offender is tonight's steak, pork chop, or chicken breast. The unpaid ecological price of that meat is so hefty that Americans could end up eating themselves out of planetary house and home.

Putting half a pound of red meat and poultry on the table each day for every American citizen rings up quite a tab. The industry that supplies the world's leading nation of meat-eaters is associated with underground water to an atmosphere pumped full of greenhouse gases. Even modern egg production participates in the ecological wrongdoing.

There's nothing anti-ecological about cows, pigs, and chickens themselves. Rather American-style animal farms burden nature because they have outgrown their niche. In the U.S., livestock stand at the center of agriculture, absorbing much of the country's crop harvest along with vast quantities of energy and water. Elsewhere, most livestock are raised as they've always been: as a sideline to crops. In some circumstances, they turn plants people cannot eat into food they can.

Every nation in the world that's wealthy enough, nonetheless, is taking notes from the United States and is starting to shower resources on raising animals for meat; U.S.-style animal farms seem to be the wave of the future. If the American diet alone does not pose a mortal threat to the natural estate, its adoption around the world certainly would. The prospect of 5 billion people eating the way Americans do is an ecological impossibility, requiring more grain of American agriculture. than the world can grow and more energy, water, and land than the world can supply.

#### The American diet

fruit and vegetable sales are climbing. Many restaurants feature meatless selections, and there's a booming trade in vegetarian and low-meat cookbooks. Also, airlines report growing numbers of requests for vegetarian meals. But Americans are not yet fatshunning herbivores. While beef consumption per person has declined slowly since 1976 and per-capita egg consumption peaked decades ago, poultry has more than taken up the slack.

another, eating fewer burgers and more chicken nuggets, fewer eggs together is at an all-time high of 178 pounds per person, up from about 137 pounds in 1955. Last year, Americans each ate about 65 pounds of beef and veal, 63 pounds of poultry, and 49 pounds of pork, plus 139 eggs and dairy products made from 70 gallons of milk. For a family of four, that works out to half a steer, a whole pig, and a hundred chickens a year.

Churning out those quantities of animal products takes all the ingenuity agriculturalists can muster. Consequently, modern meat and egg production bears little resemblance to the family farm idyll that still colors the imagination of most Americans. In the U.S., animal foods are produced in concentrated agroindustries, not cow barns or chicken coops.

In fact, animal farms are as much factories as farms. Of all farm animals in industrial countries, only cattle spend most of their lives in daylight. Broiler chickens live exclusively in gigantic, darkened sheds where thousands of birds are fed carefully measured grass.

environmental ills ranging from depleted and contaminated rations of grain. Eggs come from similar installations, were hens are crowded into stacked cages, eating from one conveyor belt and laying onto another. Pork comes from warehouse-size sheds built over sewage canals that sluice away manure.

Beef cattle graze a year before ranchers truck them to vast outdoor feedlots to be "finished" for slaughter. Their last months are spent gorging on rich rations of corn, sorghum, and soybean meal that fatten for slaughter. Dairy cows, unlike other farm animals, continue to live something not unlike the old-fashioned farm life, often grazing outdoors part of each day. However, they, too, are sent to slaughter when their milk production falls off, and their male offspring—useless in the milk business, except for a few breeding bulls—usually become veal calves or "baby beef."

Regardless of animal type, though, modern meat production involves intensive use—and often misuse—of grain crops, water resources, energy, and grazing areas. In addition, animal agriculture produces surprisingly large amounts of air and water pollution. Taken as a whole, livestock rearing is the most ecologically damaging part

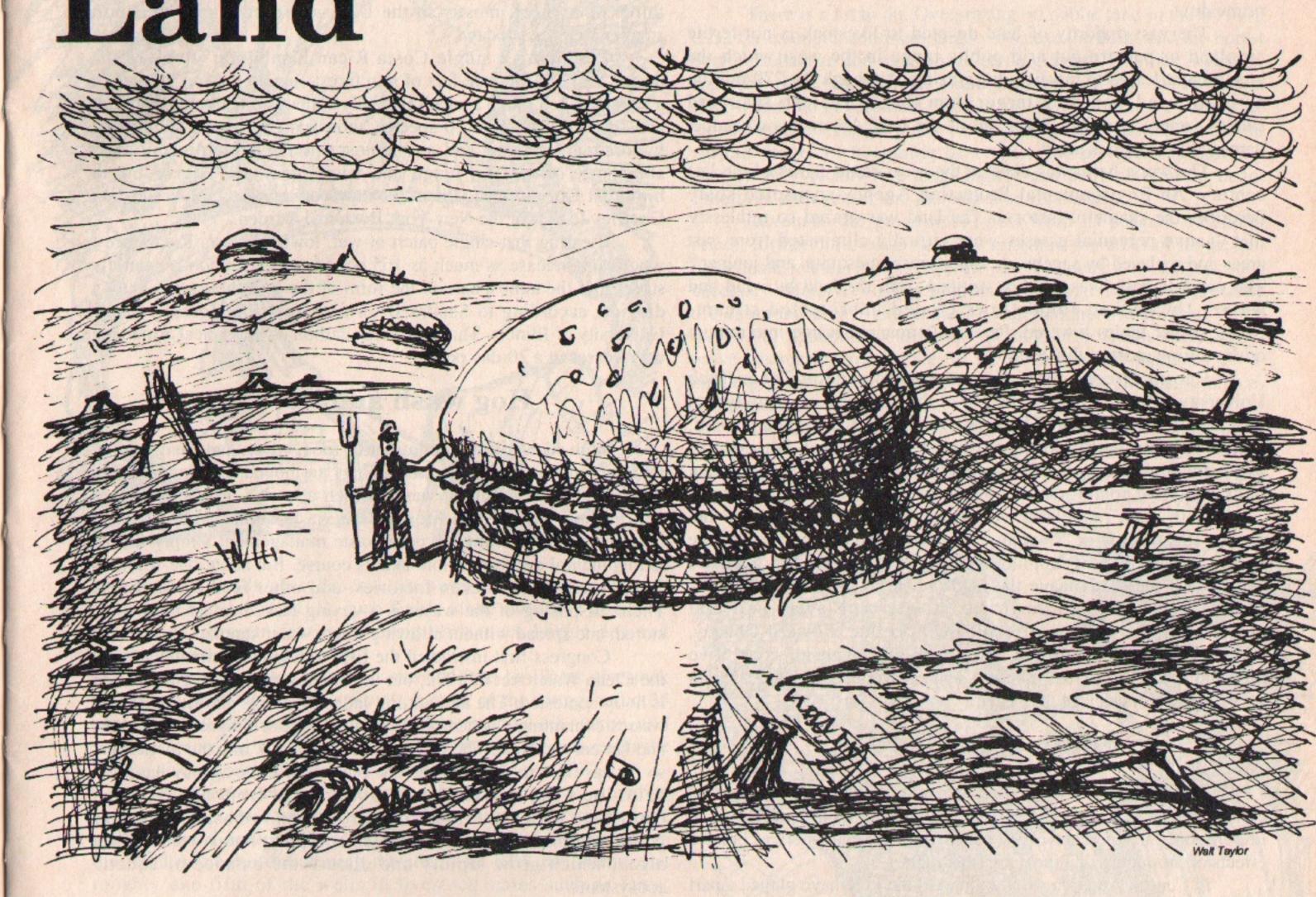
#### Staff of livestock life

Animal farms use mountains of grain. Nearly 40 percent of the world's total, and more than 70 percent of U.S. production, is fed to Some shifts in American dining are already apparent. Fresh livestock, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture data. Last year, 162 million tons of grain, mostly corn but also sorghum, barley, oats, and wheat, were consumed by livestock. Millions of tons of protein-rich soybean meal rounded out the diet. No other country in the world can afford to feed so much grain to animals.

Were all of that grain consumed directly by humans, it would nourish five times as many people as it does after being converted into meat, milk, and eggs, according to the Iowa-based Council for Americans have been jumping from one animal product to Agricultural Science and Technology, a nonprofit research group.

Such calculations don't mean that if Americans ate less meat, and more turkey. Annual consumption of red meat and poultry hungry people would be fed. Worldwide, 630 million people are hungry today—because they're too poor to buy food, not because food is in short supply. Even if feed grains were given as food aid, hunger might persist because handouts can flood agricultural markets and discourage Third World farmers from planting crops.

The more immediate problem with raising animals on grain is the waste of resources. The effectiveness with which animals turn grains such as corn into food products varies enormously. Nearly seven pounds of corn and soy are needed to put one pound of boneless, trimmed pork on the table in the U.S. (see Table 1). Cattle require less-4.8 pounds of grain and soy per pound of meat-because unlike pigs, they eat grass most of their lives. American chickens eat 2.8 pounds of feed per pound of meat, and egg layers do better at 2.6 pounds. Dairy cows are the most efficient, using just 0.1 pounds of grain and soybean meal to provide a pound (about a pint) of milk, because most of their nutrition comes from



#### Counting kilocalories

American feed takes so much energy to grow—counting fuel might as well be a petroleum byproduct. Cornell University's David Pimentel, a specialist in agricultural energy use, estimated that 14,000 kilocalories are required to produce a pound of pork in the U.S.—equivalent to the energy in nearly half a gallon of gasoline (see Table 1). Pimentel's data show that energy use, like grain consumption, declines from pork to beef, chicken, and eggs. Dairy farms are exceptionally frugal with energy, using scarcely the equivalent of depleting underground water source called the Ogallala aquifer. one-fortieth of a gallon of gasoline per pound of milk.

red meat and poultry eaten each year by a typical American takes supplying meat-eaters.

Of course energy used on the farm isn't the whole story in the home for all purposes. food system. Processing, packaging, transporting, selling, storing, and cooking foods uses almost twice as much energy nationwide as agriculture does. Yet, meat still leads the league in energy used per pound of product served (see Table 2). Pork involves more than 15 contrast, uses as little energy as plant foods.

October 1991

#### Watering the herd

Feed grain guzzles water, too. In California, now the nation's for farm machinery and for making fertilizers and pesticides—that it leading dairy producer, livestock agriculture takes nearly a third—the largest share—of irrigation water, according to independent water analyst Marc Reisner of San Francisco. Animal raising accounts for similar shares across the western U.S., including areas irrigated with water from dwindling underground aquifers. The beef feedlot center of the nation-Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, and the Texas panhandle-relies on crops raised with water pumped out of a

Jim Oltjen, professor of animal science at the University of Almost half of the energy used in American agriculture goes California at Davis, estimates that half of the grain and hay fed to into livestock production, the majority of it for meat. Producing the American livestock grows on irrigated land. He calculates that it takes about 430 gallons of water to produce a pound of pork, 390 gallons energy equal to 50 gallons of gasoline. Supplying vegetarians with for a pound of beef, and 375 gallons per pound of chicken. Thus the nourishment requires one-third less energy on the farm than water used to supply Americans with meat comes to about 190 gallons per person per day, or twice what typical Americans use at

#### Land lords

The livestock industry uses half the territory of the continental times as much energy as fresh fruits and vegetables. Milk, by U.S. for feed crops, pasture, and range. On the half of U.S. cropland

growing animal feed and hay, soil continues eroding at a frightful pace despite recent progress in conservation. For each pound of red meat, poultry, eggs, and milk, farm fields lose about five pounds of prime dirt.

The vast majority of land devoted to livestock is not fertile cropland or pasture but arid public range in the west which the government leases to ranchers for grazing. Although the 270 million acres so used—an area larger than the 14 eastern seaboard states—supply less than 5 percent of the beef Americans consume, and seedlings of 20 to 30 species, thousands of insects comprising damage to the land is acute.

The worst harm was done in the great cattle drives of the last century. An Environmental Protection Agency sponsored study describes the shameful history: The land was grazed so ruthlessly that "native perennial grasses were virtually eliminated from vast areas and replaced by sagebrush, rabbitbrush, mesquite, and juniper." The exposed soil "was quickly stripped from the land by wind and water...Unchecked flood flows eroded unprotected streambanks...Water tables lowered. Perennial streams became intermittent or dry during most of the year."

Harold Dregne, professor of soil science at Texas Tech University, estimates that 10 percent of the arid west has been turned into desert by livestock. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management, which is responsible along with the U.S. Forest Service for overseeing public rangeland, reported last year that nearly 70 percent of its expansive holdings in the west were in unacceptable condition.

With open rangeland overgrazed, cattle concentrate in the narrow streambank, or "riparian," habitats which are the cornerstone of arid-land ecology. Trampling and eating vegetation that regulates water flow, the herds leave the land unable to absorb cloudbursts. Floods then rampage downstream, carrying away soil and accelerating the process of ecological decline. Edward Chaney, author of the EPA-sponsored assessment of rangeland, says: "I've talked to specialists across the west, and everyone agrees that riparian zones are in worse shape than ever."

#### South of the border

The American appetite for meat has environmental consequences that extend beyond our national frontiers. The U.S. imports only 0.5 percent of its beef from Central America, but the effects of producing that meat are startling.

In Central America, beef exports to the U.S. have played a part ecosystems. in the tragedy of forest destruction. Costa Rica, for example, was

once almost completely cloaked in tropical forest, holding within its small confines perhaps 5 percent of all plant and animal species on earth. By 1983, after two decades of explosive growth in the cattle industry, just 17 percent of the original forest remained. Throughout the period, Costa Rica was exporting between one-third and twothirds of its beef, mostly to the U.S., and it continues to export smaller quantities today.

Producing a single Costa Rican hamburger involves the destruction of 55 square feet of rain forest—an area about the size of a small kitchen. Such a swath typically contains one tree, 50 saplings hundreds of species, and an "almost unimaginable diversity and abundance of mosses, fungi, and microorganisms," according to biologist Christopher Uhl of Pennsylvania State University and Geoffrey Parker of the New York Botanical Garden.

Clearing that single patch of wet, lowland Costa Rican forest would also release as much as 165 pounds of the carbon it naturally stores into the atmosphere in the form of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide, according to Sandra Brown, professor of forestry at the University of Illinois. That's as much carbon as the typical American car releases in a 20-day period.

#### Hog wash and hot air

With such colossal quantities of food, water, and energy going into the livestock industry, other things are bound to come out. The most distinctive is animal waste, which after it's dried amounts to 158 million tons a year. Most of the waste comes from cattle in pastures or on the range, where waste management simply means letting natural decomposition take its course. But about one-fourth is from stockyards, chicken factories, and other feeding facilities. There, disposing of the waste is a vexing task. It must be moved, stored, and spread without allowing it into water supplies.

Congress first instructed the EPA to regulate animal wastes in the Clean Water Act of 1972, but the effectiveness of that regulation is hotly contested. The agricultural industry claims almost no animal wastes contaminate water, while critics allege widespread violations and lax enforcement. The EPA has begun to look into the matter, but so far has little to show. In the one place where the agency has solid data, the Chesapeake Bay basin, manure from all livestock contribute about one-tenth of nitrogen and phosphorus water pollution from all sources. Nitrogen and phosphorus over-fertilize algae, which grow rapidly and disturb the balance of aquatic

Fertilizers and agricultural chemicals running off of feed-crop

Table 1: Estimated Inputs Used to Produce Each Pound of Meat, Egg, and Milk in the United States

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	(	irain*	Ene	ergy	Water	
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		ounds)		soline**)	(gallon	5)
Pork		6.9	-0.4	14	430	
Beef		4.8	0.2	25	390	
Chicken		2.8	0.	Q	375	
Eggs		2.6	0.		n/a	
Milk		0.1	0.0	)2	n/a	

Meat measured in boneless, trimmed weight,

\*Includes soybean meal.

\*\*The energy equivalent of a gallon of gasoline is used only for convenience; most of the energy consumed is natural gas used in fertilizer production.

Sources: Grain from Cattle-Fax, Englewood, Colo., except for eggs and milk based on data from U.S. Department of Agriculture: energy from David Pimentel, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. Water from Jim Oltjen, University of California, Davis.

Table 2: Energy Used to Supply Foods to Consumers in the United States\*

Product	Energy
	(million calories/pound)
Pork	15
Beef	9
Chicken	7
Eggs	5
Milk	
Bread, dry beans	2
Rice, potatoes, fre	sh fruits
and vegetables	

\*Estimates include production, processing, packaging, distributing, and preparing foods.

Source: Worldwatch Institute estimates, based on David and Marci Pimentel, Food, Energy and Society (Baltimore: Arnold Edward, 1979), and Richard Fluck and Direlle Baird, Agricultural Energetics (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1980).

and pasture fields also deserve an entry in animal products environmental ledger. U.S. corn fields alone consume about 40 percent of nitrogen fertilizer along with more herbicides and insecticides than any other crop.

Lumping together animal wastes and feed fertilizers, livestock agriculture probably accounts for 40 percent of the nitrogen and 35 percent of phosphorus released into American rivers, lakes, and streams, according to a computer model devised by Resources for the Future, an environmental research center in Washington, D.C.

The water woes of animal production run deep too, extending to underground water tables. As it percolates through the soil, manure or its chemical constituents can cause serious damage, especially in the form of health-threatening nitrates. The EPA has found that roughly one-fifth of the wells in livestock states such as Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska have nitrate levels that exceed safety standards. The EPA can't prove animal farming is the culprit yet, but manure and feed-crop fertilizers are leading suspects.

As animal wastes and feed-growing chemicals pollute the water, animals themselves pollute the air. Cattle and other ruminants such as goats and sheep emit methane, a potent greenhouse gas, as they digest grass and other fibrous plants. Each head of American beef cattle belches out about a third of a pound of methane per pound of beef yielded. Add the carbon released from fuels burned in animal farming, and every pound of steak has the same greenhouse-warming effect as a 25-mile drive in a typical American car.

#### Living off the fat of the land

The first line of defense against animal agriculture's ecological side-effects is individual action: eating less meat, or no meat. The health benefits alone are compelling: the saturated fats in animal products increase one's risk of heart disease, stroke, and even certain types of cancer.

In fact, results of a recent comprehensive study of diet and health in China suggest that the healthiest range for fat consumption is 10 to 15 percent of calories, about a third of current U.S. fat consumption.

But personal decisions to eat foods lower on the food chain

won't suffice without corresponding changes in governmental codes that allow the livestock industry to deplete and pollute resources without bearing the costs. What's needed is enough citizens demanding that lawmakers take aim at the ecological side-effects of meat production.

There is a lot to do. Overgrazing on public land in the western U.S., for example, continues largely because the BLM and the Forest Service subsidize and mismanage cattle grazing. This fact is readily apparent where fences divide public from private land. On the public side, where the government charges just \$1.90 per head of cattle per month, ranchers run as many cattle as they can, and the land is in various stages of becoming desert. On the private side, grazing charges are typically five times higher, and the land is in far better condition, with denser and more diverse vegetation.

Revenues the government gets from its bargain-basement prices, furthermore, cover scarcely one-third the costs of its present inadequate management. They are far too meager to support such necessary efforts as vigilant monitoring of range conditions, fencing off degraded areas, and ensuring that ranchers keep their herds moving to lighten the burden on the land. The House recently approved increasing grazing fees to \$8.70 per head per month by 1994, but despite the strong margin of passage, 232-192, the measure faces stiff opposition in the Senate.

The federal government also takes the blame for some waste of irrigation water through what Congress estimates is a \$2.2 billion annual subsidy to western water projects. Between \$500 million and

Continued on next page



The Animals' Agenda October 1991 October 1991 The Animals' Agenda

## It May Be Worse!

**L**n calculating the amount of water consumed in the production of a pound of meat, the Worldwatch report used figures from an animal science department with strong ties to the industry. While these numbers are damning enough, it is interesting that other, perhaps less biased sources, state that the amount of water consumed in beef production is actually far higher. In the newsletter Soil and Water, the agricultural extension department of the University of California gives the figure of 5,214 gallons of water for one pound of beef in California. That is enough water to fill a stack of one-gallon water containers a mile high. And this in a state suffering a severe drought.

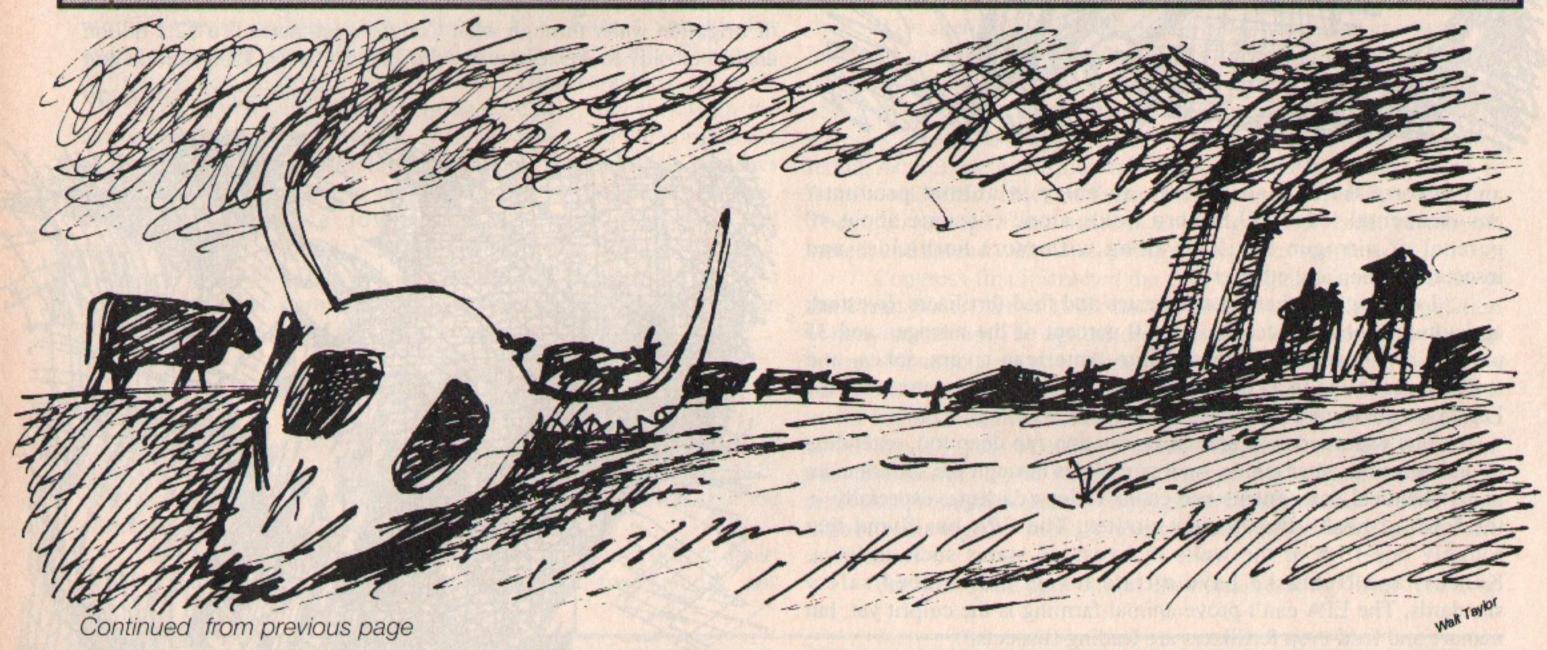
Similarly, the figure given in the Worldwatch report for the amount of grain

used to produce a pound of beef may be misleadingly low. The figure in the report, 4.8 pounds of grain for one pound of beef, reflects the total amount of grain eaten for the life of the animal and the total amount of meat yielded. That sounds fair enough, but there's a catch. The typical beef animal grazes for six months, with a small supplement of grain during that time. Then, weighing about 750 pounds, the animal is taken to a feedlot, where, on average, 19 pounds of grain are guzzled each day for 100 days. For that intake of 1900 pounds of grain, the animal gains only about 300 pounds of weight-and most of that added weight is not edible. The net amount of meat gained from the 1900 pounds of grain

fed in the feedlot is 120 pounds. This ratio comes out to close to 16 pounds of grain per pound of beef, and this figure is actually a far more accurate indicator of the resource use involved in beef production. Very little of the weight the animal brings to the feedlot comes from grain; it comes from grazing, an activity which has destroyed enormous acreage of public lands in the U.S.

—John Robbins

John Robbins, author of Diet for a New America, is president of EarthSave, 315 Quail Terrace, Ben Lomond, CA 95005; 408-336-5125.



review across the west in the next five years, giving environ- following suit. mentalists a chance to challenge the pork barrel politics that have

prevailed so far.

neglecting small farmers and the landless poor.

regulation of the water and atmospheric pollution that flows from day? animal and feed farms. Next, they could go after animal farms' excessive reliance on fossil fuels. If such efforts succeed, the full the onus will be on rich nations to shift from consumption of ecological cost of meat and egg production will show up clearly in the price of a pork chop or chicken breast. Then people's pocketbooks will guide them down the food chain.

But that is changing rapidly as incomes in other nations rise. For Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036; 202-452-1999. example, the Japanese diet of rice and fish is succumbing to the

\$1 billion of that amount goes to feed and fodder growers. onslaught of high-fat fast-food. Per-capita consumption of red meat Fortunately, long-term public water contracts are coming up for in Japan has doubled since 1975. Koreans and Taiwanese are

The logical extension of this trend—a world where everyone eats as much meat as Americans—is a recipe for ecological disaster. In the rain forests of Central America, the U.S. government Supporting just the world's current population of 5.3 billion people could exert its influence by pressing local leaders to halt the cattle on an American-style diet would require as much energy as the world boom in the forest. Up and down the isthmus, governments lavish now uses for all purposes, along with two-and-a-half times as much credit, tax-breaks, and extension services on cattle ranchers while grain as all the world's farmers produce. How many planets would it take to feed the world's projected future population of 10 billion From there, environmental reformers might move on to tighten people on the American ration of eight ounces of grain-fed meat a

> If the global food system is not to destroy its ecological base, resource-intensive foodstuffs toward modest fare.

Alan B. Durning, senior researcher at the prestigious Worldwatch A diet centered on plant foods may sound bizarre to Institute, studies the relationships between social and environmental Americans, but for most of the Earth's citizens it's the norm. issues. This 1991 report was reprinted with permission from the Worldwide, only about one in four people eats a meat-centered diet. World Watch magazine. Contact Worldwatch at 1776 Massachusetts CRUELTY FREE

## Profile

## \_\_\_\_Jennifer Raymond Peaching the Peaceful Plate

er energy, slim figure, and sharp mind should convince most people that what Jennifer Raymond preaches, they would do well to practice. What she preaches is simply that healthful, ethical eating can both improve health and reduce animal suffering.

With a master's degree in nutrition, author of a vegetarian cookbook with another vegan cookbook in the works, cofounder of Peninsula Vegetarians, and on the advisory panel for the Baltimore-based Vegetarian Resource Group, Raymond still finds time to design vegetarian lifestyle curricula for high schools, and to give presentations and cooking classes to adult audiences.

"What is this magic ingredient in meat?", she often asks, going on to explain that even lacto-ovo-vegetarians consume far more protein than they need.

"When I'm giving a talk before a group of newcomers," Raymond says, "I emphasize the health implications of their meat-based diet, using all the recent scientific studies available. This gets them thinking, and then I introduce them to the term 'factory farm' and how the act of slaughter is only part of what animals used for meat endure."

Although Raymond accepts that many people will switch to vegetarianism because of personal health motivations, her heart vibrates to the animal issues. "Back in college I came to the realization that it was silly to run around loving animals and still be eating them. I paralleled the Vietnam war and peace issues with eating animals—if you can cause death to one group of sentient beings you can easily transfer this to abusing people.

"But I became so overwhelmed by all the animal issues that I knew I had to make a decision where I should concentrate, otherwise I would work myself into immobility." A nonstop schedule is a testament to how mobile her activism has become.

The group Peninsula Vegetarians, cofounded by Raymond in 1986, had eight participants at its first meeting. Now its monthly potlucks attract a casual following of 150 who are treated to guest speakers, friendly socializing, and superb food. Raymond has taught vegetarian cooking classes for 12 years at community colleges, and is presently negotiating with a local



cable television station to host a vegetarian cooking show.

Students at two high schools were so affected by presentations Raymond gave in their classes, that she responded by helping them form vegetarian teen groups. And corporate America has not escaped Raymond's enthusiastic lectures: Xerox, IBM, and SUN Microsystems are a few Silicon Valley firms whose employees were shown how their protein-heavy diets inflict violence on their personal health as well as

animals.

For Jennifer Raymond, living a lifestyle free of animal consumption has an overall impact. "It struck me how totally holistic vegetarianism is. It affects the health of animals, people, the planet, and ends in world peace. You simply cannot be a peaceful human being if you're cutting up the body of a baby lamb on your kitchen cutting board."

-Shelley Frost

## Profile

## -Holly Cheever

Animal Rights Veterinarian



Manhattan found a champion when the Carriage Horse Action Committee joined forces with the American SPCA and hired veterinarian Holly Cheever, a resident of upstate New York, to investigate Manhattan's carriage horse trade.

What Cheever found were sickly equines kept in filthy stalls, who sometimes endured temperatures of 140 degrees radiating from the pavement on summer days. This Cheever detailed in a letter to The New York Times, which helped rally public support for a law mandating improved conditions for the horses. After the city council passed the legislation, however, the carriage horse trade retaliated with a \$145 million suit against Holly, the ASPCA, and the CHAC.

Yet Cheever, who warns people not to treat her as a "fluffy petite blond," was undaunted. Asked if she was worried about the suit, she replied, "I haven't even earned that much in my practice yet." Cheever's attitude came as no surprise to former ASPCA head John Kullberg, who described her as one who "puts her actions where her

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heart is. She'll take on the whole community."

A group of Albany residents figured this out, too, after unveiling plans to build a zoo. At their public meetings, Cheever continuously voiced objections to the zoo. By soliciting spokespersons from national groups and galvanizing local activists, she was able to catch the attention and sympathy of the media. Zoo supporters watched public opinion swing against the proposed menagerie. To the organizers' contention that extinction, too, is cruelty, Cheever points out that "200 years of incarceration is not the answer." She vows not to relax "until they fold up and go away."

Meanwhile, Cheever has been taking on other issues, including Draize testing, veal calf raising, spaying and neutering, and the Moscow circus.

Cheever's passion for activism seems to be in her blood. In 1773 her ancestor Lott Cheever helped bring about the American Revolution by dumping tea into Boston harbor. In the Civil War, ancestor Robert Shaw led the first black regiment for the Union forces. Her great

aunt Helen was a suffragist who "chained herself to mayors," and her father was a "practical idealist" who was instrumental in constructing the United Nation's Law of the Sea Treaty.

In the late '60s, Holly was a peace activist while attending Harvard. After graduation, she went on to earn a veterinary degree from Cornell University and became the first member of the Association of Veterinarians for Animal Rights.

Today, when Holly isn't taking on feminist and animal rights issues, she's busy mothering her four children. She and husband Dean, whom she describes as a "fearless environmental lawyer," symbolize what many activists hope to see in the '90s, a union of animal rights and environmentalism.

But plans for the future must include a sweeping grassroots effort to educate the mainstream public, notes Cheever. "It's such a logical movement...nobody wants animal abuse. But they have to recognize it first."

-Karen and Michael Iacobbo

23

Reader Beware: When It Comes to A Declaration, What is Meant May Not Be What is Said



ooks can be deceiving. African Atto is a case in point. This streetfighting manual, ostensibly written for black militants by one Mohammed X, actually was written by former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke. A second Duke book, Finderskeepers, also

authored anonymously, is a sex manual written for the "liberated" woman. In both books, Duke creates a portrait of his subjects intended to confirm the worst prejudices of his readers. Are African-Americans hell-bent on destroying whites? Are today's liberated women responsible for the decline of family values? All committed racists and sexists need do is read Duke's books. That's enough to throw fresh coals on their smouldering hatred.

Whatever their literary quality (or lack thereof), David Duke's books are representative of an identifiable literary genre. I will call them works of fraudulent provocation. Such works purport to be written by an insider. Their intent is to inflame hatred and fear of members of an identifiable group, and they attempt to do this by exaggerating the dangers posed by the group's members. History is replete with examples.

#### Keeping slaves—and women—in their place

A work by David Goodman Croly and George Wakeman, two opponents of the abolition of slavery in America, illustrates the genre. Their anonymous work of fraudulent provocation was the pamphlet Miscegenation. As supposed insiders, Croly-Wakemen argued that the intended outcome of the abolition of slaves was the intermarriage of whites and blacks. Because abolition was favored (somewhat reluctantly) by Republicans in general and President Lincoln in particular, the Croly-Wakeman pamphlet had a political purpose: to defeat Lincoln.

Other progressive movements, including those opposed to America's involvement in the World Wars and in Vietnam, as well as those committed to nuclear disarmament, have had to endure works of fraudulent provocation. Mostly the authors have been private citizens. But sometimes government agencies have taken it upon themselves to intensify hate and fear through fraud; the FBI, for example, made repeated efforts to undermine the civil rights movement by spreading false information allegedly acquired by unidentified insiders.

Given the historic pattern, it should not be surprising that suffragists had to survive variations on the main theme of fraudulent provocation. Before, during, and after the First World War, many suffragist

leaders aligned themselves with labor reformers, an alliance that led some to view suffrage as part of the communist conspiracy. This perception was encouraged by an anonymous writer, identified only as "An American Citizen." In one story, readers were introduced to Haviland Lund, a brave American who vainly fought, from the inside, the communist take-over of progressive women's organizations. When, in time, it was learned that the author was Haviland Lund herself, it was too late. Bigoted readers had already been confirmed in their bigotry.

#### The myth of the Jewish conspiracy

As numerous and depressing as works like African Atto and Miscegenation are, they pale in comparison with history's most significant example of fraudulent provocation. Just before and during the Second World War, a small book, entitled The Protocols of the Elders of Zion, enjoyed wide popularity. The Protocols, which purported to be a summary of a secret Jewish parliament held in Cracow around 1840, described how members of the Jewish faith planned to conquer the world. Here is a representative passage:

Our strength lies in keeping the working man in perpetual want and impotence; because, by doing so, we retain him subject to our will and, in his own surroundings, he will never find either power or energy to stand up against us...We govern the masses by making use tendency to mix the message with the messenger. For good or ill, of feelings of jealousy and hatred kindled by oppression and need. And by means of these feelings we brush aside those who impede us in our course. When the time comes for our Worldy Ruler to be crowned, we will see to it that by the same means—that is to say, by making use of the mob—we will destroy everything that may prove to be an obstacle in our way...

Literally millions of people read the Protocols as literal truth. Belief in an international conspiracy, orchestrated and financed by wealthy Jews, was widespread, a belief Hitler repeatedly used to forward the objectives of the Third Reich.

In point of fact, the Protocols of the Elders of Zion was a complete and utter fraud. There was no assemblage of Jewish elders, no secret plans, no international Jewish conspiracy. What there was (and what there had been for centuries) was hatred of Jews, and it was this antisemitism-not Jewish history-that gave birth to the

#### Animal "liberators": the larger context

As these examples illustrate, works of fraudulent provocation are products of, and seek to validate and perpetuate, preexisting social prejudices—racist prejudices in the case of the Protocols and Miscegenation, for example, and sexist prejudices in the case of Finderskeepers. Moreover, by attempting to validate and perpetuate prejudices, such works have a political purpose-namely, to protect and advance the interests of those who benefit from these very prejudices.

Up to now, speciesism is one social prejudice that has been spared a work of fraudulent provocation. With the recent publication of A Declaration of War: Killing People to Save Animals and the Environment [the circumstances surrounding the publication of this book were described in the June '91 issue], however, the animal rights movement, like the women's rights movement and the civil rights movement, may have a genuine work of fraudulent provocation on its hands. To make it clearer how this book can be read in this way, consider first the larger context in which A Declaration of War makes its lamentable appearance.

Anyone active in the animal rights movement is aware of the concerted efforts being made to destroy it by discrediting the people who comprise the movement. They are "extremists," "fanatics," "anti-science," "anti-intellectual," "anti-rational," "anti-human." They are against everything. Except violence. Here is something they are for. First and foremost, they are terrorists.

This hysterical rhetoric would be laughable if it were not for the fact that the media and, through them, the general public have a



when Louis Sullivan talks, as Secretary of Health and Human Services, the media and the general public listen. And when Louis Sullivan, or the American Medical Association, or some other individual or organization usually wrapped in public trust declares that animal rights activists are "terrorists," the public at large, because they trust the messenger, are normally inclined to accept the

There is a limit to their willingness to trust, however. And so it was that, after the peaceful, nonviolent March for the Animals on June 10, 1990, for example, the public had to ask where the terrorists

This is an important point: those who want to destroy the animal rights movement by labelling its members "terrorists" cannot possibly succeed if there are not enough terrorist acts being committed against researchers, hunters, trappers, and others who exploit nonhuman animals. In other words, the very strategy the exploiters have agreed upon—to destroy the movement by convincing the public that animal rightists are terrorists—requires an escalation in the use of terrorism carried out on behalf of nonhuman animals. This is the larger context in which the publication of A Declaration of War must be viewed. When it is, the book can be read as part of the animal exploitation community's "proactive" strategy.

#### The illogic of the logic

Anyone who reads the pages of A Declaration of War (only a few should waste their time doing so) cannot fail to be struck by how the views presented in this work offer just what the proverbial doctor ordered. According to Screaming Wolf-predictably, an unidentified "insider"—there is no limit to the violence against human beings these "liberators" are prepared to do. It's not only the university researcher whose life is at risk, not just the furrier's, not just the hunter's; it's that researcher's spouse or child, the furrier's rabbi or minister, the hunter's business associate or golf partner who could end up in a "liberator's" cross hairs. In short, anyone could be chosen as a legitimate, justifiable victim of the violence practiced by these "liberators."

Theoretically, however, the real author(s) of A Declaration of War, read as a work of fraudulent provocation, faced an apparently insurmountable problem. Since an escalation of terrorist activity by "liberators" is required if the public is to continue to place its trust in the animal exploiters, and since imaginary law breakers cannot oblige the exploiters and increase the incidence of terrorism, it would

Continued on page 46

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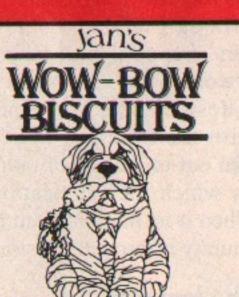
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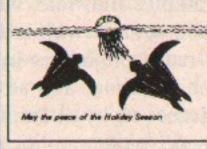
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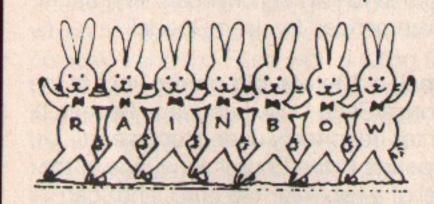
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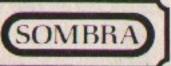


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## **NEWS SHORTS**

The FDA has forced Carter-Wallace Inc. and Schmid Laboratories to publish warnings on boxes of Trojan and Fourex sheep gut condoms that only latex condoms are effective in blocking the spread of sexually-transmitted diseases. Also the biggest maker of latex condoms, Carter-Wallace agreed to run a warning only after the FDA seized 350,000 sheep gut condoms worth an estimated \$437,000.

Seven coyotes, six mink, and ten mice were taken on August 12 from the USDA Animal Disease Research Unit and the Furbearer Research Facility at Washington State Univ. in Pullman, Washington. Two offices were ransacked, and equipment was destroyed as well. The Animal Liberation Front claimed credit for the raid in a faxed communique. According to the ALF, the coyotes and mink had been infected with sheep diseases often associated with overcrowding and poor sanitation, in studies aimed at reducing economic losses by sheep and mink ranchers. The raid was the third in the region attributed to the ALF in recent months, and the third against research projects intended to assist the struggling fur industry—not previously an ALF target.

Registrants for the Nov. 20-24 Grand National Quail Club bird shoot in Enid, Okla., include Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, actors Dale Robertson and Lee Majors, and singers Hank Thompson and Roy Clark.

An unknown attacker raped and bludgeoned to death a tame two-yearold fallow deer on July 27 at the Buttonwood Zoo in New Bedford, Mass. The same night, a roaming dog pack broke into the Miami Metrozoo and killed nine springbok. Only 49 springbok—an endangered miniature antelope native to South Africa—remain in the U.S. As if to underscore the lax security at many zoos, on August 2 an unknown thief stole a three-month-old bobcat from her family at the Rosspark Zoo in Binghampton, N.Y., a month after two boa constrictors were taken from the same zoo.

The Bush administration has proposed a new definition of "wetlands" that would release for development from

#### **Edited By MERRITT CLIFTON**



10 percent to a third of the 100 million acres that were protected by stiff permit requirements imposed in 1989 (implementing parts of the 1972 Clean Water Act). On August 4, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service similarly reduced the amount of old growth forest it plans to set aside to protect the endangered spotted owl. Loggers were to have been barred from about 11.6 million acres, but under timber industry pressure (including a 30 percent hike in lumber prices at the start of the summer building season), three million acres of privately owned land and 400,000 acres held by state and tribal governments have been exempted.

Stanford University president Donald Kennedy, a former biomedical researcher, resigned effective August 1992, only days after the university announced reforms intended to prevent repetition of fraudulent research billing in which the federal government was bilked of as much as \$200 million over the past decade. Stanford has now refunded \$1.35 million, and will receive \$23 million less from the government for research projects during the coming year. Congress meanwhile began a probe of charges that former Stanford Linear Accelerator Center engineer Tim Axe was fired for refusing to inflate an estimate of damage done by the 1989 "World Series Earthquake" in an effort to get additional funds from the Dept. of Energy. (See "Research Fraud Probe Widens," July/August 1991.)

Controversial Key West cat trainer
Dominique Lefort took his act to Disney
World last summer, but when onlookers
protested, the Disney World management obliged him to drop the part of his
act in which the cats leap through a
flaming hoop.

Two California condor chicks were to

be released into the Los Angeles mountains in September—the first of their species to be returned to the wild since the last free-flying condors were rounded up for captive breeding in 1987. There are now 52 of the giant condors in captivity, including 25 chicks born to the 27 surviving condor adults.

The Maine and Natl. Audubon
Societies recently killed seagulls living
on Jenny Island, Me., to encourage tern
reproduction. (Gulls often eat tern eggs
and young.)

All 21 members of Florida's
Congressional delegation have joined the Fund for Animals in asking U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service director John Turner to extend Endangered Species Act protection to the Florida black bear. The most recent population study, done in 1962, found only 1,000 black bears left in Florida, and the numbers have almost certainly dropped since then. In absence of Endangered Species protection, hunters killed 46 of the bears last year, while cars killed 45 more.

Sixteen of the highly endangered dog-sized Florida Key deer were killed by cars in the first six months of 1991; fewer than 300 survive. Trying to cut the toll, the state recently lowered the speed limit in the area the deer most frequent to 45 mph by day, 35 mph by night.

Since the departure of former director Steve Graham, the Detroit Zoo has returned to naming chimpanzees, as recommended by Jane Goodall.

Kanzi, a 10-year-old chimp kept at the Georgia State Univ. Language Research Center, reportedly understands and responds to the English language at the level of a two-year-old child, and "can recall events and wonder about things that she cannot understand," according to research director Sue Savage-Rumbaugh.

The TGI Friday's restaurant chain, known for displaying up to 50 taxidermically mounted rare animals per locale, is withdrawing the trophies from about 180 of its 184 franchises because they were hard to maintain and hard to come by when new franchises opened. Trophies will remain on display at

**NEWS SHORTS** 

Minnesota outlets, where they proved especially popular.

The last two known female Florida panthers of breeding age in the eastern part of the Everglades have been found dead of apparent mercury poisoning. As top predator in the region, the panthers absorb the full load of mercury picked up by the raccoons they eat, who in turn concentrate the mercury from the fish who make up much of their diet. The initial source of the mercury is unknown.

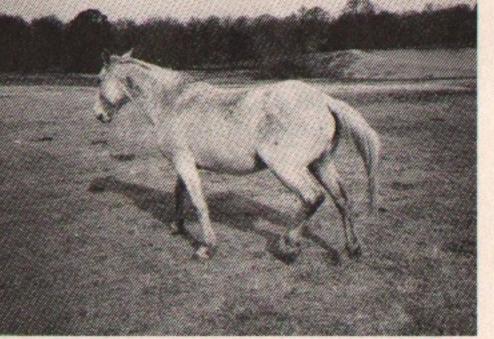
Tufts Univ. veterinarian Dr. Mark Pokras reports that lead poisoning from swallowing fishing sinkers killed 19 of 33 dead loons he has examined since 1989.

The running legal and political battle over mustang population management begun by the late "Wild Horse Annie" (Velma Johnston) resumed in late summer when members of the Nevada Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses blamed the Animal Protection Institute and the Fund for Animals for the deaths of over 2,000 mustangs at drought-ravaged Nellis Air Force Base near Tonopah, Nevada. The Nellis mustang herd grew from circa 4,000 horses in 1988 to 6,200 as of July 1990 while a Bureau of Land Management plan to cull 2,087 of the horses was held up by one of a series of lawsuits filed by API and the Fund in an effort to stop turnovers of culled mustangs to ranchers who then resold them to slaughterhouses. The BLM eventually halted the "fee/waiver" adoption program through which the turnovers took place, while in court API and the Fund won a ruling that the BLM had insufficently documented any need to cull the herd. Meanwhile, as the western drought worsened, the Nellis mustang population fell back to just 4,300 by January 1991, and apparently continued dropping despite Air Force efforts to truck in enough water for the remainder. Concluding that the base can't sustain a population of more than 1,500 horses, the BLM finally began capturing and relocating up to 2,300 survivors in late July.

Former baseball star Willie Mays has begun a chain of fast-food restaurants specializing in chicken. Mays' career total of 660 home runs was exceeded among living players only by lifelong semi-vegetarian Henry Aaron, who hit 755 to set the all-time record.

Since 1975, American Archery Council vice president David Samuels has taught a course at West Virginia University in how to rationalize hunting.

The Calif. Coastal Commission voted 10-0 on July 18 to retain Peter Douglas as executive director. Two of the 12 commission members tried to oust Douglas because of his opposition to a special bill that would allow the Walt Disney Co. to fill up to 250 acres of Long Beach shoreline to build a proposed \$3 billion amusement park.



Merritt Clifto

The crab catch in Chesapeake Bay has held steady since 1988 even as the number of commercial crabbing licenses sold has jumped from 2,700 to 4,200. Ecologists believe the crabs may soon be in trouble from the same combination of pollution and overfishing that has already caused oyster, rockfish, and shad populations to plummet.

Five endangered timber rattlesnakes taken from the woods as pets by a New

York City collector have been returned to the wild by the N.Y. Dept. of Environmental Conservation—a DEC first. Until recently, many agents killed the snakes on sight.

The Bonneville Power Administration has warned the Northwest Power Planning Council that it will fund only \$60 million worth of salmon recovery projects in the Columbia River basin, of \$200 million worth proposed. The federal government has already listed four Columbia River salmon runs as endangered, and is considering listing two more. The BPA already spends \$50 million a year on salmon recovery, and holds, with other utilities, that other river users (especially irrigators) should pick up more of the tab.

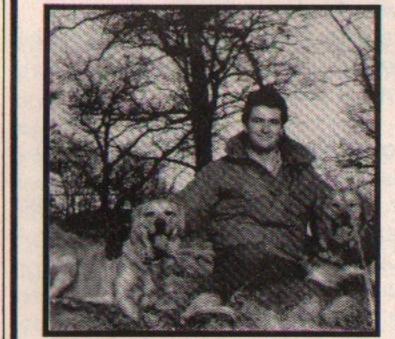
The House of Representatives was expected to approve legislation mandating trade sanctions against nations that permit driftnetting, after it unanimously cleared the Senate on August 1. Although George Bush has generally opposed mandatory trade sanctions, he was expected to sign the bill rather than risk a politically embarrassing veto override.

The Navy massacred coyotes in August at the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station in Washington, alleging they endangered neighbors and aircraft. The base is tentatively slated to be closed within the next year.

Hoping to attract new high-tech industry, Louisiana has adopted

Continued on next page

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## **NEWS SHORTS**

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legislation to give biomedical research facilities a major tax break.

Cowhide values skidded below 1987 levels in midsummer, as two leading foreign buyers went bankrupt. At least one syndicated cattle trade columnist blamed a worldwide trend favoring nonleather shoes.

U.S. dairy farmers will earn \$3 billion less in 1991 than in 1990, the USDA predicts. Milk prices fell from \$14.93 per 100 pounds of butterfat in December 1989 to \$10.02 in March 1991, before the USDA moved to cut surpluses. The average price stood at \$10.58 in August, still \$2.00 below the average production cost. About 4,500 dairy farms have gone out of business this year.

Of the two million American farmers, U.S. census data shows, 21 percent are over 65; 24 percent are 55-64; 22 percent are 45-54; 20 percent are 35-44; and only 13 percent are younger than 35. At least half of all farmers will retire within the next decade. Most analysts believe this will accelerate the trends toward bigger farms, corporate ownership, and more intensive animal husbandry. However, with demand for most animal products declining, the change of management could also bring a shift to more humane and environmentally healthy farming.

#### Tens of thousands of seabirds,

including endangered marbled murrelets, tufted puffins, peregrine falcons, and bald eagles, were imperiled, along with also-endangered sea otters, when a Japanese fishing boat, the *Tenyo Maru*, sank off the Strait of Juan de Fuca on July 22 with 273,214 gallons of bunker oil and 91,071 gallons of diesel fuel aboard. Oil fouled a 70-mile stretch of Washington coast.

**Exxon, the Coast Guard,** and the state of Alaska have officially concluded the cleanup of the March 24, 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, after three years of work, costing over \$2.5 billion.

The Trans-Alaska Pipeline, feeding
1.5 million barrels of oil a day from
Prudhoe Bay on the North Slope to
Valdez, in southern Alaska, has been so
poorly regulated that the oil firms have in



effect been allowed to police
themselves, the General Accounting
Office reported to Congress on August
4. The computerized alarm supposed to
alert officials to major leaks has failed in
the six biggest of 14 leaks since the line
was finished in 1977. The management
consortium, Alyeska, has limited ability
to combat spills, and was dangerously
slow to detect serious corrosion of some
of the pipe, the GAO concluded.

Tour promoters, recreational vehicle owners, and wilderness advocates are battling for influence over a Natl. Park Service report, soon to be published, on the future of Denali Natl. Park and Preserve. One of the largest and most visited Natl. Parks in Alaska, Denali is accessible only by bus, and reservations to visit are often hard to get. The tour promoters want expanded hotel facilities and more buses. The RV owners and the state favor more and better road access. Wilderness advocates wonder if Denali must be sacrificed to keep bigtime tourism out of Wrangell-St. Elias Natl. Park and Preserve, which has no visitor facilities at all. Both parks are important bear habitat.

Ohio beaver trappers recently killed two pregnant river otters, reintroduced to the habitat by the tax-supported state Division of Non-Game Wildlife at a cost of \$1,200 apiece. The Dept. of Wildlife, otherwise funded by hunting, fishing, and trapping license sales, has refused to amend beaver trapping rules to protect the otters.

Irate over the bad manners of trespassing birdwatchers, residents of Lower Township, N.J., in late July barred the Cape May Audubon Society and Bird Observatory from building a new headquarters on a 20-acre tract of former farmland. About 90,000

birdwatchers converge on the area during spring and fall migrations.

Tainted meat packed by Sculli Bros. of Philadelphia gave 350 Delaware residents salmonella in mid-July, the USDA reported.

New York City police and parks officials have denied a report in the tabloid Daily Mirror of London, England, that squirrels in Central Park are getting stoned on leftover crack in discarded vials. As one official explained, crack addicts usually don't leave any of the intoxicant behind.

USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service head James Glosser resigned Sept. 1 to take a teaching position at the Univ. of Calif. at Davis campus.

The John Birch Society has termed proposed federal legislation to create a 26-million-acre forest preserve in Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont, "a major step toward full implementation of Marx's program for domination of a nation by its central government."

A mother and her three children in New Fairfield, Conn., required rabies shots on August 10, after taking in a sickly infant raccoon who turned out to be rabid. They were the first humans in the state to be affected. Twenty rabid animals have been reported in Connecticut since the 12-year-old Atlantic coastrabies outbreak spread across the Hudson River last April. Blaming the spread of rabies on animal rights activism, one Ohio trap vendor took out ads suggesting that people livetrap raccoons "and drop them off at your nearest animal rights activist's home, especially if they are rabid." U.S. Wildlife Service data indicates that the rabies outbreak actually began when a group of hunters and trappers released rabid raccoons from Florida in 1979, hoping to rebuild the hunted-out populaton in Georia and Virginia.

"Natural" pet foods have captured up to 20 percent of the \$7.5 billion pet food industry, says financial analyst John C. Maxwell, Jr.

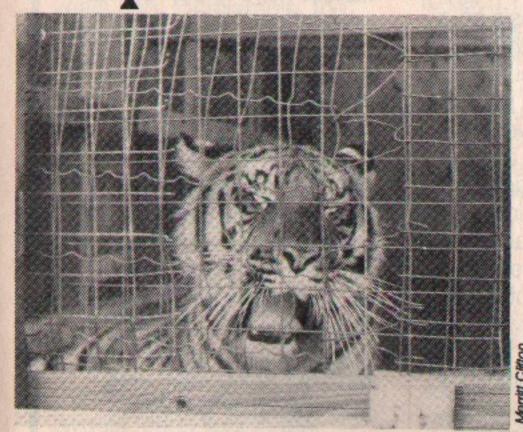
A Siamese cat named Sam recently found his way home to Beaver Dam,

## **NEWS SHORTS**

Wisc., four years after having been left at the Tucson Humane Society because his people didn't want to be bothered with taking him back to Beaver Dam after spending a year in southern Arizona. The cat apparently escaped from an adoptive family in Tucson.

Recent reports give conflicting evidence about how rapidly Americans are abandoning a meat-centered diet. According to Restaurant Business, fruit juice consumption is up 33 percent in recent years, while salami consumption is down 20 percent and butter and egg consumption have dropped 23 percent. Poultry consumption, however, is reportedly up by about the same amount. University of Michigan nutritionist Adam Drewnowski adds that women are eating less fruit and vegetables than a decade ago. This may be because more women are holding jobs outside the home, and relying upon fast-food lunches.

Texas governor Ann Richards, a hunter, has pronounced herself "sickened and enraged" by canned hunts, pledging support of legislation to "restrict ownership of big cats and strengthen enforcement of laws regulating licensing and inspection of cat facilities." It isn't likely, though, that Richards will move against the 486 licensed shooting preserves that have made canned hunting a mini-industry in Texas. (See "Killing The Captives," Sept. 1991.)



Two years after fire destroyed the Jackson Laboratory mouse-breeding facility in Bar Harbor, Maine, production is reportedly back up to the pre-fire level. The breeding facility was rebuilt with a Congressional appropriation of \$20 million.

The U.S. Forest Service has proposed ↓ logging the old growth Shasta Costa Creek region of the Siskiyou Natl. Forest in southern Oregon by means that would leave behind smaller trees and rubble, to help new forest regenerate. The reduced impact logging was denounced, however, by environmentalists, who warned that it might be misused to lull the public into allowing more destruction of wilderness.

Oak Ridge Natl. Laboratory plans to fence off a radioactive pond contaminated by nuclear research during the 1940s and 1950s, to keep radioactive leopard frogs from hopping off into the surrounding area.

New Jersey has begun mass-breeding a tiny native fish called the gambusia that feeds on mosquito larvae, hoping to distribute the fish in lieu of the insecticides usually used to control mosquito populations.

U.S. hunting license sales dropped to 15,806,864 in 1990, down 52,000 from 1989. But fishing license sales rose 430,000, to 30,731,821—mainly because several states began requiring licenses of fishers under age 16.

Texas hunting license sales have remained steady at 1.2 million over the past decade, with deer license sales most steady, between 550,000 and 600,000. However, sale of dove licenses is down four percent; sale of pheasant licenses is down 17 percent; sale of squirrel licenses is down 32 percent; sale of bobwhite licenses is down 34 percent; and sale of rabbit licenses is down 49 percent. These are the species most often hunted by beginners.

Trying to boost falling hunting license sales, New York has lowered the minimum age for hunters to 12.

After leaving New Orleans without animal control service for six months, the city council finally agreed on July 3 to pay the Louisiana SPCA \$100,000 to do animal pick-ups two days a week and continue providing shelter service (as it had done with private help throughout the year). Four days later, the Louisiana legislature voted to allow New Orleans to increase the cost of dog and cat licenses to help keep the Louisiana



Richard Hoppe / Wilderness Society

SPCA going. The bill was amended before passage, however, to prevent other cities and parishes from increasing license fees to help shelters.

Stellar sea lions at the Gulf of the Farallones Natl. Marine Sanctuary off San Francisco are not reproducing. Only 50 pairs remain, down from 700 circa 1960. Murres, a diving bird, have declined from about 100,000 circa 1982 to under 40,000. Gill netting, finally restricted last year, apparently destroyed the food reserves for both species; neither population, as yet, shows any sign of recovery.

Cutting competitions, a participant version of rodeo in which horse and rider try to separate a calf from a herd, have become a fad among the southern California wealthy. Cutters may spend \$50,000 a year on travel and participation fees, while good cutting horses cost up to \$100,000.

Thirty percent of the horse stalls in the U.S. "are unsafe for use," says Bit & Bridle columnist Kathy Hoff. Common problems are the use of old tires as feeders (horses chew loose and swallow pieces); 55-gallon drums cut in half with a torch to make feed bins, exposing horses' necks to sharp, jagged edges; loose nails and rocks in stalls; and use of toxic paint on wooden surfaces which horses may nip.

The Calif. Fish and Game
Commission was to decide on Aug. 30
whether to add the California
gnatcatcher, a small bird, to the
state endangered species list. The
addition would delay at least four major
developments in southern San Diego
county, and is heavily opposed by
construction and real estate interests.

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## DATELINE: INTERNATIONAL

In its reliance on industrial methods, animal husbandry in the Soviet Union is often hardly distinguishable from its Western counterparts.



#### SOVIET UNION— Factory Farming Goes East

The mystique of the American economy has long held sway even in parts of the world dedicated to a completely different economic system.

As the first nation to inaugurate mass consumption at home, giving much of its middle and working classes a standard of living well above international norms—the latter made possible by a gigantic industrial infrastructure that in the postwar years hardly strained to crank out up to 60 percent of the world's goods—the US appeared as an ideal model against which other countries could measure their own progress toward greater productivity and "the good

This kind of mass affluence, however, as we have come to know, was not without serious drawbacks. Even in its glory days, an enormous human and ecoanimal toll was being routinely swept under the rug as "the inevitable price of the system." And although it would take a couple of more decades for this notion to gain some solid respectability-the US model of freewheeling industrialism, resting on appalling waste and control over much of the earth's natural resources, could not be easily duplicated by the rest of the world

## By David P. Greanville iterally rupturing the traditionally soa

without literally rupturing the planet's biosphere from within.

In the era of growing environmental consciousness and sensitivity to animal suffering, more and more people are beginning to understand these basic realities, but this realization may have come too late to nations such as the Soviet Union, where huge investments have been made to emulate and in some cases surpass the industrial and factory systems observed in the U.S. Yet, as the unprecedented opening in Soviet society under Gorbachev has shown, the pursuit of maximum output in the shortest possible time at the cheapest possible cost has proved catastrophic for the environment of the Soviet Union and its former allies. (On this topic, see "Environmental Degradation in the Soviet Union," Dateline: International, Sept. 1990; and "Sorting Out the Cold War's Ecological Legacy," Dateline, March 1991.

Modern Soviet agriculture, especially in the area of animal husbandry, has come to reflect many U.S. agricultural practices. The prospect of enormous harvests with only a fraction of the population working in the countryside has been seductive to many countries where agricultural tasks have

traditionally soaked up a significant portion of the economic effort. For Soviet planners who from the start sought to increase production through cost-intensive land reclamation, gigantic irrigation schemes, and spectacular stock-breeding projects, the appeal of U.S. methods with their emphasis on vast, factory-like operations proved irresistible. What everyone overlooked (and which perhaps couldn't have been known at the time) was the downside of such approaches—the elimination of the last vestiges of a human link with farm animals, as these now became interchangeable cogs in an impersonal production machine; the emphasis on a meat-based diet, with all its injurious effects on human health; the extensive poisoning of the land, as overreliance on fertilizers created mounting soil-management problems; and a rapidly growing "biochemicalization" of food, as animals reared in intensive confinement systems necessitated ever larger quantities of drugs and antibiotics just to maintain a precarious hold on their health. Most significantly, while most segments of the U.S. economy waste labor, American-style agriculture squanders a lot of capital and natural assets—it is in fact

resource intensive if not

downright resource abusive. (For more on this subject, see "Absurdities in World Agriculture," Residence on Earth, Sept. 1990).

## Factory Farming—With a Vengeance

All areas of animal husbandry—especially in the more modern state farms (sovkhozy)—have undergone vigorous capitalization. In the farm system serving Leningrad and Moscow, hog production is now carried out mostly in establishments that often surpass American factory farms in size. Similar examples are encountered throughout the former East Bloc.

Poultry production, hailed by planners as one of the fastest ways to put "animal protein" on the Soviet table, has even impressed American industry experts for its enormous scope. The Leningrad region alone comprises a 15-enterprise ptitsefabrika (poultry factories) system which includes three grand parent breeding farms, three broiler complexes, and nine egg production operations. The annual output is said to be 73,000 tons of poultry meat and approximately two billion eggs.

The Pervomayskoe ptitsefabrika located in a forested area near the city of Viborg, north of Leningrad, is based on a settlement with a population of 5,000 people.

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The plant, which currently employs about 1,500 local residents, is emblematic of this type of animal husbandry in the Soviet Union. Originally built in 1973, when it was projected to house 260,000 layers, the plant was expanded in 1984 to 800,000 layers and 80,000 adult breeders. In recent years, a new 600,000-bird pullet rearing unit has been added. The complex's architecture emphasizes the industrial factory aspect of the operation: most of the animals are held in giant four-story, 120,000-bird houses. The settlement, in the style of Soviet state farms, is designed to function as a selfcontained unit, with extensive residential accommodations, schools, a hospital, shops, a canteen, and a wellequipped cultural and recreation center which includes a large sports hall, a permanent art exhibition, cinemas and a dance hall

American visitors such as David Martin, technical editor of POULTRY INTERNATION-AL magazine, have testified to the complex's pervasive factory atmosphere and similarity to Western-style management patterns. Five years ago, for example, the Pervomayskoe complex switched to brown egg production to facilitate the color-sexing of commercial chicks, and the use of stressresistant stock—the latter an indication that Soviet plants are as vulnerable to animal confinement-induced disease as their U.S. counterparts. The decision could have been made by an American manager. Further, in keeping with Western-pioneered layouts, each floor in the complex is divided by a central service area which incorporates the main access stairs and lifts, the feed and egg elevators, and the heating and ventilation ducts.

As is customary in Western operations, the birds are also stacked in cages four-tier high. Manure is collected by the cages' upright stack scraper which discharges the refuse by way of a cross-conveyor into pits at each end of the building. From there manure is removed by auger and spread on the complex's surrounding farmlands.

Soviet officials justify the tendency to giantism and multi-story design in factory farms to the savings involved in connecting electricity, water and heating to vertical structures. Another complex near Leningrad, for example, boasts nine stories and 1.5 million layers. It occupies less than 25 acres.

Although farm officials argue that this size of operation is not particularly difficult to manage, it is clear that such a high concentration of birds increases the risk to the stock, and multiplies severalfold the manure disposal problem. For one thing, it may take up to a week to stock or depopulate the buildings. And a cleaning routine may take up to a full month. On the other hand, only 20 people are assigned to each 120,000-bird house, and this includes staff in charge of egg handling, manure disposal, and maintenance.

The Soviet bird-handling routines are again similar to the American and West European factory farms, but with an emphasis on further "efficiency." Thus one age of bird is grown in each house, and hatching is done on an all out/all in basis. Instead of setting eggs weekly or biweekly, for example, the entire setter capacity of 480,000 is set at one time at two-month intervals. As with all major egg/poultry producing farms, hatching is done for smaller units. On an



average year, the
Pervomayskoe facility may
sell up to 1.5 million day-old
chicks to other agricultural
establishments.

Confinement is as intensive as in the West, with automatic waterers and feeders in use, as well as belt collection of eggs. Pullets are reared in six four-story houses equipped with threetier cages. Chicks are brooded in the middle, assisted by hot air and through-building heat. Later the birds are removed to other cages—12 birds to a cage, providing each creature with only 53 square inches. The birds remain in this house until they are four months old. According to officials, survival rates hover around 95 percent. All the aggressive and self-defensive behavior observed among birds in U.S. factory farms is encountered here. As a result, lesions ad deformations are numerous. Among laying birds the admitted average mortality is about one percent per month.

As in the West, the lives of captive "poultry" are short, impersonal and brutish. In the egg-laying operation, half of all cockerels are destroyed as chicks. At 60 days of age, cockerels and cull pullets are slaughtered for meat. Hens—expected to lay at approximately 155 days of age are slaughtered at 18 months of age. The current

production is said to be 240 eggs per hen.

Soviet officials maintain that on most farms infectious bronchitis is not a problem, but rates of respiratory tract disease in the West, even among the best "managed" farms, remain worrisome and requiring of ever-larger doses of antibiotic administration, both for preventative and therapeutic measures. In fact, between 50 and 60 percent of all antibiotics produced in the West are said to be consumed in animal husbandry operations. Soviet factory farms vaccinate their birds against Marek's, Newcastle disease. ILT and the so-called "eggdrop syndrome." The latter has apparently become a

problem in recent years. Of late, partially as a result of greater contact with the West, increased attention to dietary habits and the virtues of vegetarianism have begun to make inroads in the Soviet Union. Progress in this area is still slow, but, as more Soviet citizens come to understand the downside of factory farming, it's possible that Soviet "Greens" acting in conjunction with health activists, ethical vegetarians, and the budding animal liberation community may begin to score some significant victories. After all, as the Russian saying has it, "When the wind finally breaks the ramparts, it's not a wind anymore, but a hurricane unleashed." Incidentally, the average price of topgrade eggs in the Soviet Union is about 1.1 rubles for 10 eggs-roughly the equivalent of the American price.

MAIN SOURCES: The ANIMALS' AGENDA correspondents, Soviet Life, F. Krasnaya.

## International Briefs

Pets are abandoned by the million in France and Italy each August, vacation month for most of the population. The estimated 1.5 million dogs dumped by Italian roadsides over the past decade have caused 45,000 traffic accidents, injuring 1,500 people and killing 80. Most of the dogs are bitches under a year old, according to the Italian SPCA; 10 percent are purebreds. Fed up, Italy has adopted a law requiring that all dogs be licensed and tattooed with identification marks. Mistreating or abandoning a dog brings a fine of up to \$2,500. Anyone caught collecting stray dogs for sale to vivisectors may be fined up to \$8,000.

Researchers from the University of Guelph and C.H. Best Institute in Ontario, Canada, have developed what they term a simple, noninvasive test to find pigs who are genetically susceptible to porcine stress syndrome—a high fever, typically caused by transport in crowded conditions, which renders the animals' meat unfit for consumption. The pork industry hopes to breed out the susceptibility.

Australian farmers killed 10.5 million sheep earlier this year to drive up wool and mutton prices—but, says New South Wales psychiatrist Peter Yellowless, "A grazier who has to kill thousands of sheep and bull-doze them into the ground suffers untreated psychological stress guaranteed to cause significant mental health problems." The suicide rate in Yellowless' community is twice the national average, with alcoholism and domestic violence also markedly up.

James George, former Canadian ambassador to Kuwait, has accused the U.S. of covering up the extent of environmental damage done by the Gulf War. George, who led a scientific expedition to Kuwait in June for Friends of the Earth, said that the burning oil fields are "not yet a disaster." but added that that if the fires continue "for four or five years, then we have a petroleum Chernobyl." George argues that burning lakes of oil leaking from wells are a bigger longterm hazard to the atmosphere than flaming wellheads, that the U.S.

#### Edited By Merritt Clifton

is withholding data linking the fires to global weather disturbances, and that resources equal to those mobilized to fight the war should be mobilized, if necessary, to put all the fires out within six months, to minimize further risk.

Iranian fishers have reported unusually big catches off Kuwait recently—possibly because the Gulf War brought the fish a six-month respite from fishing pressure, possibly because porpoises and other fish-eating predators have been driven away by oil slicks.

Kuwait Zoo director Moussa al Khasti has offered to take the London Zoo animals, if the London Zoo is forced to close by ongoing financial stress, to replace the hundreds of Kuwait Zoo animals who were killed during the Iraqi occupation.

Cree leaders told the press on August 7 that if Quebec separates from Canada and Canadian environmental safeguards, the Cree will separate from Quebec, taking James Bay with them. Earlier, the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations reported that Quebec ranks with Brazil and India in its disregard for the effects of hydroelectric megaprojects on native peoples and the environment. Quebec has announced plans to build roads to serve the proposed James Bay II hydro development in advance of

Agreement, Cree hunters and trappers receive an annual stipend in compensation for loss of access to land flooded by hydroelectric projects. In 1989-1990, the stipend came to \$10,744 per family. Pelt sales during the, 1980s (when pelt prices were high) earned native trappers just \$525 per winter apiece.

getting federal approval.

British Airways, KLM, Garuda Indonesia, and Aerolineas Argentinas have agreed to quit hauling wild-caught birds. Lufthansa, Northwest, Federal Express, Virgin Air, and Challenge Air Cargo have already quit the

wild bird traffic. KLM flew 87,296 birds to the U.S. in 1989, of which 2,430 arrived dead, while Garuda flew in 20,427 birds (death statistics were unavailable). British Airways carried 76,498 birds to all destinations; 968 died. The statistics don't include deaths that occurred before the final leg of the multistage flights, which typically touched down in several different countries over a period of days. The British Airways pullout reportedly caused a 40 percent drop in bird exports from Senegal.

U.S. Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan suspended the \$18 million a year wildlife and wildlife products trade with Thailand, effective August 1, because the Thai government has failed to enforce compliance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, which it ratified in 1983. (See "Wanted: Wildlife, Dead or Alive," June 1991.)

Governor Ida Bagus Oka of Bali, Indonesia, has ordered hotels and restaurants to cease selling meals made from endangered sea turtles.

The British League Against Cruel Sports is attempting to revoke the clause in the bylaws of the National Trust, a rural landholding body controlling 500,000 acres, that allows sport hunting despite a ban upon "willfully disturbing, injuring, or destroying any living creature." While the Masters of Fox Hounds Assn. purportedly signed up enough new Trust members to defeat a proposed ban on fox hunting in both 1988 and 1990, the Trust did ban deer hunting last year. After the Trust Council refused to implement the ban, investigators discovered that Trust Chair Dame Jennifer Jenkins had used 40,000 blank proxy forms in opposition to both proposed bans.

Optometry professor Jacob Sivak of the University of Waterloo, in Ontario, Canada, has invented a method of using the eyes from slaughtered cattle in lieu of the Draize test to determine the effects of chemicals and cosmetics on vision.

The Draize test uses the eyes of live rabbits.

Acting on behalf of the League Against Cruel Sports, rock stars Paul and Linda McCartney recently paid \$160,000 for 80 acres of woods in southwest England, ordered the Devon and Somerset Staghounds hunting club to keep out, and declared the site a deer sanctuary.

The secretary of the Federa-

tion of Animal Welfare Societies of Greece was reportedly beaten by a butcher while police stood by on June 28, after she pointed out that the open-air slaughter of lambs (by knife) during a festival in the village of Spada violates Greek law. Similar slaughters are part of St. George's Day fetes in Melissa, Attika, and St. Constantine's Day celebrations in Langadas, Anastenaria. Bulls are sacrificed on St. Charlambos Day and at Easter on Lesvos Island, and also during Easter festivities at Mistekia. Dogs are beaten to death to expel evil spirits on Kathari Deftera Day in Adendro, Sindos Island. Protest to the Greek ambassador: 2221 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20008-2813.

Compassion in World
Farming has released a video showing sheep being killed and skinned in a Barcelona slaughterhouse without pre-stunning. The video belies a Spanish government claim that slaughterhouses have been brought into compliance with European Community standards.

A Greek tanker spilled three million gallons of crude oil off western Australia on July 21. A slick 15 miles long and four miles wide formed over one of the richest fisheries in the Indian Ocean.

The Natl. Institute for Training in Industrial Engineering, of New Delhi, India, has built a portable 746-watt generator that costs just \$211 and is designed to be driven by bullocks. The designers say the generator will encourage small farmers to give the often neglected bullocks better year-round care.

## International Briefs

Canada is seeking a permit to allow Inuvialuit natives to kill a bowhead whale in partial settlement of a land claim. The U.S. State Dept. has advised Canada that trade sanctions are possible if the whale is killed without permission of the Intl. Whaling Commission.

While the Japanese government defends whaling, a Nippon Gallup Research Center poll of 1,463 Japanese citizens has discovered that 79.6 percent say the nation doesn't need whale meat; 63.6 percent say whales should be protected, not killed; and 71.3 percent believe Japan should abide by Intl. Whaling Commission regulations.

The Venezuelan daily newspaper El Nacional found in a recent reader survey that 75 percent believe the U.S. is justified in banning imports of Venezuelan tuna to protect dolphins.

The state-run South Korean
TV network on July 16 showed some of the 257 bears kept on 36 gall farms in Kyongki province. Believed to have medicinal value, the gall is drained from the live bears via tubes implanted in their gall bladders. Public outcry was so intense that the government announced July 18 that it would ban bleeding bears for gall.

The Montreal SPCA has been unable to find a means of putting the guard dog rental firm Serca Canine Services out of business, even though dogs are often left unattended in extreme temperatures, are frequently devocalized (a procedure that produces neurosis), and manager Claude Poirier brings litters of puppies to the SPCA for euthanasia several times a year rather than spay/neuter the dogs.

Twenty-two horses have been fatally injured in the last 21 runnings of the Palio de Sienna, a two-stage horse race held in the streets of Sienna, Italy, since the Middle Ages.

Due to drought and overgrazing, the Sahara desert expanded 16 percent during the past decade, advancing 81 miles southward, says NASA. Mexican health officials

poured chlorine into the Potrerillo, Tahuizan, and Chinguinoso rivers in early August, killing thousands of fish in a desperate effort to slow a cholera epidemic. The epidemic has already killed over 2,000 South Americans, mainly in Peru, where it was spread by the practice of eating raw fish. The first death in Mexico occurred circa August 5.

U.S. Secretary of State James
Baker did his ibex hunting with
binoculars and a telescope on a
July visit to Mongolia. Baker ran
into political controversy during a
previous visit to Mongolia, in
August 1990, when he reportedly hoped to kill an endangered
argali sheep, but never got the
chance.

Animal Concern (Scotland)
has criticized the Royal Society
for Protection of Birds and the
Scots SPCA for killing as many
as 300 feral goats at Loch
Lomondside to protect trees on
an RSPB reserve.

The Asociacion para la

Defensa de los Derechos del Animal asks that letters supporting reform of the Argentine National Law for the Protection of Animals be addressed to: Sr Presidente de la Honorable Camara de Diputados, Don Alberto Pierri, Congreso de la Nacion, Avda. Rivadavia 1864 (C.P. 1033), Buenos Aires, Argentina. Almost as if to show the need for the reform bill, an Australian circus visiting Buenos Aires in early July offered \$500 to any amateur boxer who could knock down one of its kangaroos.

University of Michigan research has confirmed that many
North American plants and animals are migrating northward in
apparent response to global
warming. Creatures common to
northern habitat, such as the
woodland deer mouse, have retreated into Canada, while others
common to warmer climates,
such as sunfish, are now found
well above their former range.
(See "Animals, Activists & the
Greenhouse Effect," Nov. 1988.)

Zimbabwean rangers have killed more than 100 poachers since 1985, and claim ivory

poaching is on the increase since a global ivory trade ban was adopted in 1989, despite statistics from many other sources that indicate the ivory market has collapsed. Zimbabwe is one of eight African nations that want to be exempted from the trade ban. The eight are also lobbying the U.S. to permit the import of elephant trophies. Taking the opposite view, Kenya on July 18 torched 1,350 elephant tusks confiscated from poachers, and urged that the complete ban on the ivory trade remain intact.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife documents indicate that Ralph Morganwock, assistant director for Fish and Wildlife Enhancement, was expected to attend a workshop on dismantling the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and was invited at the expense of Zimbabwean ivory interests. Held August 19-23, the workshop also included official delegates from Australia, Botswana, Canada, Kenya, Japan, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Switzerland, and Zambia. As of deadline, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service director John Turner had not responded to The ANIMALS' AGENDA's request for comment.

The Group of 100, an alliance of leading Latin American intellectuals, asked the First Ibero-American Summit, held July 19, to create a Latin American Ecological Alliance, whose purpose would include establishing rainforest reserves, protecting native peoples, and policing transboundary pollution.

Colombian bullfighter Cesar Rincon has become a national hero after winning ears on multiple occasions in Madrid, Spain. Bullfighting has become big in Colombia recently due to investment by drug traffickers.

Portugese-style bullfights now draw crowds of 7,000, at \$22 per adult, in Listowel, Ontario. Promoter Jorge Borges was acquitted last year of cruelty charges brought by the Ontario Humane Society.

U.S. film maker Spike Lee ran with the bulls in Pamplona, Spain, on July 13 and was uninjured, but three local youths

were gored. A spectator was killed July 11 at a similar amateur bullfighting event in Arevallo.

Nesting Pacific Ridley sea turtles have been discovered in the Bijagos Archipelago off Guinea Bissau, West Africa—well outside their usual range.

An escaped circus bear made for the nearest bar in Kharkov, the Ukraine, on July 12, grabbed a beer from a patron, and partied until he was recaptured.

Amid China's latest attempt to exterminate pet dogs, a woman called the Dog Mother has become a folk hero in Beijing for hiding dogs from killing squads who stuff any dogs they find into sacks, then bludgeon them to death with iron bars. The Dog Mother reportedly moves her shelter frequently from site to site in the Beijing suburbs. An estimated 5,000 dogs were killed in 15 days in Tianjin recently, where only 192 dogs of a population believed to number 10,000 were licensed. The current extermination campaign began after three people died of rabies earlier this

Niagara College culinary arts instructor Albert Cipryk, of Niagara Falls, Ontario, spent the summer in Yangzhou, China, learning how to cook turtles, eels, snakes, and grass carp alive.

After extensive field testing, India has approved use of the chemical sterillant Talsur to control populations of stray dogs and bulls.

Two Maori-run whale-watching firms started in 1985 have run into trouble with the New Zealand Conservation Dept., which says the Maori boats go too close to the whales, and 19 other would-be whale-watching concessionaires, some of whom have apparently resorted to attacking the Maori facilities with firebombs.

Letters asking Czechoslovakia to add protection for animals to the nation's new democratic constitution may be addressed to: Czechoslovak Federal Assembly, Vinohradska 1, 110022, Prague 1, Czechoslovakia.

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## Animal Newsline

### COURT CALENDAR

#### Homicide

As a child, former neighbors say,
Jeffrey Dahmer set up an animal graveyard
and played vivisector with chipmunk and
squirrel skeletons. As a teenager, he
impaled cats and frogs, and skinned and
nailed a dog to a tree, mounting the head on
a stake nearby. Dahmer, 31, of Milwaukee,
in late July confessed to killing, dismembering, and eating parts of at least 18 men,
often after raping them. Afterward he raped
the corpses. Between murders, he served
time for molesting a child.

PETA responded to the Dahmer case with a full-page newspaper ad reading, in part, "Their struggles and cries went unanswered. Then they were slaughtered and their heads sawn off. Their body parts were refrigerated to be eaten later. Their bones were discarded with the trash...If this leaves a bad taste in your mouth, become a vegetarian." The ad also pointed out that "Numerous studies have shown the link between childhood animal abuse and multiple acts of violence toward human beings," asking law enforcement officials and social workers to "treat animal abuse cases seriously," since "Early detection could prevent human tragedy."

Published in the Des Moines
Register after both Milwaukee dailies
refused it, the ad was predictably blasted by
the National Pork Producers' Council and
the American Meat Institute.

- ◆New Mexico district judge Art
  Encinias on August 9 sentenced hunter
  Edwin Arrietta, 25, to eight years in prison
  for killing Freeman Lee Davis on Nov. 7,
  1990, as Davis warned him away from the
  Davis house.
- →Jimmy Ray Williams, 28, died July
  15 of a rattlesnake bite suffered during a
  service at the House of Prayer in Jesus'
  Name, of Morristown, Tennessee.
  Williams' stepfather, Jimmy Ray Williams,
  Sr., appealed the Tennessee ban on snake
  handling during religious services to the
  U.S. Supreme Court, before dying from
  strychnine he drank during a 1973 service.

#### Wildlife

◆A California Superior Court jury on July 22 began hearing a suit in which mountain lion attack victim Laura Small and family allege that Orange County was at fault for not warning that lions were in

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the area and were potentially dangerous. The county was aware of lion sightings, but did not consider them alarming because at that time no one had been attacked by a lion in California in over 90 years. Small, then five years old, was attacked on March 23, 1986, while she and her mother searched for tadpoles in a stream near San Juan Capistrano. She was blinded in one eye, partially paralyzed, and severely scarred. Hunters often cite the case to support their contention that the statewide ban on hunting mountain lions imposed by referendum last year should be overturned.

- ◆U.S. District Judge John Garrett
  Penn on August 2 rejected a request from
  the Humane Society of the U.S. that natives
  of the Prilibof Islands off western Alaska
  be barred from killing 1,826 northern fur
  seals, purportedly for subsistence. HSUS
  argued that the natives have recently taken
  only the choicest cuts of seal meat, abandoning the rest of each carcass. The seals
  were declared a "depleted" species in 1988,
  and are protected against other killing by
  the Marine Mammal Protection Act.
- → The Sierra Club Legal Defense
  Fund and Friends of Animals headed a list
  of 25 animal protection and conservation
  groups who petitioned Secretary of
  Commerce Robert Mosbacher on August 2
  to list the eastern spinner dolphin as a
  depleted population under the Marine
  Mammal Protection Act. Despite pledges
  from leading tuna canners that their
  products are "dolphin-safe," the U.S. tuna
  fleet is still allowed to kill 2,750 dolphins a
  year, while foreign fleets kill about 6,000.

#### Fraud

◆The fundraising firm Watson and Hughey and the Cancer Fund of America have agreed to settle fraud charges in New Hampshire by refunding more than \$33,500 received from state residents, reimbursing the \$36,000 cost of prosecuting the case, and donating \$17,000 to a state charity. The Cancer Fund of America has appealed for funds from animal activists, claiming it does not support animal-based research. Watson and Hughey and numerous client charities also recently agreed to a \$250,000 settlement of similar charges in Hawaii. Both settlements resembled those reached earlier in the year between ten other states and Watson and Hughey plus clients, including both the Cancer Fund of America and Adopt-A-Pet, also known as the National Animal Protection Fund.

- ◆The California Insurance Commission has charged the Veterinary Pet Insurance Co. with improperly delaying payment of claims.
- ◆Mark Alan Reece, 27, of Pontiac, Mich., faces up to 90 days in jail and a fine of \$500 for allegedly duping six pet owners out of reward money by promising to return their missing animals.

#### Libel

- ♦Wildlife rehabilitator Barry Rothfuss of Peekskill, N.Y., has demanded that U.S. Surgical Corp. retract a full-page advertisement published in numerous New York and Connecticut newspapers on August 11, asking, "Do Rabid Raccoons Have Rights?" The text continued, "Yes, according to the animal rights movement. In fact, one New York activist set caged raccoons free, even though they might spread the disease. It didn't matter if his actions helped cause an epidemic." After refusing to surrender for euthanasia 37 orphaned raccoons he had innoculated against rabies and quarantined for over a year, Rothfuss was the object of a statewide search in April, and his license to handle wildlife was briefly revoked. However, when the case drew national publicity, all charges against Rothfuss were dropped, his wildlife rehabilitator's license was returned, and he was invited to help New York develop a more practical response to rabies. CBS has purchased the film rights to Rothfuss' story.
- Actress Doris Day filed a \$25
  million libel suit against the tabloid Globe
  on August 8, alleging that an article
  suggesting that she "Lives Like A Bag
  Lady!" could harm the image of the Doris
  Day Pet Foundation and the Doris Day
  Animal League. The former is a local group
  that promotes spaying and neutering, while
  the latter is a national animal rights lobby.
  The article claimed that Day, 67, ransacks
  trash cans to find food for her dogs.
- ◆The Dairy Bureau of Canada has sued the Toronto holistic health magazine Vitality for \$800,000, alleging that naturopath Darrell Wolfe libeled milk in an article that stated "some ingredients that can be found in cow's milk" include "cow dung, pesticides, chemicals, antibiotics, drugs, hormones, radioactivity, bacteria, poison preservatives, detergents, and pus."

  Wolfe's article included no documentation of his claims, and did not distinguish between actual ingredients and contaminants.

## Animal Newsline

#### **Information Access**

- ◆The Univ. of Calif. at Santa Barbara has settled a Freedom of Information Act suit filed by Animal Emancipation by abruptly releasing protocols and minutes of institutional animal care and use committee meetings. The same day, however, AE was informed by the Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game that UCSB vivisector Robert Farriss had complained that AE was not licensed to humanely trap and relocate ground squirrels from a local state park, in a program approved by the State Park Service. The Park Service was reportedly trying to get special licensing for the AE volunteers, whose work continued despite the threat of arrest.
- ◆Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences researcher Sharon Juliano on August 14 withdrew her request for a restraining order to bar In Defense of Animals from continuing weekly protest vigils outside her home. The vigils began May 3. Juliano further agreed to provide IDA with numerous documents and photographs pertaining to animal deaths during the course of her experiments, in exchange for which IDA agreed it would not specifically target her home during the vigils, which will continue to be held in her neighborhood.
- →The Univ. of Connecticut agricultural school has agreed to release medical information about its dairy herd, rather than face a Freedom of Information Act suit from the Willimantic Chronicle, a local paper which has been investigating why two-thirds of the cows reportedly have mastitis (an ailment usually caused by improper milking).

#### **Humane Enforcement**

- ◆Ocean World, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., on August 10 became the first U.S. marine park to be formally charged by the USDA with mistreating dolphins. Among a long list of allegations, the USDA says Ocean World allowed two male dolphins to injure a young female dolphin so severely that she died, in July 1987; allowed a staffer to manhandle a dolphin in another 1987 incident; kept dolphins in overchlorinated water until their skin peeled off; keeps dolphins in an undersized petting pool; and does not provide adequate veterinary care. Penalties could total \$600,000. The charges were issued about two months after Ocean World sued the Dolphin Project and founder Ric O'Barry for making many of the same accusations.
  - ◆The Colorado Bureau of Animal

Protection and local officials seized 336 of 581 dogs and cats found in a July 16 raid on a private no-kill shelter run by Lu Anne Strickland, wife of state Senate president Ted Strickland. Many of the cats were kept in a shed where the temperature exceeded 115 degrees. State veterinarians recommended about 100 cats and 50 dogs for prompt euthanasia, because they suffered from malnutrition, parasites, and diseases including feline leukemia. The Stricklands however, won a court order blocking euthanization of any but the most obviously suffering animals. Only ten animals were put down pending further legal action. Strickland said she spent \$300 a week and worked 17 hours a day, alone, to keep the shelter going, but that still came to just 50 cents a week and two minutes per day per animal. It was the third time one of Lu Anne Strickland's no-kill shelters came to disaster: 130 confined cats died in a 1986 fire at her first shelter, and less than a year later, authorities found her in possession of 207 cats who were crammed into a small, feces-filled house. Nonetheless, the Adams County Animal Shelter gave Strickland 2,012 animals otherwise slated for euthanasia during the 16 months preceding the raid, including 96 animals on December 12, 1990. About a dozen animals were buried in shallow, maggot-filled graves on the Strickland property, while about 600 of the animals received from Adams County were unaccounted for. ◆The Concerned Animal Lovers

- ◆The Concerned Animal Lovers shelter in Fullerton, Calif., reopened July 10, eight days after the Orange County animal control department closed it for allegedly housing too many cats. The animal control department acknowledged having found no evidence of either abuse or unsanitary conditions.
- ♦ A San Fernando, Calif., jury on August 8 convicted Barbara Ann Ruggiero, 26, Frederick John Spero, 43, and Ralf Jacobsen, 25, of obtaining more than 140 animals by pretending they would give them good homes, and instead selling them to vivisectors. Facing up to six years in prison apiece, the three were to be sentenced on August 26.
- ◆Former Denver TV reporter
  Wendy Bergen was convicted August 8 in
  Golden, Colo., on three of nine counts
  alleging that she staged dog fights so that
  she could then expose them. Bergen, facing
  up to 10 years in prison, was to be
  sentenced on Oct. 4.
- ◆The New York State Police shut down the Tim Rivers Diving Mule Act at the Orange County Fair in Middletown,

- N.Y., on July 18, and arrested Rivers on a 12-year-old bench warrant issued after he failed to appear in court to answer cruelty charges filed by the ASPCA in 1979. Rivers was released on \$100 bail, and was to appear in District Court in Hauppauge, N.Y. on August 27.
- ◆ Chicago-area horse barn manager Harlow Arley, 32, pleaded guilty in Gainesville, Fla., on August 14 to animal cruelty and insurance fraud, and agreed to testify against codefendant Tommy Burns, 30, of Lake Forest, Ill. Arley and Burns allegedly broke a racehorse's leg with a crowbar last winter for \$5,000, as part of plot to enable owner Donna Brown, of Palm Beach County, Fla., to collect \$100,000 in insurance. Brown has not yet been charged, as related investigations continue.
- ◆Belmont Park, N.Y., track security guard Terrence Knight, 18, pleaded not guilty July 15 to charges he threw bleach into a horse's eyes and hit three horses in the face with a stick.
- ◆Joseph Ballew, 26, of Parsippany-Troy Hills, N.J., drew 20 days in jail and a \$750 fine on August 7 for kicking his wife's dog to death during a domestic dispute. Judge Anthony Frese regretted that the sentence couldn't have been stiffer.
- ◆Kern County, Calif., Superior
  Court Judge Stephen Gildner sentenced
  Eddie Dewayne DeLuna, 25, of
  Bakersfield, to two years in state prison on
  July 7 for twisting the head off his
  girlfriend's puppy when she said she
  wanted to break up.
- ◆Poor communications within the Maine Animal Welfare Board apparently caused firefighters in Pittsfield, Me., to kill 26 cats by filling their home with exhaust fumes last June. The cats belonged to an elderly man who died alone about three days earlier, leaving no one to care for them. The firefighters broke off an attempt to catch the cats because use of a respirator was necessary to work inside the house, which had been strewn with urine-soaked newspapers for at least three years, and because they feared the cats might be diseased after one firefighter was bitten. The AWB decided not to lay cruelty charges because the firefighters believed they were acting on AWB instructions.

#### Miscellany

◆A chow named Bear guarded a three-month-old boy throughout the night of July 12 in thick woods near Mobile,

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Alabama. Rescuers found the baby and dog in good condition the following day. Parents Donnie Chastang, 26, and Robyn Stack, 28, were jailed for allegedly abandoning the child while using cocaine.

◆All charges filed on April 18 against Friends of Animals president Priscilla Feral and vice president Sarah Seymour by Norwalk police and tattoo parlor owner John Herrick were dismissed on July 19. Herrick alleged Feral and Seymour assaulted him shortly after they

led a major demonstration outside the U.S. Surgical Corp. head office, a few blocks away. The police, many of whom moonlight as U.S. Surgical security guards, immediately raided FoA headquarters, as U.S. Surgical staff rushed to give the media false information about what had happened.

**♦**Contractor John Heyden, of Charlottesville, Va., sued Kevin Antle of the T.I.G.E.R.S. Wildlife Park in Kodak, Ky., on August 14 for alleged breach of contract, seeking \$620,000 in reimbursement for work done and damages. It was the second suit filed against Antle,

whom plaintiffs Joe and Mary Lynn Parker earlier accused of taking \$3,000 payment for a tiger; abusing the tiger when he was returned to Antle for training; and failing to surrender the tiger, despite a court order, when they tried to reclaim him. Antle has also been accused of numerous Animal Welfare Act violations by the Tennessee Network for Animals and the Performing Animal Welfare Society, who have asked the USDA to enforce penalties for various violations found during previous inspections.

## Meet The New Breed Of Guinea Pig

"Meet The New Breed Of Guinea Pig," advertisements placed as part of U.S. Surgical Corporation's anti-animal rights scare campaign shrilled recently, suggesting that anti-vivisectionists prefer children be used as biomedical research subjects.

But as the U.S. Surgical commercials aired, it was the biomedical research establishment that got caught doing research on Third World children in violation of ethical standards.

The scandal broke when the National Institutes of Health Office for Protection from Research Risks reported on July 17, after a 10-month probe, that the NIH does not properly protect human research subjects. Following up on an investigation by Chicago Tribune reporter John Crewdon, OPRR found that NIH AIDS researcher Dr. Robert Gallo and others had collaborated with French counterpart Dr. Daniel Zagury in administering an experimental AIDS vaccine to 18 children in Zaire (mainly by supplying chemicals and viruses, and doing laboratory tests). Zagury also inoculated himself.

OPRR found that NIH had only Zagury's word that the children suffered no harm. The vaccine was given with the parents' consent, but it was not clear, given the low average level of education in Zaire, to what extent the parents understood what was being done.

Zagury and Gallo were already embroiled in an international dispute over allegedly unethical claims as to who first isolated the AIDS virus.

NIH director Bernadine Healy's unwillingness to investigate scientific misconduct drew Congressional scrutiny on August 1, after she ordered Office of Scientific Integrity investigator Suzanne Hadley to tone down a report on Gallo's

ethical violations (prepared independently of the OPRR report); ordered an investigation of Hadley when she refused; ordered Hadley off the case; demanded her notes; and ordered that she not be reassigned to other high-profile investigations. Hadley then resigned.

Healy admitted having a poor record with regard to misconduct investigations, terming her probe of false statements made by a staffer on a grant request while she was director of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, "sloppy and inadequate."

The NIH wasn't the only federal agency involved in possibly unethical and illegal AIDS research. The USDA Office of Inspector General revealed July 3 that the agency's Animal Parasite Research Laboratory in Auburn, Alabama has also done unauthorized experiments with AIDSinfected human blood. "Animal biologics" from calves injected with the blood were sent "to several U.S. universities and a physician from Mexico for use in experimental treatment of human subjects," the USDA-OIG report said, adding that the project leader "misrepresented these facts" to superiors and safety officials.

While politics rather than ethics may have been the reason, there were signs that the Bush administration may be losing patience with the NIH emphasis upon promoting biomedical research, to the virtual exclusion of directly promoting public health. Amid the AIDS research controversy, Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan unveiled a proposal to merge the increasingly controversial Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Administration research programs into the National Institute of Mental Health under current ADAMHA head Frederick Goodwin, with the NIMH directly under



NIH authority. ADAMHA would then focus upon drug abuser treatment. The Sullivan plan, requiring Congressional approval, was reportedly designed at least in part to neutralize Goodwin, whom Office of National Drug Control Policy officials have accused of obstructing expanded drug abuser treatment services by attempting to divert the funds into brain biochemistry studies. Both Goodwin and Sullivan are outspoken advocates of vivisection.

Simultaneously, the NIH and ADAMHA announced that they "will fund studies of alternative biomedical research methods that limit the use of vertebrate animals or lessen those animals' pain and distress." Leadership in that area had briefly passed, by default, to NASA, whose computer wizards recently developed a "virtual leg" program that enables surgeons to practice operating without ever actually cutting into flesh.

Anti-vivisectionists and others concerned with preserving the sanctity of life meanwhile braced for resumption of the battle over the ethics of genetic research. Breaking a pledge to prohibit experiments using human DNA, Dutch agriculture minister Piet Bukman has proposed legislation to make such research legal,

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while the Netherlands ministry of economic affairs has reportedly spent over \$2 million helping Gene Pharming, a private firm, to insert a synthetic human gene into 17

calves. Gene Pharming believes the disease may prevent bovine mastitis. If the experiments show promise of a lucrative payoff, pressure from biomedical

researchers in other nations to be allowed to keep up with the competitionregardless of ethics—can be expected to escalate exponentially.

-M.C.

### Death of a River

Pesticide spills devastated wildlife in three states in mid-July, prompting EPA head William Reilly to term portions of the federal laws governing pesticides "anachronistic."

In the most spectacular incident, a Southern Pacific freight train derailed six miles north of Dunsmuir, Calif., late the night of July 14. At least 13,000 gallons of a concentrated herbicide called metam sodium spilled into the Sacramento River from a ruptured tank car. A 13-mile plume of the pesticide killed more than 100,000 fish in the drought-depleted river as it drifted 45 miles downstream before recondensing into a boomed-off area 200 yards wide and half a mile long at the northern end of Lake Shasta-which was at only 55 percent of capacity, increasing the risk of further damage if the pesticide got by the booms.

State officials said initially that downstream drinking water intakes serving 22 million humans would not be affected. On August 4, however, the California Environmental Protection Agency warned pregnant women who drank the water to have a blood test to detect possible fetal damage. Less than two weeks old, CEPA was created by the state legislature by merging existing agencies on July 17.

The toll of animals meanwhile included the entire northern Sacramento River trout population, which had been considered the state's strongest, plus at

least one river otter, one bear, and two deer who either drank polluted water or inhaled lethal fumes. Raccoons and mink were also believed to be suffering, having lost their major food sources. Worms, algae, crustaceans, and other microorganisms were reportedly annihilated. Within a week, trees alongside the river also showed signs of having been poisoned. Experts predicted the river could take as long as a decade to

About 15 percent of the California bald eagle population lives in the area of the spill, along with endangered ospreys and kingfishers, but the state Department of Fish and Game dismissed the possibility that they might succumb to secondary poisoning from eating contaminated fish. To keep the raptors from starving, state biologists built three trout pens in the river, stocked with hatchery fish. Facing financial ruin, tourism promoters urged the state to restock the entire river with hatchery fish, but environmentalists argued that the hatchery fish might outcompete any remnants of the native population who might swim into the stricken part of the river. This in turn could harmfully diminish the trout gene pool.

#### Back on the bayous

In Louisiana, meanwhile, the state departments of Environmental Quality and Agriculture and Forestry clashed after DEQ

inspectors counted 180,000 dead fish in nine rivers between July 5 and July 20. In each case witnesses verified that the fish deaths had followed aerial application of pesticides to nearby sugar cane fields during rainy weather. But the DEQ was unable to act because, under pressure from farmers, the state legislature last year gave all authority to police pesticide use to the DAF, which at deadline had only promised to study the matter.

An apparently similar case in Mississippi turned sinister when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reported that over 1,000 herons and egrets found dead in the Yazoo National Wildlife Refuge might have been killed deliberately. The birds died after an unidentified aircraft sprayed their nests with pesticides.

The California, Louisiana, and Mississippi incidents upstaged the July 10 release of U.S. Geological Study data confirming that small amounts pesticides sprayed on midwestern corn and soybean fields are transported to 23 states by rainclouds. The herbicides atrazine and alachlor, both suspected of causing cancer, were among the most volatile.

One day earlier, University of California at Santa Barbara oceanographer Libe Washburn warned that brown pelicans, pushed toward extinction by DDT building up in their food chain during the 1950s and 1960s, might again be at risk, because ocean tides threaten to expose the residues of about 200 metric tons of DDT illegally dumped into Santa Monica Bay several decades ago.

-M.C.

### **Breeding Ban Proposed In Washington**

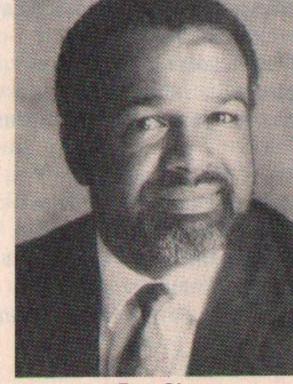
Ning County, Washington, will decide within days whether to adopt an anti-pet breeding ordinance similar to those already adopted in San Mateo County, California, and the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Introduced by council member Ron Sims, a lay minister for homeless people who recalls having spent his allowance as a child to buy turtles sold as pets and return them to the wild, the ordinance would

require all dogs and cats over the age of nine months to be spayed or neutered unless their owners get special breeding permits.

While the pet industry and backyard breeders contend that pet overpopulation should be fought with more humane education, Sims responds, "I was told that we'd see an end to racism the more

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Ron Sims

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educated people became, and we find that isn't true...The changes that we've had in the area of civil rights have been brought about by direct enforcement. We have laws that prohibit discrimination. They have worked much more viably than having the population aware that discrimination is wrong. I think on this issue it's the same way. If you don't have a strong measure that imposes neutering and spaying, you'll never see a change in owners' behavior."

Fighting the breeding ban, the Washington Pet Industry Association reportedly claims it would put pet shops, breeders' associations, and even veterinarians out of business. In addition, WPIA says, the ordinance would "cause animal abuse through underground, black market, and disease problems."

Observed Kim Sturla of the Fund for Animals, who helped draft the San Mateo ordinance, "It's curious how all the businesses associated with companion animals would 'be ruined' if we reduce the number of surplus dogs and cats who are killed each year. One can only assume that the unwanted animals eat a heck of a lot of food, make dozens of trips to veterinarians, and purchase untold amounts of pet supplies before they wind up in shelters and are destroyed."

Support for the King County breeding ban, which like the San Mateo ban would apply only to unincorporated areas, may be sent to Sims c/o 402 King County Courthouse, 3rd and James, Seattle, WA 98104. A PAWS information packet on the ban is \$2.00, from P.O. Box 1037, Lynnwood, WA 98046.

The San Mateo ban was challenged August 13 by the advisory committee appointed to develop criteria for issuing breeding permits. Made up mainly of breeders, the committee instead demanded that the mandatory spay/neuter language be dropped. The San Mateo ban was to come into effect on September 1.

Sherwood, Arkansas, may become

the next community to pass a breeding ban. A draft ordinance presented by city animal control chief Jeff Wilkinson would require breeders to pay \$30 for an annual permit plus \$100 for each litter born. Pet owners would be fined \$50 for letting a female dog or cat in heat run loose.

Breeding bans are also under discussion in Houston and Denver. Opposition is being organized by the National Pet Alliance, an association of breeders whose rhetoric echoes that of the anti-animal rights group Putting People First. The premier issue of the NPA Gazette suggested that a recent drop in the number of animals being euthanized by San Mateo-area shelters might be because more people are "drowning them in the river," or simply abandoning unwanted animals "in the countryside." Editor Karen Johnson did not explain where either a river with water in it or any "countryside" might be found in the drought-stricken, heavily populated Peninsula region.

-M.C.

## Fur Trade Goes To The Dogs

As New Yorkers chortled over hysterical fur trade response to the re-release of the 1961 Walt Disney animated classic 101 Dalmatians, in which the dogs escape a fiend bent upon skinning them to make a spotted coat, the Fur Information Council of America tried to repair the industry image with a 16-page advertising supplement slated for publication in the Sept. 29 issue of The New York Times Magazine. In addition to fashion plates, the supplement was to include "advertorial" material (ad copy made up to look like news) asserting that trapping and ranching animals for fur is not cruel or environmentally harmful.

The New York Times Magazine was the selected vehicle for the supplement not so much because the rival New York Post gave the sputtering over 101 Dalmatians prominent coverage, as because the Sunday Times offers a circulation of 1.7 million, mainly to affluent readers in the greater New York metropolitan area, which accounts for over 80 percent of all U.S. fur

But even as FICA touted the supplement as the beginning of a major public relations counteroffensive, there were signs it might rather have been a last desperate gamble. The supplement was originally planned as a 36-pager, but shrank when FICA was unable to sell enough ad

space to finance the longer edition. The American Fur Industry, Inc., another fur trade promotional group, meanwhile acknowledged having only 55 percent of the budget it did a year ago, and is now emphasizing low-cost projects such as trying to persuade fashion models to continue accepting fur-modeling assignments.

At the store level, Evans Inc., the largest U.S. fur retail chain, boasted July 11 that it lost only \$1,422,000 during the first quarter of 1991 —as compared with a loss of \$3,167,000 during the first quarter of 1990. However, the declining rate of loss reflects the declining value of Evans holdings.

As a "vertically integrated" furrier, controlling fur farms, garment manufacturing plants, and retail stores, Jindo Inc. has been considered one of the firms likely to hold out longest. But even Jindo recently laid off 37 percent of its staff in its home nation, Korea, most of whom had been mink farmers and garment makers.

Newly published Canadian trapping statistics showed a 70 percent decline in animals pelted and a 66 percent decline in revenue since the winter of 1987-1988.

Only 990,775 animals were pelted in 1989-1990, worth \$22 million—down from 3.3 million animals worth \$65 million just two



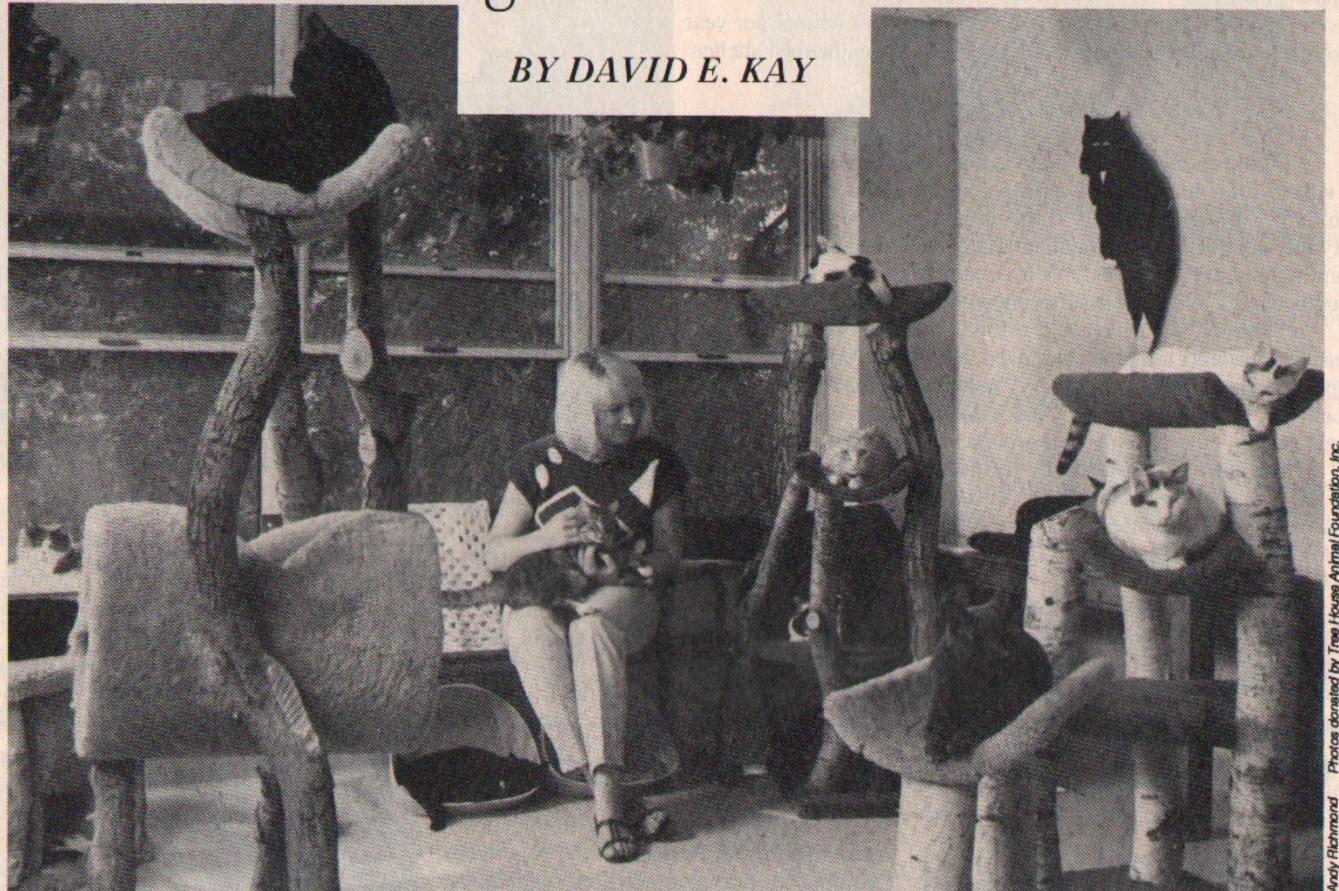
\*The Walt Disney Company, All Rights Reserved"

winters earlier.

And meanwhile back in the Oregon woods, concluding a real-life story reminiscent of 101 Dalmatians, the Coalition Against Fur Farms announced on August 1 that the last of 66 mink, bobcats, and lynx rescued on December 19, 1990 from the Campbell Fur Farm in Lakeside, Montana had been successfully (albeit illegally) returned to the wild. CAFF said the animals had spent seven months with an unidentified wildlife rehabilitator, who introduced them to the natural ways of their species.

-M.C.

"No Kill Animal Shelters"
Do It Right—Or Don't Do It



Every part of the country has had "no-kill" animal shelters closed down by local authorities. Starting out as dreams come true, some shelters quickly deteriorate into a nightmare. Instead of lifetime havens to nurture homeless companion animals, they become filthy, disease-ridden deathtraps: "County humane officers closed a suburban animal shelter this week, citing 'starvation, unsanitary conditions, improper disposal of carcasses, and rampant disease, posing a clear threat to public health.' The operators were charged with multiple counts of cruelty to animals, negligence, and health code violations."

#### Where does the love go wrong?

Nobody starts a no-kill shelter with the idea of mistreating animals. Although a popular concept, the real-life planning, design, and management of a full-service no-kill facility are still evolving. Only one thing is absolutely certain: the amount of work is staggering.

And so are the expenses. Lily Flanagan, director of animal services for Chicago's Tree House Animal Foundation, estimates the average cost of admitting a cat to their cageless, no-kill shelter at \$60 to \$75. With a current population of about 300 cats, that means it costs Tree House over \$20,000 just to get those animals in the door.

"We have 12 part- and full-time animal caretakers, six technical staff, and a veterinarian putting in a total of 500 hours a week for animal care alone," Tree House adoption center manager

Derrick Stephens reports. "And that's with over 40 volunteers to help out."

Proper feeding, thorough twice-daily cleaning, spot cleaning all day long—these are the basic needs of housing animals. But they're just *survival* needs. A shelter must be more than a place to sustain life, it should enrich it, too. Without enough hands, time, and money to provide complete and comprehensive care, even a no-kill shelter is little more than a dog or cat prison.

#### Add it all up

Let's say you want to open a no-kill shelter. Before you even take in one animal, you need a place to put him or her: a licensable facility with proper zoning and adequate equipment. That takes a lot of time and money to get. On top of the basic average admission cost of \$60 to \$80 (vaccinations, neuter/spay, medical care, blood and fecal tests, and pharmaceuticals), it will run anywhere from \$175 to \$400 a year to feed a rescued stray. Staff and volunteers must work every day of the year (including weekends, holidays, blizzards, and hurricanes). And you're going to have to pay your staff. There are many skilled and dedicated people willing to work at low salaries to help animals, but those people have to eat, too.

A legal shelter must meet state and local building and fire codes and license regulations. That means regular maintenance and improvements. License fees are often dramatically reduced or waived for charitable shelters, but being a charity requires the proper

Continued on next page

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certification from local, state, and federal agencies. Which, in turn, means consulting—and paying—lawyers. The whole process (incorporation, federal tax-exempt status, state registration) takes many months.

Once you've done all that, you're still not ready to open. You'll need workers' compensation, liability, and other insurance. And don't forget heating and cooling, electricity, water, and telephone bills.

All in all, plan on spending at least \$500 per animal per year for proper care and an appropriately licensed and maintained shelter.

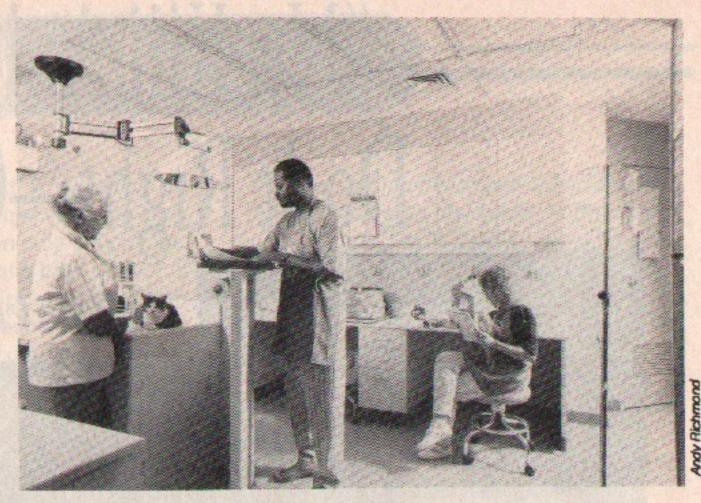
#### Define your terms

No-kill is a misnomer. There is not a legitimate animal shelter anywhere that doesn't kill animals sometimes. Euthanasia of terminally suffering animals is an obligation. The work isn't for everyone, not even among humanitarians. One former technician at an animal shelter observes: "I love animals a lot; but not with enough courage to end their suffering with my own hands."

A "shelter" is a haven, a refuge, a safehouse. It's a place where the residents are protected, even insulated, from danger. It's a temporary home where "temporary" may mean "for the rest of your natural life," if the need arises. And it does not discriminate because of age, gender, color, family background, or disability.

There are no set standards for no-kill sheltering. The harsh economic realities of caring for animals for extended periods demand keeping expenses to a bare minimum. Without adequate planning and funding, cost-cutting measures can quickly escalate into inadequate care.

Buying off-brand food, using minimal or no paid staff, putting off or simply ignoring necessary building improvements, and foregoing comprehensive veterinary care or using improvised or "homemade" treatments are tantalizing ways to save money. Some



no-kill shelters (and well-meaning individuals) employ these methods to stretch their budgets, but clearly compromise the animals' welfare.

"Shelters should only take as many animals as they can properly care for," a staff veterinarian at a no-kill shelter bluntly states. "Cutting corners kills animals, too. It just does it more slowly."

#### Too full of the milk of human kindness

For animal shelters, having to say "no" when the compassionate heart says "yes" is a daily conflict. The emotional tug of the animal at the door is the trap that leads to the downfall of many no-kill shelters.

"It's the 'just one more' syndrome," Tree House executive director Ellen Sawyer observes. "You operate a shelter with 300

animals and someone comes to your door with a cat they've been feeding in the alley. It's late November and you're expecting the first hard frost. The shelter is over capacity, and the animal in front of you is homeless but healthy. In fairness to all those mouths you've already committed to feeding, you counsel the person on other options, offer additional services, but say 'Sorry, we can't take this one right now.' Then comes the inevitable question: 'But you've got so many. Why can't you just take one more?""

"It's hard for the person who wants you to take this animal now to understand it's the fifteenth or sixteenth 'just one more' request that day," Sawyer adds.

Successful no-kill shelters have survived and provided topflight care for their residents by restricting admissions. There is an optimum population and an admission cutoff population. Once the admission cutoff population is reached, the shelter only admits as many animals as it adopts. If the population drops below optimum (unfortunately a very rare occurrence), admission policy is expanded.

This is the paradox (critics would call it hypocrisy) of no-kill sheltering: since animals aren't euthanized to make space, save money on treatment, or if not adopted after a fixed period of time, even the largest shelters turn away more animals than they admit. Those animals are taken to "traditional" shelters (a responsible nokill will advise this), to veterinarians for euthanasia, or turned back onto the street. But to continue taking in animals when space and resources are already overextended is the surest way to inspire another "health officials close animal shelter" news story.

"Traditional shelters aren't the enemy," Ellen Sawyer says. "At this point, legitimate no-kill shelters couldn't exist in good conscience without them."

#### A model for the future

Opening no-kill animal shelters is not a solution for the estimated 127,000,000 strays in the U.S. (plus millions more ownersurrendered animals, and tens of millions more puppies and kittens from unspayed companion animals). The economics of sheltering them all adequately and indefinitely are staggering: over \$60 billion for the first year alone! The logistics of finding and rescuing them all aren't even imaginable.

Setting the stray live birth rate at a modest 5,000 per hour nationwide, all the animals collected by all the animal shelters in the



country in one year will be replaced by new abandonments, accidental escapees, and free-roaming "indoor/outdoor" companion animals.

So why do it at all?

Because a legitimate no-kill shelter is a glimpse of how things might be.

#### Do the right thing

For every clean, cageless, homelike, well-run shelter that David Key limits euthanasia to cases of terminal suffering, there's another (probably several) that doesn't meet minimal standards. But to condemn the no-kill concept based on the "good intentions/bad results" shelters is to throw out the proverbial baby with the bathwater.

A compassionate person with lots of cats and dogs in the house has taken on a tremendous responsibility, but he or she is not a no-kill shelter. Sometimes these people are called animal "collectors."

This is not to say that one person (or one family) can't adequately care for a large number of domestic animals. But the truth is, the majority of those horror stories about no-kill shelters come from unlicensed, illegal, or understaffed "one-person-show" facilities.

Good intentions are a prerequisite. But, as the PETA slogan goes, "Good intentions aren't good enough." There must be hard work, hard choices, public education, intervention (including promotion of neutering/spaying, humane education, and investigation and enforcement of local animal protection laws), the "f" word ("fundraising"), and a plan for growth.

Even while this article was being written, a report of another no-kill shelter horror story broke. A large and popular facility will be closed down shortly, leaving the fates of over 400 animals hanging in the balance. Most likely, county and state authorities will revoke the shelter's license, seize the animals, and euthanize them. From the descriptions already released, many will be lucky to survive that long.

We all know this famous aphorism: "The journey of a thousand steps begins with one step." Our hearts and emotions are offended by the deaths of millions of companion animals in shelters each year, and our desire to end it now may urge us to leap over the other 999 steps to the goal of no-kill sheltering. But those missing steps are the foundation of long-term success.

It's enticingly easy to "just say no" to euthanasia in animal shelters. But the practical realities must be faced. In fact, they should be embraced. How can we hope to change the animal control system—and the world—if we can't sustain the lives we've already taken into trust?

David Kay is education director for the Tree House Animal Foundation, a no-kill shelter located at 1212 West Carmen Ave., Chicago, IL 60640; 312-784-5488.

### Guidelines for No-Kill Sheltering

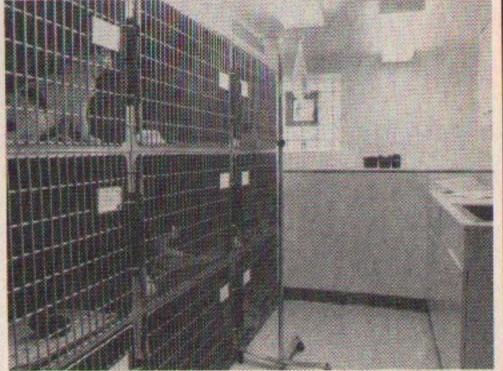
ome broad and basic standards for record-keeping. Besides all the paperwork operation of no-kill shelters are desperately needed. Based on two decades of trial, error, common sense, and refinement, Tree House Animal Foundation has proposed these:

\* Prepare a detailed plan. What are the licensing requirements and restrictions? Are you going to apply for tax-exempt status? How and where will you obtain veterinary care? What's your sanitation and disease control strategy? Who keeps the books? What's your source of income? Where will you buy food and supplies? How will the public know about you? Have all the answers before the first animal comes through the door.

\* Obtain a licensable facility. Buy a building that's properly zoned, can be easily renovated and expanded, and is accessible to the public. If possible, try to avoid a stark, institutional type of structure. Renting may get a shelter open faster, but it's not recommended; the building can be sold or the lease broken. Most lease terminations and evictions only require 30 to 90 days notice. Where would the animals go on such short notice?

\* Understand the need for accurate required by licensing and IRS regulations, the shelter must keep tabs on which animals have gotten what care. Since residents of a no-kill shelter may be around for years, there must be a reminder system for regular examinations, vaccinations, and

\* Control disease and parasites. Fleas, ticks, earmites, ringworm, intestinal parasites, and viral and bacterial diseases will exist as long as there are cats and dogs to carry them. Effective disease and parasite control begins with proper sanitation and with separate infirmary areas with isolated airflow. Each animal must be examined for parasites and signs of disease at admission, and be free of both before being released from the infirmary. Most contagion is spread by staff and volunteers. Hands must be washed after handling an animal at admission or in the infirmary before touching anything, let alone another animal. Smocks, lab coats, or coveralls should be used in infirmary areas, and should stay there; protective clothing worn in areas with actively infected animals should never be worn into the rest of the building.



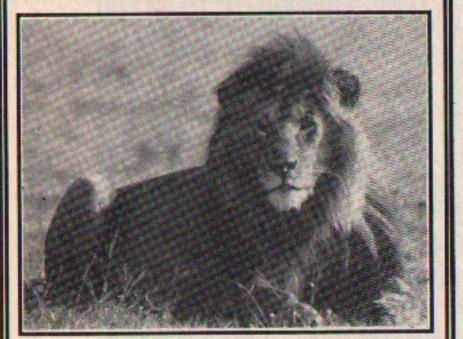
\* Clean thoroughly twice a day. "Thoroughly" means top to bottom, including washing down and disinfecting all animal areas, holding cages, floors, litter pans, food and water bowls, etc. And that's twice a day, every day, including Sundays and holidays.

\* Caging is unfair and defeats the purpose of no-kill sheltering. We've all heard stories of animals in no-kill shelters spending years in the same cage, trading a death sentence for life in prison with no hope of parole. Allowed to move freely in adequate space, the animals can socialize, behave more naturally, and avoid the stress that brings on disease and shortens life expectancy.

-DEK

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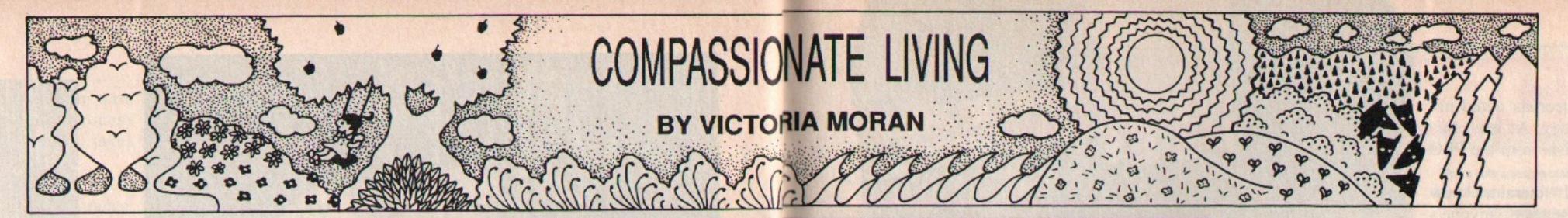
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## RELAX

robably the biggest single enemy to the success of our movement is burnout, that state of total exhaustion on the part of the people doing the work. Ask any burnout victim how he or she feels and you're likely to hear, "I was just tired of everything," or "I don't know what happened. I just got tired." Unfortunately, curing burnout can require a long rest. Often it means losing a valuable worker for the animal rights cause-indefinitely. Preventing burnout is a lot simpler. All it takes is learning how to relax and doing it on a regular basis.

I learned to relax not a minute too soon. I had just finished writing my new book, The Love-Powered Diet, and the book's deadline date was also my moving day. (The landlady had said, "Either the cats go or you go," so—obviously—we went.) Then I caught a cold. A week later, I showed up at the Shealy Institute for Comprehensive Health Care, a holistic health center in Springfield, Missouri. I felt sick and tired and was sick and tired of both states. The Center's director, C.

Norman Shealy, M.D., Ph.D., formulated a week-long de-stressing program for me as part of the ReGenesis program designed for people who have no serious illnesses but who want to learn to live more positively and energetically.

Dr. Shealy and his staff reminded me that stress is a reaction to outside events and that although I can't always change what is going on around me (moves and deadlines, for example), I am in control of my response to those things. I can lessen the stress in my life by being sure that I'm not giving myself chemical stressors (alcohol, nicotine, caffeine, refined sugars). I can also work toward healthy, honest relationships with other people to keep emotional stress to a minimum, but when



stress is unavoidable—and being alive makes stress unavoidable—the antidote is relaxation.

I thought I knew that. I was as adept as the next person at vegetating in front of a television set and blocking out real life. I know how to go shopping, talk on the phone, and otherwise give myself snippets of relaxation here and there. What I hadn't realized is that those leisure activities are just that: activities. They're not relaxation. Relaxation, by clinical definition, is a state in which the body and mind are consciously and purposely slowed down. Detectable physical changes take place: the temperature in extremities goes up, blood pressure lowers, as does adrenaline production. When it is practiced consistently-20 minutes twice a day is the usual recommendation—stress diseases and tension/anxiety feelings can be avoided or improved. And overall well-being is enhanced so that life becomes more an adventure and less a chore, and burnout seems like something that only happens to other people.

Relaxation is learned by doing. The simplest way to start is to set aside time each day when you can be by yourself, undisturbed. (A friend with several roommates puts a sign on his door that says, "Go away.") You can relax lying down or sitting in a chair; for beginners, lying down (or in a favorite recliner) is a good idea. Take a couple of deep breaths and give yourself the suggestion, "When I take two deep breaths, that's the signal to my body that this is time to relax." As you do this over

taken those deep breaths. Then simply watch yourself breathe. Don't attempt to control your breathing; simply watch it. One way to do this is to count each inhalation and exhalation—something like, "One, two, Two, two, Three, two..." on the inhalations and exhalations. Many people like to use meditation techniques such as inhaling and exhaling on a word that has a peaceful connotation to them, such as "love" or "peace." When your mind wanders, bring it gently back to your breath.

Sometimes conscious relaxation

time, your body will respond and will

relax quite quickly when you've

is wonderful—refreshing and fulfilling. At other times it seems like a
silly exercise, when I could be
spending the time writing a letter or
an article. That's when I need to
remember that the time spent in
relaxation is time I'm investing in
myself for more letters and better
articles later. I tell myself that I'm
worth spending some time on, and the
more I do it, the more I believe it.

I haven't yet met an activist who didn't get chills from the poem by Edna St. Vincent Millay that goes, "My candle burns at both ends; it will not last the night. But ah, my foes, and oh, my friends, it gives a lovely light!" I loved that poem in my early days of trying to make changes in this world, but I've become much more concerned about my candle. I want it to last the night because the kind of changes that we want don't come easily or quickly. Learning to relax gives me a longer wick. Maybe that's why it's a burnout preventative par excellence.

Note: Information about the Shealy Institute may be obtained by writing 1328 E. Evergreen, Springfield, MO 65803.



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ARE UNAVAILABLE).

seem that the creation of this fictional band of terrorists could not help forward the exploitation community's strategy. At least this would be true if "liberators" acted like other terrorists from the PLO to the IRA and claimed credit for their terrorist acts.

There is a solution to this problem. If animal "liberators" vow not to take credit for their terrorist acts, then the absence of anyone's taking credit for such acts becomes part of the evidence that animal rights terrorists performed them! Thus we are told that: "liberators practicing militant interventionism do not take credit for their actions...This is not a time for self-glorification and proving to the world that we are virtuous and brave...We do not want the media to announce our actions, since that might make future actions more difficult. (An exception is when the media can add to the abuser's paranoia or serve as a tool of sabotage.)...We do not want to educate society, since we know that society will never change." (p. 103)

Consider the illogic of this logic: suppose a researcher's car is blown up. Or she dies or disappears mysteriously. Or her daughter is raped. Or someone makes threatening phone calls. Then either animal "liberators" will take credit for this or they won't. It they do take credit for it, then they did it. If they don't take credit for it, then they did it. In other words, anytime anything bad happens to anyone whose career or livelihood is tied to utilizing nonhuman animals (and we're talking about millions of people), the logic of A Declaration of War supports the inference that animal "liberators" did it. Here, most assuredly is a strategy that cannot fail to create the appearance that animal rights terrorism is on the rise.

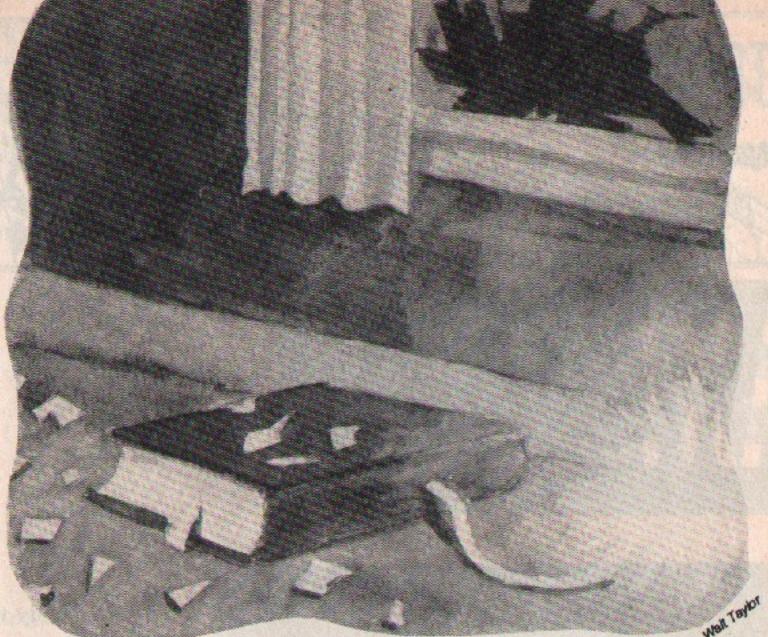
#### Behold the misanthropes

Again, however, a fairly obvious problem confronts the exploitation strategy. One doesn't have to be an Einstein to recognize how astonishingly gullible this strategy assumes the general public to be. Lots of different people might want to do violence to animal exploiters, for lots of different reasons. Maybe a furrier has a history of writing bad checks. Maybe a drug addict needs money or a son-inlaw wants a timely inheritance. In order for A Declaration of War to rise to the level of a truly effective work of fraudulent provocation, it has to offer something else to grease the general public's inference from "Smith the furrier was shot" to "An [animal] liberator shot him." What could this be?

Mainly it is the loathsome attitudes "liberators" have towards the general public and the self-righteous and self-inflated opinions they have about themselves. "Liberators," Screaming Wolf tells us, believe that save for a small handful of exceptional people, human beings are "cowards"; they are "callous," "bigoted," "greedy," "complacent," "lazy," "self-serving," and "insincere." They have been "brainwashed," and are "controlled and manipulated." In general, people are "weak, stubborn, frightened, irrational, habitual, spiteful, inconsistent, angry, vicious creatures." Do "liberators" like people? Hell no! Do "liberators" hate humanity? Hell, yes! From the "liberators" point of view it's simple: "People suck!" Now there's a sentiment that ought to endear these militant interventionists to the public at large.

In contrast to the common rabble of humanity, "liberators" see themselves as just a little below the angels. According to Screaming Wolf, they describe themselves as "empathetic," "logical,' "consistent," and "self-understanding." They "recognize truth," have "courage and conviction," are "brave, honest and loving," "fulfilled," "sensitive" and "proud," "valuable and special." Their numbers, alas, are "small" for they are "rare." Nevertheless, there is hope for some people (though in the nature of the case only a few can be chosen) if only these people can acquire the near deific qualities of the "liberators" and cease being "weak," "stubborn," "irrational," etc.

Read as a work of fraudulent provocation, A Declaration of War understandably attempts to encourage the general public to feel contempt for those who oppose research using nonhuman animals, oppose hunting and trapping of nonhuman animals for reasons of



sport or commerce, etc. The strategy selected for doing this is to make these people themselves contemptible in the eyes of the general public. Few works succeed so well as this one.

#### A self-fulfilling prophecy?

Over and above the role public contempt for "liberators" might play in garnering support for the animal exploitation community, the pages of A Declaration of War pose a less obvious but no less real threat to the animal rights movement. Every activist knows how hard, time-consuming, and discouraging it is to work for animal liberation. They don't need "liberators" to remind them of it.

What's scary is that dispirited, discouraged activists might read the pages of A Declaration of War and think that "liberators" have found the answer. The answer is violence, terrorism, "militant interventionism." That's the way of the few, the brave, the proud protectors of animals. That's what we have to uphold and how we have to live if we really care about what's happening to the animals. The danger, then, is that A Declaration of War might have the status of a self-fulfilling prophecy. Rather than describing a group of animal rights terrorists that already exists, it might actually help create the terrorists whose existence it purports to reveal. Indeed-for reasons set forth in the above-nothing could be more helpful to the animal exploitation strategy.

History teaches that works of fraudulent provocation sometimes succeed. The Protocols of the Elders of Zion is a sobering reminder of the power prejudice can exercise over humanity's ability to make informed, fair judgments. On the other hand, few people have been taken in by David Duke's African Atto (even Duke himself now dismisses it as "satire"), and the American electorate, during the Civil War, showed enough good sense not to be duped by the racist fears that inspired Miscegenation. Only time will tell whether A Declaration of War is a genuine work of fraudulent provocation and, if so, whether it calls forth the best in humanity-or the worst.

Tom Regan, a philosophy professor at North Carolina State University, is author of The Case for Animal Rights and founder/president of The Culture and Animals Foundation (3509 Eden Croft Dr., Raleigh, NC 27612).

Since The ANIMALS' AGENDA first reported on Sydney Singer the purported "Screaming Wolf" manifesto, in April 1991, Singer has distributed review copies to, and solicited interviews by, media including The Journal of the American Medical Association, National Public Radio, and the newspapers in several cities where apparent Animal Liberation Front actions have recently taken place.

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Said her friends with a cry, "Why must animals die So that you can wear fur with your jeans?"

There was a designer named Duane

Who was vapid and vulgar and vain.

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he was heard to demur.

"It's my choice to be partial to pain.

Fur. It's a Dirty Business

There was a young woman from Queens

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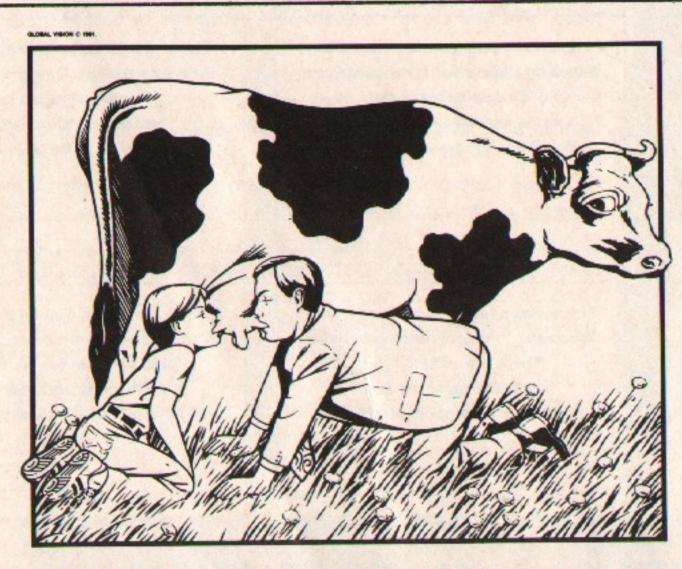
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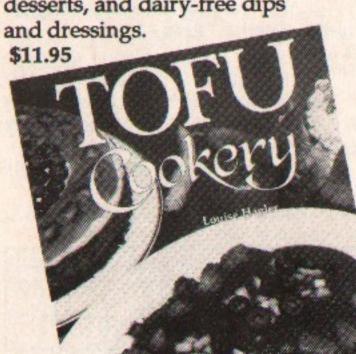
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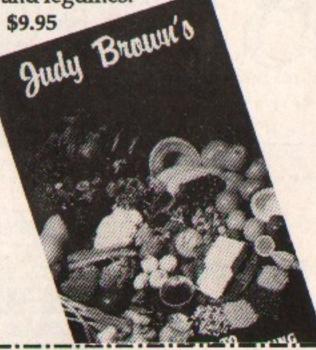
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## REVIEWS

## Spreading the Vegetarian Word

Guide to Giving a Vegetarian Workshop

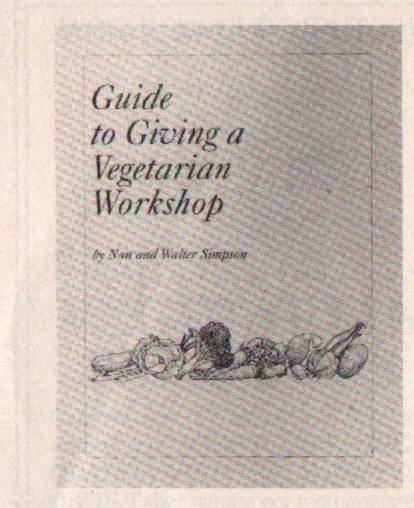
By Nan and Walter Simpson, 1991; 12 pages, \$3.00, available from the North American Vegetarian Society, P.O. Box 72, Dolgeville, NY 13329

You may be familiar with the work of Nan and Walter Simpson through their earlier booklet, Good Eating: The Vegetarian Alternative, which presents a meatfree diet and lifestyle in capsule form. This husband and wife team—he a professional energy conservationist, she a registered nurse-have now gone beyond introducing vegetarianism to showing us how we can introduce it to others in Guide to Giving a Vegetarian Workshop.

As a veteran workshop convener myself, I can attest that the Simpsons have covered everything you need to know for having yours come off without a hitch. You're taken through the workshop process with an outline for a 3-hour, 40-minute session, detailed down to the 10-minute break. This guide does not enable an

unknowledgeable person to set him/herself up as an expert, but it provides all the information that someone who knows the facts about vegetarianism needs to turn those facts into a fast-paced, informative, and lively seminar for the public.

This guide recommends touching on every aspect of vegetarianism-health, ethics, environment—including a food tasting session. Not a time-consuming cooking demonstration, a food tasting consists of sampling five vegan entrees (tempeh Italian style, sweet and sour tofu balls, and falafels are among the suggestions) and a vegan dessert such as whole wheat carrot pineapple cake with creamy tofu topping. A segment of the program also offers ideas for making vegetarianism quick and easy, covering such areas as shopping tips and vegetarian fast-foods, eating out, dealing with family and friends, children who are picky eaters, etc. The Simpsons close their seminars with the video Vegetarian World, narrated by Star Trek's William Shatner, which shows vegetarianism in a variety of cultural



Guide to Giving a Vegetarian Workshop does its job well. Beautiful in design and thorough in content, this booklet is likely to inspire even the least theatrical among us to get our act together-and maybe take a workshop on the road.

-Victoria Moran

## Heart Bonds

#### And A Deer's Ear, Eagle's Song & Bear's Grace: Animals and Women

Edited by Theresa Corrigan and Stephanie Hoppe; Cleis Press (P.O. Box 8933, Pittsburgh, PA 15221), 1990; 225 pages, \$9.95 paper, \$24.95 cloth.

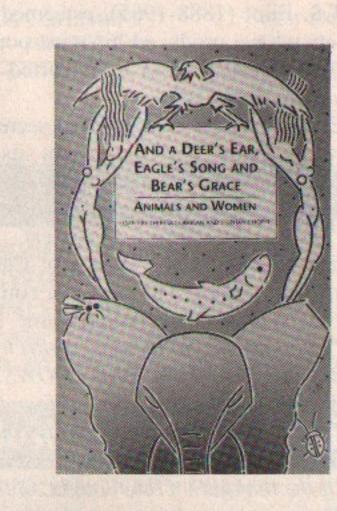
The companion volume to With A Fly's Eye, Whale's Wit & Woman's Heart (reviewed in the April '90 issue of The ANIMALS' AGENDA) is also a collection of poetry, fiction, essays and interviews by women in communication with other species. Like its predecessor, the whole of And A Deer's Ear, Eagle's Song & Bear's Grace is more than just a sum of its individual efforts. The selections have in common a life-affirming quality. Struggle exists but doesn't overwhelm.

There is also a common thread of yearning for wildness. Susan Stinson dreams of escape in her imaginary conversation between "Whale and Woman." In "To Gallop," a short story by Diane de Avalle-Arce, death and betrayal are catalysts for a wild ride to freedom:

"The familiar country looked strange and unknown. Mary Lynne's will wavered like a demagnetized compass needle, and the mare wavered with her...As night closed they fled the lights of houses, the white lines painted on paved roads." In contrast, Alison Townsend's encounter with a doe and fawn in her poem, "Leaving Dorland Mountain," inspires a vicarious sharing of their existence and a realization of limits.

This urge to share other species' perceptions frequently leads to adoption of totem animals. Jeane Jacobs shares the traditional spiritual experience of the vision quest in "Wings." Mary TallMountain's poem, "The Last Wolf" (first printed in The ANIMALS' AGENDA), is both a modern vision quest and an apology: "The last wolf hurried toward me/through the ruined city/and I heard his baying echoes/down the steep smashed warrens..."

In her essay, "Among Wolves," Jean Pearson has taken the quest a step further, seeking her totem animal in the reality of an Indiana wildlife sanctuary, "where students can observe wolves in seminatural conditions." Her evolving friend-



ship with the Indiana pack is a compelling example of the potential for understanding between species.

Such a friendship is beautifully detailed in Brenda Weathers's short story, "Old Bones." This affectionate account of a woman and a bulldog ultimately becomes a tribute to two joined souls. Feline/human companionship is immortalized in Marge Piercy's poem, "Sleeping with Cats" ("curled into flowers of fur").

Continued on next page

October 1991 The Animals' Agenda

## REVIEWS

Continued from previous page

Many selections here go beyond the individual relationship (real or imagined) to explore the greater pattern of species interdependence. Margo Gathwright-Dietrich recounts the "boot camp" discipline that prepared her for life with a Canine Companion for Independence, and, in so doing, raises the question of human responsibility for the success of the partnerships. Beth Bosk's interview with Susan Maurer, "Safer Sex for Salmon: The Spawning Channel," chronicles the difficulties and rewards of an attempt to introduce nonviolent techniques to wildlife "management." In her short story, "Roja and Leopold," Sally Miller Gearhart turns the traditional horror story "Little Red Riding Hood" on its head with a New Age parody that challenges timeworn beliefs.

Carol Adams, author of The Sexual Politics of Meat, delves into the writing of early feminists for examples of the three stages of vegetarian sensibility.

The authors encourage change where it's possible, while admiring that which is changeless. Linda Hogan's rake becomes the symbol of this effort. "The rake wakes up and the healing is in it. The shadows of leaves that once fell beneath the tree the handle came from are in that labor, and the rabbits that passed this way, on the altar of our work. And when the rake wakes up, all earth's gods are reborn and they dance and sing in the dusty air around us."

And so does this book sing, the individual voices harmonizing like a choir.

—Cathy Czapla

## Classics Revisited

#### Old Possum's Book of **Practical Cats**

T.S. Eliot, 1939 (There are numerous editions; Harcourt Brace Jovanich continues to reissue the original 1939 edition)

T.S. Eliot (1888-1965), esteemed for his intense and serious poems, may have produced his most popular work in Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats, a lighthearted volume which inspired the Broadway musical Cats.

Eliot's cats are reserved and secretive, but their situations are outrageously funny. The Gumbie cat sits all day, but at night teaches extension courses to mice. He minds their diet and even finds employment for cockroaches. An obvious parody of the "do gooder," he is, nevertheless, a cat's cat.

In the poem "The Naming of Cats," we learn that cats have three different names. The first is a common name for daily family use, the second is a fancy, unique name, but the third is:

The name that no human research can discover

But THE CAT HIMSELF KNOWS, and will never confess.

When you notice a cat in profound meditation,

The reason, I tell you, is always the same:

His mind is engaged in a rapt contemplation

Of the thought, of the thought, of the thought of his name.

The mystery and cunning of cats is a recurring theme. Perhaps the most famous (perhaps infamous) of cats is Macavity, a.k.a. the

Hidden Paw, a notorious thief. He's broken every human law, he breaks the law of gravity.

His powers of levitation would make a fakir stare,

And when you reach the scene of crime, Macavity's not there! The Old Possum cats have magical names like Grumbuskin, Tumblebrutus, and Lady Griddlebone. Growltiger, "the terror of the Thames," is a cat "baggy at the knees." The rhyme and rhythm imitate the movements and the essential catness of these characters.

The Rum Tum Tugger is a terrible bore:

When you let him in, then he wants to be out;

He's always on the wrong side of the door,

And as soon as he's at home, then he'd like to get about. He likes to lie in the bureau drawer,

But he makes such a fuss if he can't get out.

Yes Rum Tum Tugger is a Curious Cat

And it isn't any use for you to doubt it:

For he will do

As he do do

And there's no doing anything about it!

Like many cat lovers, and all cats, Eliot believed in the superiority of cats over dogs.

So first your memory I'll jog,

and say: A CAT IS NOT A DOG ...

And yet a Dog is, on the whole,

What you would call a simple soul ..

The usual Dog about the Town

Is much inclined to play the clown,

And far from showing too much pride

Is frequently undignified.

The dignity of cats demands a degree of etiquette. There are rules one must follow even when simply addressing a cat:

With Cats, some say, one rule is true:

Don't speak till you are spoken to.

Myself, I do not hold with that

I say, you should address a Cat.

But always keep in mind that he Resents familiarity.

I bow, and taking off my hat,

Address him in this form: O CAT!

The Old Possum poems heighten our sensitivity to cats, and can give animal advocates some of the strength found in laughter and pleasure they need to continue working to help them. Read these poems aloud to your friends, children, and, of course, to the neighborhood cats. See if their eyes widen with appreciation!

-Naomi Rachel

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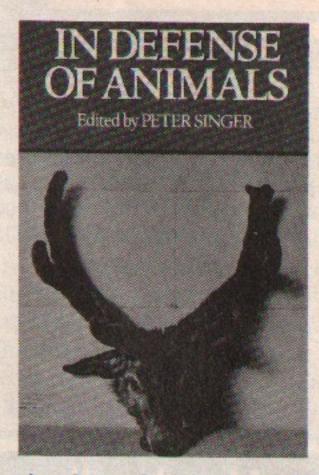
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The Animals' Agenda

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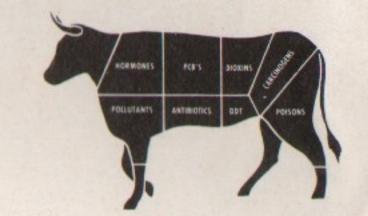
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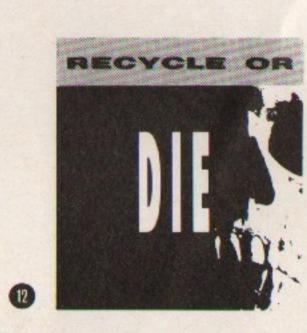
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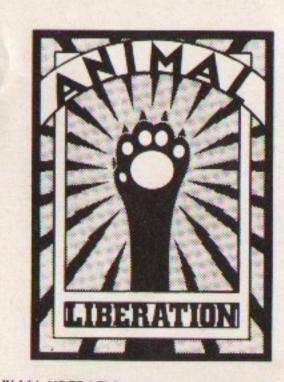


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