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SEPT. 1987 VOLUME VII NO. 7

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Wants Dollars Spent on Saving Lives

I was furious to see the full-page ad in the June issue placed by the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA) about dog and cat overpopulation.

"Facts to Cringe With," the ad claims, is the richest humane society in the world. They have almost none of the important tombstones in the name of dogs and cats.

Groups that address the tragedy of the 700 "surplus" dogs and cats killed every day in Massachusetts alone have been putting pressure on the MSPCA, which has promised to cut pet overpopulation.

MSPCA only recently instituted a low-cost spay/neuter program, but it requires that people have their animals inoculated two weeks prior to surgery (which is inconvenient), and the shots are not low-cost.

For years now, the MSPCA has been promising a major media campaign to alert the public to the tragedy of the pet population explosion. We keep listening and waiting for their ads, but the only one we've seen has been in The Animal Agenda for credibility of their campaign to the converted may be for increasing membership and good for public relations, but it doesn't sell.

—Deborah Kremen

Editor's Note: Major humane organizations sometimes place ads in The ANIMALS’ AGENDA as a form of financial assistance to the magazine. We are grateful for their support, but this does not influence the editorial content of the magazine. The ad will appear in upcoming issues. The full text of the ad is available in a downloadable PDF format on our website.

MORE LETTERS ON PAGE 52

More Letters on Page 52

More Detailive

I'd like to offer some extra tips on debating the values of animal research (Animal Agenda, April 1987).

First, let's remember that the fundation for biomedicine rests on the shoulders of the speaker, the fact that speakers are often only giving their own "party line," consisting of the "facts" that are always necessary and never trivial, that no pain is involved, and that all is regulated by the laws and the protocols.

The animal advocate is bound, therefore, to find ways to present ridiculous research such as: injecting female animals with testosterone until they copulate in a male fashion, or the electrical brain lesioning of animals in order to elicit bisexual behavior (over 1,800 such experiments using nonhuman animals have been published since 1980); the impact of so-called experiments on animals given LSD since 1967; and the thousand or so "classical conditioning" experiments published since 1980 involving electroshocking animals immediately after flashing a light or making noise until the animal learns to fear the light or the noise.

The FBIR person will immediately state that those examples are exceptions in the use of LSD and the other drugs do not fund trivial or simplistic research. They will talk about self-regulation as a restraint on the "fact" that only a third of all grant proposals are actually approved for funding. The FBIR person will tell the public that the National Institutes of Health under S. 3803/637/67 in 1984 to $3,585,648 in 1985. During that year, NIH increased the number of research dollars allocated to animal research.

The Office of Technology Assessment stated that 50 percent of all such funds are allocated to development—a figure that was less than 45 percent in 1977. NIH is therefore the only agency in the large federal budget that is keeping the new research alive.

As for inspections by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), we have known for years that they meet all Federal standards, branches of the University of California at Berkeley, and even the Agricultural Provisions of the 1972 Animal Welfare Act, which specifically prohibits from being purchased for research purposes without a license from the USDA.

Animal Rights Network, Inc.

Directors: Ronnie Bamberger, Kim Bartlett, Donald Barnes, Synde Brinkman, Joy Bush, Lori Constanzo, Pat Creamer, Evelyn Kimber, Jim Mason, Doug Moss, Jo Shoemaher
A Cute Animal?  
Continued from previous page  
FBI statistics on pain and pain-relieving drugs administered are based entirely on figures written at the end of each year by the research facilities themselves. Surveys of the scientific literature show hundreds of painful experiments that were never reported. Following the Animal Legal Defense Fund alone has documented 144 experiments nationwide that involved unrelieved, unreported pain.  

Finally, if you get into using phrases like "trivial psychological research," be sure to explain that most laboratory psychological experiments involve brain-lesioning, nerve cutting, sensory deprivation, electroshocking, and food deprivation. You need not sound like a biomechanical scientist in order to successfully debate one, but you do need to sound authoritative and knowledgeable.  
—Ann Magoffin  
San Francisco, CA

PROJECT X DISPUTES  
Animal rights advocates are presented with a real dilemma with respect to the protection of Project X. There are some interesting parallels between the production of the movie and the animal research it brings into question. For example, the movie sets were impenetrable to even Roger Fouts (an expert on chimpanzees and animal rights language), who was asked to offer technical advice on the film and resigned because of inaccessibility to other the animals or the trainers. The most depressing aspect is the realization that to some people the deer were justifiable, and they're willing to forget about it in their great enthusiasm for the movie.  

Animal issues today seem to be divided into two categories and classified in terms of their potential for public visibility and the government's possibilities. Labs are out and films are definitely in. To quote the old master, Martin Perkes, "if you can tell the animals' story with a bit of theatricality..." never mind that the deer were tethered for the wolves to devour, and the bear who was taken from the zoo was dropped in the Florida Everglades to provide a spectacular "rescue" by Perkins and Jim Fowler. It's all in the name of conservation, folks, with a strong pro-animal message.  

My involvement with Project X began in early 1986 when animal trainers who had been interviewed for the proposed promotion sent the script to me. They had warned the producers that the script was rough and would be impossible to do with "live nonhumans" animals without rough training methods. Roger Fouts had made similar comments and, on reading the script, I concurred. At that time, Fouts had suggested humans in costumes, but the producers felt it would be "too expensive" (another parallel to research). After the initial interviews with trainers, adaptations for chimps began to appear in surprise-animal magazines across the country.  

Public knowledge about standard training procedures for primates is important in order to prevent future problems and abuses. It is the consensus among primatologists, behaviorists, and animal trainers that some form of "corrective training," "negative reinforcement," "dominance," or force is needed to keep primates (particularly chimpanzees) "in line" during the rigorous working schedule of most film and television productions. It is cost prohibitive for any production company to wait until an animal is ready to perform. Most animals are never ready to perform and must be "corrected.

In an interview connected with Project X, one of the animal trainers stated, "chimpanzees are not nice animals. They have to be dominated to work." A favorite saying ofchimp trainers is, "if you can't beat them, get their attention." As part of the testimony in a U.S. Department of Agriculture court case involving a Hollywood animal company, it was discovered that an orangutan had been repeatedly beaten with a cane and an axe handle because he had stolen a doughnut during the filming of the Clint Eastwood film Any Which Way You Can.  

Another dilemma is presented by the failure of the American Humane Association's rating system to guard against animal abuse in films and TV productions. Though movie sets may be inspected, animal trainers are not required to expose their compounds and their methods to public scrutiny. AHAs Patsy Awards have become a focal point of criticism, with Bob Barker recently resigning as master of ceremonies because trainers who had abused animals were receiving awards. Project X is probably a good film with a strong pro-animal message, but I won't view it. The message would be lost in a flood of memories of conversations about the animals, and especially those chimpanzees who never made it to Primary Primate.

—Pat Derby  
Performing Animal Welfare Society  
1025 9th Street, Suite 226  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

The plot of the movie Project X dealt with animals in laboratories, but the production of the movie itself involved the exploitation of animals for the entertainment industry and the abuse of "surplus" animals bred by zoo.  

Three of the Project X chimpanzees came from zoos. Zoos continually breed excess animals so that the public can be treated to see the "cute" babies. But all too often those cute zoo babies are taken from their natural mothers in order to fill up a glass-fronted "nursery." The humanized animals may be unable to live with their own kind, becoming neurotic and unable to raise their own offspring if they breed.  

Zoos cannot keep all the animals, and may sell them to animal trainers, dealers, laboratories, or other organisations for other situations. Zoos use dealers when they are not able to sell or trade their animals while they are still young. The sale of the two St. Louis Zoo chimpan used in Project X. The "wholes" committee of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums states: "Zoos are not responsible for second sales." Primates are not only the surplus zoo animals. Hoarded animals are bred in great numbers, and the unwanted ones (mostly males) often go to game farms to be shot by so-called hunters.  

How does this fit in with the education/conservation image desired by zoos? The public is unwittingly supporting this cruelty with their tax money.

—Margaret G. Roosevelt  
Roosevelt, MO

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PETER SINGER:

The Man
and the Movement
Ten Years
After the Rise of Animal Liberation

INTERVIEW

BY DAVID MACAULAY

In a free-ranging interview, the author of Animal Liberation discusses with The Animals' Agenda his reasons for opposing violence as a tactic, the pitfalls in the popular "sanctuary of life" position, when native peoples' rights may override animal rights, and why he has difficulty finding intrinsic ethical value in plants and non-sentient entities.

Ten years have passed since the publication of Animal Liberation. Is there anything you would change in the book or your outlook?

The book obviously needs updating in terms of examples and recent events. But with regard to approach, I haven't changed my fundamental philosophical position. Basically, I'm happy with the argument I put forward and don't see any need to change it, although I am less optimistic than I was about the extent to which people are able to be moved by rational argument.

The notion of animal liberation has clearly received a great amount of attention due to your efforts, but the idea has a long way to go before it is realised. How far have we progressed as a movement? How far do we have to go?

I think we have come some distance since I first became interested in the issue. There is much greater public awareness, terms like "animal liberation" which were completely unknown are now understood by the media and much of the public.

There is a greater awareness of the existence of animal suffering, which was certainly limited to the fact that there are stray dogs and cats who suffer and every now and then someone beats a cat. But I don't think there was any idea that systematic abuse of animals occurred in factory farms and laboratories. Anti-vivisectionists were generally considered pretty crazy and had a very small following. I think all that has changed. Scientists, particularly experimenters, recognize that there is an issue that has to be confronted. They certainly didn't 15 years ago.

In terms of actual changes being made, we are seeing specific cases but I am just starting to see some fairly moderate gains. For instance, in Britain the Ministry of Agriculture has announced that it will prohibit the keeping ofveal calves in stalls or crates; veal calves will now be able to move around, walk a few steps, get straw for bedding, and not be kept deliberately on an iron-deficient diet. That is a significant gain for those animals. Of course, similar changes have to be made with pigs and battery hens, and even then we will only have overcome the worst of factory farm abuses. In the case of laboratory animals we are getting very modest reforms. In Britain, the U.S. and Australia, new legislation has been enacted which may, with a bit of luck, cut out some of the worst abuses, but these laws will leave a lot in, and it is difficult to see at this stage how much benefit animals are going to get, if any, from this new legislation.

So in terms of the effects on animals, the distance we have come is really quite small. If we were running along at 30 miles per hour, we'd say we've maybe just finished the first mile or two at the most. But with regard to the great issues into which we cannot start to make progress a little more rapidly, I think quite a bit has been done.

There's a greater diversity of thought as to how we might proceed in the "next" miles of this "race"-if we were to continue with your analogy-though there seems to be a general agreement that there is an ethics and character which the movement assumes in the near future will be critical to its success or survival. What kinds of issues and approaches are being pursued with success in Australia? What's going on there that people in other countries might learn from?

I think that in Australia we're really only going to make significant progress if we can get fairly broad public support. One has to be able to convince the government that there are votes that depend on the animal issue or at least that some marginal votes would vote differently on the animal issue. We often have to use the media to do that even though the media frequently present travesties and simplifications of the issues. At the same time, we don't want to blunder in a way that will lose our forcefulness and the radicalness of our demands. So I think we have to pick our battles and particular issues where we can win public support and yet do so without compromising the ultimate goal. There is no reason it's good to have campaigns about specific issues where you can state your case and win a victory that way. We have been running a campaign against duck hunting. We found that this was an issue on which we could make a reasonable public support, because most of the public does not accept the idea that it's sporting for big men to go out with shotguns and blast away at small defenceless birds. So it was an issue we thought would gain support for an animal liberation position. We aren't just trying to reform duck season, we're trying to abolish it.

To take another example, as a result of the efforts of Australian activists, the Victorian state government recently issued regulations under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act which prohibit the Draize test and the LD50 test. It's not simply the LD50 test which is prohibited, the regulations are quite broadly worded so that they prohibit any test that uses the number of fatalities inflicted by increasing doses of a substance as a measure of the toxicity of the substance. So it's not just an LD50 but an LD40, an LD30 and an LD100 that will all be prohibited by these regulations. They really require people testing substances to some other end point, besides death, as a measure, and this result is likely to be considerably more humane. As a result of this, I don't think that as a result of last minute lobbying, two cancer research institutes were specifically exempted from the regulations.

There has been some recent talk and activity concerning the possibility of involving organized religion in some other end point, besides death, as a measure, and this result is likely to be considerably more humane. As a result of this, I don't think that as a result of last minute lobbying, two cancer research institutes were specifically exempted from the regulations.

What about plants? What kind of status do they have in your view?

I think that plants don't have any intrinsic ethical significance, hard as that may seem to some environmentalists. But by saying that, I don't mean to diminish their great instrumental ethical significance matter value. Obviously they are absolutely vital for every single thing that sustains us. And I don't think there is a real difference between my sitting here, idly licking blades of grass, and plucking the wings of a bird. Everything that environmentalists say about preserving ecosystems, I'm happy to accept until the point where it involves taking value in leaving the natural slope, allowing plants to continue to flourish or streams to continue to flow. I think there is usually tremendous instrumental value in these things, but I can't think of the absence of any sentiment here would be any intrinsic ethical significance in whether the plants continue to exist or not. I think the value of all of these things depends on the sentimentally trivial. The ethic I hold has an end is an extension of a humanistic ethic. It places moral relevance on sentiment and tells us not to be in the business of conscious beings and non-conscious beings.

Continued on next page
This is where some people—deep eco-critics and animal rights activists, for example—criticize your philosophy and most of the animal liberation community for not going far enough or strong enough in its critique, for merely extending traditional notions about ethics and culture rather than calling these ideas into question because they are part of a broader problem.

These people feel that I am failing to challenge the dominant paradigm, that I am not seeing the same kinds of problems that the scientists who are opposing us. In one sense what they’re saying is true, but I think it’s a weaker position rather than the weakness of it. The further you depart from these modes of reasoning, the more problematic the argument becomes and the less likely you are to carry conviction.

What about the potential conflict between animal liberation and native peoples? What do people working on whaling or the fur issue need to be concerned about?

I think basically that we ought to stay away from those areas where we’re coming into conflict with people who really have a survival need or a very deep cultural need. I think it’s a mistake for environmentalists and animal liberationists to focus on the Eskimo killings of bowhead whales when there is so much more whale killing done by the Japanese. I think that if the killing is indeed either necessary for their survival or a central part of their culture, then it just doesn’t seem appropriate for us, given the incredible scale of abuse that Western society has inflicted on animals, to rush over to Alaska and say, “Hey, you people are killing 50 whales a year [or whatever] and you’ve got to stop that.”

Maybe when we’ve cleaned up our own act, then we could start looking at the other species being done. If the native people are killing animals as part of a traditional way of life, I think we really can’t rightfully interfere. However, as soon as the practice becomes commercialized I have less respect for the killing.

You base your views about animal liberation on a being’s capacity to suffer or ability to feel pleasure and pain, rather than on notions like freedom, hierarchy, domination, or violations of rights, liberties, and the like. Why is that?

I think that the things that you mentioned are not really fundamental; they are derivative. I’m certainly happy to talk in terms of rights or freedom or oppression, as part of an effective political rhetoric for reaching people when you don’t have time to explain in detail what your ethic is based upon. But when you do have time, I think the only coherent way of doing so is in terms of interests. For instance, what is it that we must do to oppress a being? I think that it is to ignore the interests of that being in favor of your own. If we have something which, for instance, cannot suffer then you can’t really oppress it. I don’t think trees get oppressed when they are turned into dwarted bonsai specimens, even though they may be very much confined and distorted. But if they are suffering, I don’t regard it as a form of oppression. On the other hand, when you confine chickens or veal calves, it certainly is a form of oppression because they have needs and interests that are completely denied by the confinement they undergo.

Similarly, when we talk about freedoms or rights, I think that you have to somehow cash these out, and the way to do it is in terms of interests. If you are talk about rights, it usually just becomes a matter of swapping definitions as to what rights the beings may have. Lists of human rights have been around for a long time and we have yet to gain any sort of general agreement on them, even when an attempt is made to work out a theory of rights in some detail. When applying it to non-human animals, it becomes very difficult to actually make the connections between the nature of the beings and what rights they have. Tom Regan’s book, The Case for Animal Rights, is an example of that. It certainly is the most thorough and detailed defense of the view that animals have rights. But it is impossible to accept Tom’s description of animals (or mammals over a year old) as subjects of a life, as he calls it—that is, as beings with certain capacities—and yet to ask if it follows from that that they have rights? And if it does, what rights? It’s not at all obvious, and I don’t think Tom really makes the argument in any right form, that the rights he says animals have flow from the fact that they are “subjects of a life.”

One final point I want to make about rights is that they often lead those who advocate them into somewhat paradoxical positions because of the absolutist position that follows from them. I think we can see this in the position of Tom Regan in his book. He says that if you are in a lifeboat situation and have to choose between four people and a dog, you ought to throw the dog out before you throw any people out. And he says that you should do this even if there were a million dogs that you could have thrown out rather than just one person. On the other hand, he says that the dog would have a right not to be experimented upon even if the experiment on the one dog would be the way to cure cancer, which would save millions of people’s lives. Now I don’t believe there ever would be such an experiment, but I think it is a very hard to persist in anything that it would be wrong to do such an experiment if at the same time you held that it’s OK to throw a million dogs out of the lifeboat in order to save one person.

There seems to be a tendency for some people to adopt a view based on what they term the “sanctity of life” position when arguing for animal liberation. What’s your opinion of this line of argument?

Well, Animal Liberation makes it quite clear that the argument is not based on the “sanctity of life” view; it’s based on equal consideration of interests. I elaborated on the principle of equal consideration of interests in other works, like Practical Ethics and Should the Baby Live?, in which I advocated the “sanctity of human life” view. I am not myself a believer in the “sanctity of life” view, whether for humans or nonhumans. I think that life is not the only (or the highest) value. Obviously, no life at all is going to be better than a life that is miserable and full of suffering. I think basically that the notion of the sanctity of life comes out of some religious traditions that I don’t accept. I think you have to make judgements about the nature of the life, the quality of the life, and try to decide the seriousness of ending that life on the basis of this or that judgement.

You’ve objected to the use of certain kinds of violence, claiming that such an activity causes us to lose the “high moral ground” that we supposedly inhabit. Ronnie Lee, a long-time direct action campaigner, and others have challenged this view. Lee has asked, for example, whether one could have used violence to prevent Hitler from causing such enormous suffering, if you could have. An absolute moralist, such as me, says violence seems to be contrary to your general tendency to avoid absolutes. You’re free to say that my ethical position doesn’t allow me to be absolutistic about anything, including a problem of violence. Ronnie Lee has a point in that, and I certainly agree that I’d had the opportunity to assassinate Hitler in the 1930s, and had known what Hitler was like and the suffering that would result. I would certainly have considered it justifiable to assassinate him. No doubt about that. But I think that that is rather different from the situation we are in. I don’t think animal experimentation or factory farming depends on the particular views or practices of any one person. I think what we are trying to change here is an entire system, and the
The Orlando Sentinel
Sunday, April 26, 1987
Mainstream media examines animal rights.

The Beef With Sugar

Many vegetarians may not be aware that powdered white sugar is refined using centrifuges, a substance which the sugar industry says is obtained from "the weathered bones of cattle that have died naturally in India and Argentina." This is a questionable claim, especially since in the same breath it is acknowledged that the bones of cattle are used in the production of gelatin, a beef byproduct obtained from cattle bones and hooves, used in gelatin desserts and some processed foods such as marshmallows. Those seeking alternative investments should avoid products that use centrifuge, date sugar or maple syrup.

Activists Acquitted

On July 1, eight activists from the Last Chance for Animals were acquitted at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) on October 22, 1986. Some of the activists still face similar charges resulting from arrests on April 24, 1984. According to UCLA, the demonstration was "a defense of the university's values against the destruction caused by outside forces and the compromising of the university's integrity." The activists are seeking for their fines to be reduced or waived, but the university has not agreed to their request.

A New Approach

Success Against Cruelty, Inc. is a newly incorporated business formed to help animal advocates promote their cause in a more effective manner. The company is involved in the development of animal welfare programs, and it offers a variety of services to help animal activists. The company's services include educational programs, public relations, and creative marketing. Success Against Cruelty, Inc. is committed to promoting the humane treatment of all animals and to educating the public about the importance of animal welfare.

Burger Dusters

Course Will Examine Animal Research

A course entitled "Animal Tools of Research" is being offered at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) this fall. The course is designed for students interested in animal behavior and research. The course will cover topics such as the ethical and moral implications of animal research, the use of animals in research, and the importance of animal welfare. The course is taught by Dr. Martin Reips, a professor of psychology at UCLA. Students who complete the course will receive credit for a credit.
ANIMAL NEWSLINE

POINT-COUNTERPOINT:

U.C. Davis Fire Sparks Heated Debate

At about 3:00 a.m. on April 16, 1987, a three-alarm fire claimed approximately $5.3 million in damage to a building under construction at the University of California at Davis. The building was owned by the California Department of Food and Agriculture, and was under construction to carry out research on the diseases of animals in farm. The same night as the fire, two mice were killed, and the animal rights activists were painted on several university vehicles; newsletters delivered to the campus were painted

As a result, the Animal Liberation Front (ALF), the next day a call to a local news agency claimed ALF responsibility for the fire. The actions of the ALF in the U.S. and Briti

An embarrassment to the movement

In recent months, much attention has been devoted to the fire that was purportedly set by members of the Animal Liberation Front. The fire damaged a unfinished laboratory building at the University of California at Davis. The editors of the ANIMALS' AGENCY have asked us, Animal Allies—Northern California, to discuss the ramifications of the fire and what actions we have come to know about the fire.

Perhaps our biggest objection to the fire is that it is an embarrassment to the animal rights movement as a whole. While we are in opposition to the use of animals in laboratories, we recognize that this is a sensitive issue. However, the ALF—when, in our opinion, there wasn't very little gain from the loss. The act may have been an attempt to gain attention for the ALF's cause, but it did not achieve its goal.

The question of animal rights is a complex one, and it is important to consider the broader implications of this event. The ALF's actions are not representative of the animal rights movement as a whole, and it is important to continue to work towards a peaceful resolution of this issue.

In conclusion, the fire is an embarrassment to the animal rights movement as a whole. While we are in opposition to the use of animals in laboratories, we recognize that this is a sensitive issue. However, the ALF's actions are not representative of the animal rights movement as a whole, and it is important to continue to work towards a peaceful resolution of this issue.

The Animal Liberation Front claimed responsibility for setting the fire which gutted this building at U.C. Davis, causing $3.5 million in damage.

The debate is now underway. Did the destruction of a veterinary research laboratory by the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) at the University of California at Davis on April 16, 1987 signify the single most destructive blow yet dealt against the seemingly indestructible animal research industry—help or hinder the animal rights movement?

So why is the fire a good thing? Because, very simply, if you subtract the fear that some in the animal rights movement feel (or feel about the animal rights movement), the fire is good. There's no doubt that they would applaud the action—just as prisoners of the Nation would have applauded the destruction of their bonds. The ALF has demonstrated that the animal rights movement is not powerless, that it could be imprisoned there and eventually murdered. The opening of the lab is an attack on a system that has not been in operation for almost a year, costing the state hundreds of thousands of dollars in salaries for staff already hired. The fire will make the construction of animal research facilities more costly for the university in the future, and therefore less likely to be approved by the public. The fire will undoubtedly get the attention of the public, and the animal rights movement will be able to use this attention to its advantage. The fire will also help to deter the construction of similar research facilities in the future.

A victory for the animal rights movement.

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Abuse Charges in the Making of Project X

In our May 1987 cover story, we examined the issue of animal use by the entertainment industry. Special attention was given to the film Project X, released in April, which carries a strong pro-animal message. The plot of the movie involves the use of animals in military research—the biomedical authority and incurs personal risk in order to save chimps from deadly radiation experiments. Project X seemed to many to be the ideal public relations tool for the animal protection movement's effort to bring its message to the mainstream public. However, evidence has surfaced which is causing many to question the film's overall value: several witnesses have asserted that the chimps used in Project X were abused on and off the set, and primate experts are backing up their claims.

For months, rumors had been circulating that the chimps used in the film had been abused. In May, television personality Bob Barker placed an ad in the show business paper Daily Variety, offering a $5,000 reward to encourage witnesses to come forward with evidence of abuse if any existed. The producers of the film, William Parker and Larry Laufer, denied that any abuse had occurred, saying that Barker was conducting a "witch hunt in the media." The American Humane Association (AHA), the organization which monitors the use of animals by the entertainment industry, issued a report on May 20 of its investigation of the allegations, declaring, "The American Humane Association has not found a single instance of abuse that can be substantiated, nor in fact any evidence to support the allegations that the animals were abused in any way." But, the report acknowledged, "It is not in our jurisdiction to supervise or oversee the training, housing, feeding or general care of these animals at the animal trainers' compounds."

On June 18, Barker and the organization Society Against Vivisection held a press conference in Los Angeles to present information they had obtained on the treatment of the chimps in Project X. Paul Mueller, who worked on special effects for the film, said that he had observed first-hand chimps being beaten with blackjacks, clubs and the trainers' fists during training sessions and filming.

In a sworn statement, animal trainer Karl Mitchell described a visit to the animal compound of the late Roy Oyde, head animal trainer for Project X until his death in December 1985, of a severe attack. In November, 1985, said Mitchell, he observed Oyde in a training session with one of the chimpanzees and said to the animal, "Reported Mitchell: "The chimp would not remain seated, so Oyde beat it repeatedly, with a rubber hose filled with sand and rocks. Oyde beat the chimpanzee so violently that the animal defecated and urinated ... I became so disgusted that I left the compound." According to Mitchell, even other animal trainers considered Oyde to be a brutal man. Wallace Satter of Primatology Primates (the Texas primate sanctuary where five of the Project X chimps now reside) said that two of the trainers working on the film told him they had "knocked-down, dragged-out fights" with the chimps in order to establish dominance over them. He reports that the chimps in his care will flinch and cower at any sudden movement, and that one chimp with both upper and lower teeth missing on one side of his jaw must have suffered "considerable physical trauma."

Primateologist Roger Fouts and Donald Barnes of the National Institute of Mental Health, who served as advisors to the producers of the film, early on, objects to the use of chimps in the film, due to the fact that the "two-by-four technique" (beating animals into capitation) is standard practice in training chimpanzees to perform. Fouts suggested the use of humans in costume (a la Tarzan: The Legend of Tarzan), but the producers rejected the idea and selected Oyde as head trainer over Fouts' objections. Subsequent discussions with a stunt double who had observed chimps being beaten "confirmed my worst suspicions," said Fouts. After producer Parkes reportedly told him that "the ends justified the means," Fouts refused to have his name associated with the film in its closing credits. Donald Barnes says he never witnessed any abuse, but expressed deep disappointment that a film with such a strong pro-animal message may have incited cruel treatment of animals (see this issue's letters column).

AHA published a review of Project X rating it "acceptable" and highly recommended. However, the Humane Society of the U.S. conducted an investigation, and concluded that "the chimps used in the film were, in fact, physically abused throughout approximately five months of training leading up to production ... Even if the images on screen are positive, even if there are no incidences of cruelty on the set, we, as an animal protection organization, cannot simply close our eyes to the suffering of animals that occur before and after the cameras roll." A growing coalition of animal protection organizations, headed by the Society Against Vivisection, is calling for AHA to be relieved of its responsibility for monitoring animals used by the entertainment industry. As we go to press, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office is considering whether or not to file cruelty charges against the trainers and producers of Project X.

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PRO-ANIMAL ADVERTISEMENTS:
Putting Animal Rights Before the Public

Much attention of late has been given to the idea of using advertising as a means of communicating animal rights issues to the general public. Frustration has been expressed over the fact that a number of animal protection groups spend considerable time, energy and resources "preaching to the converted." Many animal advocates are now calling for their organizations to launch aggressive media campaigns aimed at reaching wider audiences.

Traditionally, many pro-animal groups have regarded advertising as too expensive, preferring instead to use public service announcements (PSAs), which are aired free of charge for nonprofit groups by television and radio stations. But PSAs are limited in their effectiveness. Though most PSAs are accepted by the stations, announcements deemed too controversial may be rejected. And, PSAs take a back seat to paid advertising, with the result that the announcements are usually aired during off hours when few people are watching or listening. Paid television and radio ads, however, are usually longer than PSAs and are aired at specified times.

Animal advocates have begun to counter the constant barrage of ads pushing meat, furs, animal-tested cosmetics, and other products of exploitation on consumers by sponsoring innovative print, billboard and television advertising campaigns featuring strong pro-animal messages. By no means do the only examples of these efforts, two anti-fur campaigns (in California and Colorado), may suggest some useful strategies for groups and individuals wishing to make greater use of advertising on behalf of animals.

Animal activist Carol Burnett began working in June, 1986 to place the well-known Greenpeace/Lynx anti-fur ad on television and billboards in the Sacramento, Calif. area. The billboard ad depicts a woman dragging a bloody fur coat, with the caption, "It takes up to 40 dumb animals to make a fur coat, but only one to wear it." Both of the two billboard advertising firms in Sacramento rejected the ad because of its graphic message. The one-minute television version of the Greenpeace/Lynx ad, showing a fashion show audience being splattered with blood which drips from the models' fur coats, was rejected outright by the three

ANIMAL NEWSLINE:

It takes up to 40 dumb animals to make a fur coat.

But only one to wear it.

Rocky Mountain Humane Society

Above: This anti-fur billboard campaign made headlines across the nation and sparked local interest in wildlife issues. Left: The hard-hitting Greenpeace/Lynx television ad aired recently in Sacramento, Calif.

Continued on next page
Continued from previous page

move into television advertising seem to be station approval, cost of running the ad, and lack of availability of strong ads examining controversial issues. According to Burnett, the best source at this time for hard-hitting animal rights commercials is the national office of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), D.C. Box 45256, Washington, D.C. 20053. PETA holds the U.S. rights to the Greenpeace/Lynn animal rights ad. The Voice of Nature Network (VNN), founded this past March, is getting ready to produce ads, commercials, and a specially-developed children's series for TV. Interested readers may contact VNN at P.O. Box 66, Westport, CT 06881.

In the Denver, Colo. area, the Rocky Mountain Humane Society (RMHS) embarked on its Fur-Free Colorado campaign (patterned after Trans-Species Unlimited's campaign for a Fur-Free America) this past March. The campaign was begun in the spring in order to be able to reach the public repeatedly with the anti-fur message over a period of months, so that when the "fur season" begins in the fall, consumers will have been thoroughly exposed to the anti-fur message. A major component of the campaign in the Greenpeace/Lynn billboard ad. Only one outdoor advertising firm in the area would accept the ad; the others refused to carry it. The reason given was "What is more in "bad taste": torturing and killing animals for profit, or denouncing such activity?"

A press conference announcing the campaign was held on March 17. When the billboard ad went up at a busy street corner in Denver on the next day, it created quite a stir in the local media, and United Press International did a story on the campaign which ran in newspapers all over the country. RMHS was deluged with telephone calls for weeks following the billboard's appearance. The overwhelming majority of the callers praised

Taking Action for Endangered Species
An International Project Grows Out of One Activist's Concern

Traveling the world as a Pan Am flight attendant since 1979, wildlife enthusiast Glenn Day saw firsthand the carnage involved in the international trade in living and dead animals. Documenting the problems of the world's most endangered creatures, he returned to public education - specifically the traveling public. He noticed, "Why not start at major international airports through which tens of millions of people pass each year on their way to foreign cities and countries? In many of these foreign destinations, endangered wildlife products are still readily available for tourists to purchase." Indeed, each year Americans bring into the country millions of wild animals or products made from them. Such imports include over $8 million worth of decorative, live, 125 million tropical fish, 420,000 live reptiles, 9 million reptile skins or products, 700,000 live birds, and 20,000 live primates. Bolstered by a slogan "Endangered - Extinction is Forever," Day began developing a plan to set up exhibits at major international airports to teach travelers about the problems facing wildlife today as well as laws prohibiting the importation, sale, or exchange of any endangered animals or their products into or out of the United States. By displaying actual animal products that had already been seized by authorities in U.S. Park and Wildlife Agents at airport customs lines, he hoped to emphasize the easily ignored warning messages issued by government agencies. In addition, accompanying text and graphic photographs of animal abuse were provided to help people understand the suffering experienced by an animal before his or her beautiful skin, fur, shell, tooth, or feather became a tacky souvenir or piece of art. Not as obvious as the cheetah skin coat or the rhinoceros horn hat rack are the greater number of products that go unnoticed and unquestioned by the unwary consumer - products such as a taxidermy carved from the shell of the hawksbill sea turtle, or a perfume derived from the scales of an Asian newt. Day's project has given birth to a new organization, the Endangered Wildlife Foundation. Believing in the grassroots approach, he claims, "If there were organizations that would focus on just one wildlife problem at a time, the problems could be solved very fast. My entire focus is on producing airport exhibits for education." Residents who have recently passed through the airports in Honolulu, Los Angeles, San Francisco, or Tokyo have probably seen Day's endangered wildlife exhibits.

Glenn Day visits one of his airport exhibits.
Predator Prejudice

BY ROBERT J. JESSUP

What exactly is a predator? Most would say a wolf, bobcat, lion, or coyote. Few would mention birds, snakes, or whales—let alone primates or hooved mammals. Predation occurs whenever one living organism kills another for food. The broadest interpretation of the word would include some forms of grazing and the consumption of seeds. However, the most widely accepted definition of a predator is an animal who survives by feeding on other animals. There are several reasons why the general public visualizes a four-legged mammal with mouth agape and canine teeth drooping with blood as a typical predator. Members of the wild canine and feline families have a hypnotic aura about them, being sleek, powerful, and elusive. Tales of supernatural abilities have been woven around them for centuries. Undoubtedly, the major sources of many prejudices against predators are the stories told by those who kill them: the ranchers, hunters, trappers, and even some biologists working for organizations or governments with monetary interests in predator elimination.

A common argument for predator control states that the predators will deplete a more desirable (to humans) species' population. The fact is that the abundance of the predators' prey determines how many individuals of the predatory species can survive in any given area. A wild feline or canine may feed for several days on a deer kill. Rodents, birds, rabbits, insects, berries, and other types of vegetation are included in their diets at various times of the year. A carniverous predator is seldom successful in every attempt made at taking prey. Sick, old, and injured animals are the ones the predator usually kills, the reason being that an animal in prime condition will require much more effort to capture than a weak one. The sick or old ones lag behind the group. They may be unable to keep up with the rest, or their behavior may cause them to stand out amongst the herd. If the genetically defective animals survive and reproduce within a healthy population of animals (as they do more often in areas with no natural predators), the genes of the “inferior” individuals are passed on, weakening the entire population.

Few wolves or cougars exist today in what was their former range. In many of these areas, the deer population has temporarily increased to a number too large for the habitat to support, which may lead to disease and starvation. Though the population would eventually stabilize to balance with habitat and food availability, hunting is generally proclaimed as the only remedy to “keep the population down.” The ones the hunters want are the best specimens. But they generally kill at random, which may leave the sick or less-than-prime animals to propagate and pass on inferior genes or diseases. Leaving the predatory animals in the ecosystem would allow the natural process of selection to continue; but, instead, humans kill the predators to artificially boost the population of “game” species (like deer) for hunting.

Admittedly, there are occasions in which some animals will prey upon domestic or livestock animals. Those predators are usually found to be old, diseased, or otherwise incapable of capturing their natural prey. They turn to hunting slow-moving cows and sheep, or confined animals who provide an easier meal. Instead of tracking down the cow animal responsible for livestock losses, farmers and ranchers usually find it preferable to begin a regime of selective poisoning and trapping—on their land—or on the open range—killing hundreds of innocent individuals, and possibly missing the ones actually responsible for livestock attacks. The illogical of “civilized” humans has led to the destruction of whatever has been in their way, or whatever they cannot own. Humans are the top predators—consumers of everything, but we are beginning to suffer the consequences. The “typical” predators and their environment are all but gone, surviving—if at all—in remote areas and refuges with a doubtful future. Their former prey may be overpopulated, yet bred from increasingly poor gene pools. The poisons linger in the soil, and traps lie in silent wait to snatch lives from the wild.

Bob Jessup is a biologist who teaches mammalogy and predator ecology at a college in Illinois. He is also president of Awareness of Wildlife and Animal Rights Educators (AWARE), P.O. Box 1954, Des Plaines, IL 60017.

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NEWSPRINT

EDITED BY LESLIE PARDUE

Religious animal sacrifices violate state laws in Montana. Montana Attorney General Bob Butworth. Butworth was asked for a ruling after the City Council of Hamilton, in response to a complaint from a member of the community, held a public sacrificial ceremony involving the killing of live sheep for meat purposes. The Attorney General ruled that the practice was illegal, and acopy of the ruling was sent to the city council. The council has appealed the decision, and the case is now before the state court.

Animal activists protest at the University of California. Animal activists have been protesting at the University of California for several weeks, after the university decided to build a new animal research facility. The activists have been picketing outside the university, and have also held a protest march inside the campus. The university has responded by increasing security measures, and has called the police to advise them on how to handle the situation.

The battle is about to rage over the fate of the 34 remaining Silver Spring monkeys. The monkeys are housed at the University of California's Department of Biological Sciences. The university plans to use the monkeys in a variety of experiments, including research on the effects of radiation on the brain. The activists are concerned about the treatment of the animals, and are calling for their release from captivity.

The Soviet Union announced in May that it is permanently ending its commercial whale hunt, and is now conducting a deepwater hunt in the Arctic. The Soviet Union has been one of the world's largest whaling nations, but the government has decided to phase out commercial whaling due to the growing concerns over the impact on the environment.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has issued a safety bulletin to all airlines regarding the use of drones in areas where they are prohibited. The FAA has received reports of drones being flown in restricted areas, and has warned that such behavior could result in fines and other penalties. The bulletin also reminds pilots of the rules regarding drone use, and recommends that they avoid flying in areas where drones are not allowed.

The University of California at San Francisco has been using animals in experiments for many years. In 2002, the university was requested by the state legislature to develop a new facility to house animals. The university responded by building a new facility, which was opened in 2004. The facility is designed to meet the needs of the university's research programs, and is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities for animal care and welfare.

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NEWS SHORTS

An international campaign against the fur trade is being launched under the auspices of the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA). On May 29, delegates from 17 nations met in Vienna, Austria, to discuss the fur issue. WSFA has resolved to commit its resources to the campaign, which it estimates will cost $450 million. The campaign will be coordinated from WSFA's London office. For more information, write to WSFA, 23 Northwark Park, London SE1 2PB, England, or call (41) 21 369-0044.

A calf-roping ban is being considered by the city council of Fitchburg, Wisconsin, to protect the town from the dangers of calf-roping. The council is concerned about the dangers of calf-roping, which can result in serious injuries or death. The council has discussed the issue at length and is expected to make a decision soon.

The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) recently carried out two actions in California. In addition to the fire at the University of California at Davis (UCD), the ALF also burned down a government building holding pens, reported elsewhere in this issue. The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) is a group of activists who believe that animals have rights and should be treated with respect. They have carried out actions to protest the treatment of animals in laboratories and by the meat industry.

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a rule that will establish new standards for the handling of hazardous waste. The rule establishes new requirements for the storage, handling, and disposal of hazardous waste, and is expected to reduce the risk of exposure to chemicals.

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GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER.

Grau-Hall Scientific dubbed "animal killer" by ALF.

The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) recently carried out two actions in California. In addition to the fire at the University of California at Davis (UCD), the ALF also burned down a government building holding pens, reported elsewhere in this issue. Grau-Hall Scientific is a company that has been accused of using animals in their research. The ALF has called for a boycott of the company.

The US Department of Commerce has been dealing with environmental and animal protection organizations over the provision of permits for slaughter and the use of animals in laboratories. The agency has been accused of issuing permits for the slaughter of animals without first considering the environmental impact of the slaughter.

A new law passed by the US Congress requires that all new buildings be designed to be "zero-emission" buildings. The law is expected to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide emissions from new buildings and is a step towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Josie's battle against lead poisoning. A baby girl was born with lead poisoning and her parents are fighting to get her the treatment she needs. The baby is the first case of lead poisoning in the state to be diagnosed in a newborn.

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A CRACK IN THE SHELL
The Violence in the Egg Carton

BY BRADLEY S. MILLER

The outside of the huge windowless building resembled an industrial warehouse. If not for the ground outside, littered with small white feathers, there would have been no sign of the life contained therein. Upon entering the building, my eyes paused slowly down long rows of cages—cages literally full of birds. I could not see where the rows ended. They appeared to join somewhere far off in the distance—it was like looking down the center of railroad tracks. This building, one of several like it on the property, contained 275,000 hens. Somewhat overwhelmed by the sheer number of creatures surrounding me, I focused my attention on the cages directly in front of me.

Each small cage held between five and seven birds. The hens looked as if they had spent the last month in an automatic clothes dryer. Barely able to move, they were crawling on each other. All were incessantly striking out in frustration, pecking at the only thing available: each other.

As I came to realize on this and subsequent investigations, laying hens are not just kept in cages. They are kept in hell.

From Chick to Chicken Soup

It's a journey for egg-laying chickens begins at the hatchery. Virtually all egg factories buy the White Leghorn strain of hens. Thanks to the wonders of poultry genetics, the laboratory-bred White Leghorns can pump out over 250 eggs per year. To keep commercial egg factories supplied with hens, U.S. hatcheries maintain a breeding flock of over three million hens and a lesser number of roosters. The breeding flock creates fertile eggs which are collected and placed in incubators. Chicks will emerge from the eggs in about 21 days. This is one birthday worth missing.

When the chicks hatch, their first contact with another lifeform is not with a mother hen, but with a human employee as a "chick-puller." The chicks are used for a commercial strain of hens. Thanks to the wonders of poultry genetics, the laboratory-bred White Leghorns can pump out over 250 eggs per year. In the time it takes a 2,000 newborn male chicks will be thrown away without the slightest acknowledgment that they are alive.

Life's journey for the female is longer and more severe. To prepare them for what lies ahead, the female chicks are injected with antibiotics and anticancer drugs. This will not be their last hit. What White Leghorns have in the ability to produce eggs, they lack in hardiness. Additional drugs will be required throughout their lives to counter stress and the disease-ridden conditions of the egg factory.

From the hatchery, the day-old female chicks, called "pullet", are sent to the egg factories. For the first 18 weeks after arriving there, the chicks are kept in "grow-houses." They remain there until old enough to lay eggs. Until recently, even factory-farmed hens were raised on the ground until they reached egg-laying age. Now the majority are kept in cages even in the grow-houses. Today's laying hens never touch the ground.

Drugs are an ongoing aspect of the raising of factory-farmed hens. Keeping hundreds of thousands of birds together in a "controlled environment" creates a volatile disease control situation. A company cannot wait for the symptoms of contagious disease to appear or it may be too late. With virtually no resistance of their own, disease spreads like wildfire and can kill the entire flock. Intractable drugs are much too labor intensive. Instead, drugs are administered through the water system, by spraying the air throughout the entire facility with antibiotics to be inhales by the birds.

After they have been in the grow-house for about four weeks, the chicks are debeaked. Debeaking is a painful procedure whereby much of the chick's sensitive upper beak is seared off with a hot blade. A man's hands grab the birds by their heads and place their heads under a small guillotine-like press. The cutting is over in a few seconds. The pain is not. The purpose of debeaking is to limit the damage the beak can inflict on one another while living in abnormally cramped quarters. In addition to causing pain to the birds, debeaking has drawbacks from a production point of view. A small portion of the chicks simply cannot and do not survive the shock of the procedure. The minimum-wage employees who burn tiny beaks off chicks all day are not known for their care and precision work. Inevitably, some of the chicks have their tongues inadvertently burned during debeaking, or they may suffer other facial injuries which lead to certain death. All debeaked birds suffer a setback in growth and development as they recover.

Continued on next page
Eggbusiness

The egg industry represents the most pervasive use of factory farming. "Eggbusiness," the name Jim Mason has given to the egg industry, is an acute example of highly concentrated animal production getting out of hand for a moment the animal cruelty and human health hazards caused by battery cage systems. The egg factories have had a devastating economic impact on American agriculture and the European traditional family farm.

Over 95 percent of the eggs in the U.S. come from factories which hold captive anywhere from a quarter million to five million hens each. A battery cage operation with two million birds will employ a dozen minimum-wage workers. The same number of birds could provide livelihoods for hundreds of small farmers using traditional free-range or loose housing methods. This, indeed, was the case before such farmers were squeezed out by factory farms. In a climate where consumers are ignorant about farming practices, there is no way for the smaller, less abusive family operations to survive.

Despite its domination of the market, eggbusiness is in serious trouble. Ironically, its biggest threat has not been from health organizations, consumer groups, nor humane societies. Its biggest problem has been its own greed. The egg corporations have fallen victim to the same "irrational exuberance at any cost" practices which snuffed out our small farm competition. The egg industry, like the dairy industry, is in a trap of overproduction. The "bigger is better" world of factory egg production is destroying its own industry by flooding the market with poor quality, factory-produced eggs. A staggering 4.2 billion dozen eggs were produced in 1985, and the volume has risen since then. Now even the largest of the egg farmers see their own original production costs. Egg prices are still dropping. Humpty Dumpy is taking a great fall.

The Egg Business Association (EBA), the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), and other groups are campaigning to publicize and stop abuses of factory egg production. Animal Allies in Los Angeles has spent nearly two years battling the infamous Egg City. Our movement's campaign against this inhumanity to its inferior sentient consumer demand for non-factory-farmed eggs is growing rapidly.

A cage with floor space the size of the front page of a typical newspaper will hold from six to eight hens. And cages with floor space the size of the front page of a typical newspaper will hold from six to eight hens. The long rows of battery cages are commonly stacked four tiers high. A token piece of metal lies between tiers. Despite this, each level of birds (except the top level) is splattered by the excrement falling from the levels above. In contrast to the filthy, ill-designed waste situation, the system of egg collection can be remarkably efficient. These sharp dispensers are but one example of the egg industry's scrambled priorities. As soon as a hen lays her egg, it rolls out of the cage and onto a conveyer belt. Here the egg joins thousands of others. The eggs are moved automatically, yet carefully, out of the building and into an adjacent cleaning area. In similar fashion, the eggs are moved automatically through the building in troughs that line the front of each long row of cages. Water is piped in through overhead feeders. Not all battery cage operations are fully automated, but most of the larger facilities are. Fully automated or not, the treatment of the birds and express other natural behaviors. The birds are not debeaked, and are provided with perches for sleeping and nest boxes for laying eggs. They receive food and water free of the antibiotics needed in battery operations.

Eggs and Illness

According to a report by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) issued April 10, 1997, investigations over the past several years suggest that many of them are associated with egg consumption. The disease- associated eggs were all USDA Grade A, and were probably eaten raw or undercooked.

Eggs can become contaminated with the salmonella bacteria in several ways. The feces of the laying hens may contaminate egg shells, and the internal contents of the egg may occasionally be contaminated by organisms entering through hairline cracks in the shell. In addition, if there is an ovarian infection in the hen, an egg yolk may become infected with microorganisms before the shell forms.

The threat of serious illness—dysentery disease as well as the heart disease that has already been linked to the consumption of high cholesterol foods—presents another good reason for giving up eggs in addition to other animal products.
Eggbusiness
Continued from previous page

use eggs should buy only those laid by uncaged hens. Nest Eggs are available in just a few cities at this time. Other eggs may take a little effort to locate. Slogans such as “Farms Fresh”, “Natural”, “Happy”, and “No Hormones” are utterly meaningless as guidelines for purchasing eggs. Eggs from uncaged hens are most likely found at natural food stores. As a general rule of thumb, iff you can buy eggs in a carton marked “No Antibiotics” are probably from uncaged hens (hens and roosters need room to roam, and going without antibiotics requires less stress, more considerate animal husbandry.)

Ask your local store to carry eggs from uncaged chickens. As consumer demand grows, more laying hens will be raised in “loose housing”, and fewer of them will be victimized by battery caging. There are very few real “free range” eggs commercially available in this country. Though there are many small local members, their eggs are rarely available beyond a particular neighborhood.

1. Sharply reduce or eliminate eggs from your diet. For obvious reasons, a public campaign should focus on the battery caging of laying hens. Considering that most Americans are not ready to give up eating eggs altogether, it is important to push for less abusive methods of production. But let’s not overlook the equally obvious: we can all live quite well without eggs.

We should be willing to acknowledge to ourselves that eating eggs, even those from humanely raised hens, is more humane killing. Chickens have a normal life span of between 15 and 20 years, but most are killed between the ages of 15 and 20 months to make room for younger, more productive hens. Cannibalism can be a problem in any operation that keeps a significant population of chickens in close quarters, so hens may still be dewaxed in loose housing systems. And for the countless millions of male chicks born in hatcheries each year, there is no difference between battery caging and loose housing—they are mercilessly killed before seeing light.

The thought of giving up eggs is not an appealing one for most people, even for some of those who have already stopped eating meat. It restricts food selection, especially when having meals prepared by family or friends, or when eating out at restaurants. One way to make a transition easier is not to worry so much about a very small amount of egg used as an ingredient in something. Many start by simply eliminating egg dishes (omelets and scrambled, fried, boiled, etc.), and by eliminating eggs in their own cooking.

Diet is like most everything; we each have to find our own way. It finally comes down to a question of priorities. What comes first: the chickens or the eggs?—B.S.M.
Planet Earth is a Living Organism

By Michael J. Cohen, Ed.D.

From space, I get the definite, but indescribable feelings that this my maternal planet somehow actually breathing—faintly sighing in her sleep—ever so slowly winking and wimping in the benign light of the sun, while her muscles-like clouds writhe in their own rhythmic tempos as veritable tissues of a thing alive.

—Guy Murchie

It functions like a warm-blooded plant cell—a living organism. He observes that, in the long run, the active and inert entities of the mineral interact as a single organic entity in a cell. Only when he separates them in time or focus do they assume different properties including life and death. In contrast, they create the optimum environment for their cell's life.

The scientist concludes that the blue rock is a mineral, but it is also alive. It appears to be a hologram of the third planet from the sun. He names the blue substance Earth, because it does what our planet does.

I wrote the above fictional dramatization encapsulating recent "Gaia Hypothesis" science because it affirms my observation that planet Earth is a living organism. My findings come not as an astronomer, but from 19 years of constantly living outdoors, as an independent scientist and educator living in a learning community that camps out year-round. Although some people believe I have been in the woods too long, the state of the environment and our attitudes toward nature show that too many of us have not been outside long enough.

Whether the Earth is alive or dead is not simply an academic matter. We treat things we perceive as living differently than we do those we believe to be dead or inert. If the Earth is a living organism, it's the only one of its kind we know. Therefore, we might protect it under the Endangered Species Act. As far back as the written and spoken word allow us to go, there have been cultures that thought of the planet as Mother Earth, a living embodied being. Some cultures have pronounced the earth inert or dead because we mostly measure the earth against our artificially stabilized standards, not nature's ever-changing reality.

The essence of the matter is that planet Earth as a whole has been found to organize, perpetuate, and regenerate itself.

Studying other planets' atmospheres for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) renowned British scientist James Lovelock to formulate the Gaia hypothesis, named for the Greek earth goddess. Lovelock reasoned that the gases in a planet's atmosphere should interact according to the laws of chemistry and physics to form stable compounds and settle into an equilibrium. The Martian atmosphere is just such a tame environment. However, the earth's atmosphere defies this natural expectation: gases coexist when they should combine, and elements and compounds appear in gaseous form in the earth's atmosphere and settle on the surface. The only explanation for this wild disequilibrium was the continuous emission of gases and energy into the atmosphere by the earth's plants, animals, and bacteria. Particularly struck by the vast amounts of free oxygen in the terrestrial air, Lovelock wondered why this highly volatile gas did not react with other elements such as carbon to form stable compounds like carbon dioxide. A dominant gas in the atmospheres of other planets, carbon dioxide accounts for only three-hundredths of one percent (0.03%) of our air. And despite extreme differences in the globe's chemical composition, what keeps the earth's atmosphere oxygen level at approximately 21%? If it shifted a few percent, life on earth would burn out of control—a few points lower and most organisms would die.

The ocean's salt content, 3.5 percent by weight, remains roughly constant—while runoff from the continents dumps more than 500 megatons of salt into the water every year. Water never to climb, when it reached six percent, virtually all ocean-dwelling organisms would die.

The earth's average surface temperature has remained relatively constant at between 50 to 68 degrees Fahrenheit even during the Ice Ages, yet over the course of approximately 3.5 billion years of life on earth, the sun's output of energy may have increased by as much as 30 percent. Receiving just a two percent increase in solar output should—theoretically—cause the earth's seas to boil, and an average temperature rise of two degrees would prohibit life. Lovelock claims these life-terminating changes are prevented by planetary temperature controls such as albedo, the reflective surface of the earth which changes with increased or decreased cloud, snow, and vegetation cover. Regulation of atmospheric carbon dioxide content also regulates planet temperature because carbon dioxide prevents long-wave heat escape into space (the greenhouse effect).

Lovelock concludes that the climatic and chemical properties of the earth seem always to have been optimal for life. Unlike other planets, earth's waters neither freeze nor boil away. For this to happen by chance is virtually impossible.

Scientists calculate that all the carbon buried in oil, coal, and limestone deposits equals that which would combine with atmospheric oxygen to form carbon dioxide. They postulate that, like the other planets, the earth once had a carbon dioxide atmosphere. Like that of a living organism, the earth's plant and animal "organ system" removed carbon from the air. By regulating the planet's geology, the earth's life force burned the carbon away from the atmosphere. Today we release it as we burn coal and oil. And our acid rain releases it from limestone. Thus, our modern lifestyle changes the atmosphere's makeup and temperature.

Recent findings indicate that the planet can no longer bury carbon as fast as our industrial society produces it as a waste product. The predicted long-term effects of modern human activities include triggering a new glacial age or a readjustment of the planet's organism's metabolism—to our discomfort or demise.

The essence of the matter is that planet Earth as a whole has been found to organize, perpetuate, and regenerate itself. This demonstrates that the planet has some level of communication and sensation—the attributes of life.

Although scientific methods place organisms with common ancestry in the same family, subjectively Western thinking habits prevent us from scientifically

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The ANIMALS' AGENDA
FUR... The Look That Kills
Mounting a Media Campaign

BY KIM STURLA

Kim Sturla and companion

SPECIFICS IN YOUR FUNDRAISING. FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU NEED MONEY FOR BILLBOARDS, SHOW PROSPECTIVE DONORS THE DESIGNS, AND TELL THEM THE EXACT COSTS FOR GETTING THEM PRINTED AND POSTED. THEY MIGHT BE MORE INCLINED TO CONTRIBUTE IF THEY KNOW JUST WHERE THE MONEY IS GOING.

SLANG/LOGO: GIVE PLENTY OF THOUGHT TO DEVELOPING A SLANG AND DESIGNING A LOGO. THEY SHOULD SUM UP WHAT YOUR CAMPAIGN IS ABOUT, AND ALSO BE CATCHY ENOUGH TO GRAB THE PUBLIC'S ATTENTION. OUR SLOGAN WAS "FURS... THE LOOK THAT KILLS." WE WANTED A TANGENT, "CLEAN YOUR CLOSET AND CLEAR YOUR CONSCIENCE," URGING FUR OWNERS TO TURN THEIR FURS IN TO OUR SHELTER, AND COLLECTED 50 FAUX AND 75 PIECES OF FUR-TRIMMED APPAREL. WE WANTED IT TO BE IMPORTANT адрес the issue of "closeted" fur because of the large, number of people who feel it's wasteful to just pack up their fur coats and never wear them again. WE TRIED TO POINT OUT THE FLAWS IN THAT RATIONAL, TELLING THEM THAT EVERY TIME THEY WEAR FUR, THEY'RE MAKING A PUBLIC STATEMENT THAT THEY FIND IT ACCEPTABLE TO WEAR DEAD ANIMAL SKINS. THEY ARE PERPETUATING THE FASHION. GRANTED, THE DAMAGE IS ALREADY DONE, AND THE ANIMALS ARE DEAD. BUT THE MORAL MISTAKES OF BUYING A FUR IS COMPOUNDING BY ANY ENCOURAGEMENT TO OTHERS TO WEAR THEM.

SPONSOREES: DELEGATE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SPEAKING FOR THE ORGANIZATION TO ONE OR TWO PEOPLE. THEY SHOULD HANDLE ALL MEDIA CONTACTS, KNOWING THE NEWS THOROUGHLY AND BEING PREPARED TO ARTICULATE THE PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS OF THE CAMPAIGN.

MEDIA LIST: CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESS OF AN ANTI-FUR CAMPAIGN IS AN EXTENSIVE AND UP-TO-DATE MEDIA LIST. IF YOU DON'T ALREADY HAVE ONE, TRY CONTACTING OTHER ANIMAL OR NONPROFIT GROUPS AND SEE IF THEY WILL GIVE YOU A COPY OF THEIRS. CHECK WITH A LOCAL PRESS CLIPPER AND OBTAIN A MEDIA GUIDE (THE UNITED WAY, FOR EXAMPLE) COMPLETES SUCH A LIST, AND IT IS AVAILABLE). IF YOU CAN'T SECURE A GOOD LIST FROM ANOTHER ORGANIZATION, BEGIN PHONING THE LOCAL MEDIA. CALL EVERY RADIO AND TELEVISION STATION, AND EVERY NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE IN YOUR AREA. FIND OUT WHAT GIVES NEWS RELEASES, AND WHO HANDLES PUBLIC RELATIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS. ASK ABOUT TALK SHOWS—WHEN THEY ARE AIREDF THE NAMES OF THE HOST AND PRODUCER, THE FORMAT, AND SO ON. ALWAYS KEEP IN MIND THAT YOUR USE WILL MAKE OR BREAK YOUR CAMPAIGN. IF YOU DON'T ATTRACTIONS ATTENTION, MUCH OF YOUR WORK WILL HAVE BEEN IN VAIN.

Develop a good sales pitch as to why your campaign is a critical issue. Our efforts resulted in numerous newspaper articles, and an interview on a major television talkshow.

ACTIVISTS' AGENDA

September 1997

Media Packets: A complete press packet is essential. It is your vehicle for educating the news media. Provide them with adequate background information, and present it in an interesting and easy-to-follow format. They should be able to adapt or include your information in their own articles or stories without doing further research. We sent out our press packets to news directors, public affairs directors, radio talk show hosts, producers of radio and television interview shows, assignment desk editors, and reporters who had covered animal issues before—about 130 in all. We provided them to local legislators.

Our packets included: personalized, typed letters (with the help of a word processor, of course); several press releases (one general information release on the campaign, another on a seminar we were holding, and one on our "Clean Your Closet and Clear Your Conscience" drive); a poster, bumper sticker, and buttons; a seven-page position paper on fur; informational brochures on fur (like those published by Trans-Species Unlimited and the International Society for Animal Rights); and a business card.

Take care to package your material nicely. You want the recipients to take notice of the information inside. We purchased bright red, glossy folders, and imprinted the fronts with our slogan and logo. The folders were mailed in a solid black envelope with address labels that also displayed our slogan and artwork.

Follow-Up: A week after the media packets were mailed, we began our follow-up phone calls. We asked if they would like additional information. We urged them to do a story on fur or, in the case of talk shows, asked them to consider having us appear on their show to discuss the issues.

Billboards: We contacted the outdoor advertising firms in our area and requested availability of public service space for nonprofit organizations. Of course, the choice locations weren't available, but they did give us ten spots—each one to be used for one month. We spent $12 by 25-foot posters printed at roughly $500 apiece. The only other cost incurred in connection with the billboards was the labor fee of about $80 per board for hanging the posters. The total cost for the ten billboards was just under $1300.

Bumper Stickers and Buttons: We distributed a thousand stickers and buttons free. The approximate cost of the buttons was $300, and the bumper stickers cost about the same.

Public Programs: We held a "Facts on Furs" evening seminar for the public, drawing a crowd of about 60. It was free, and all attendees received an anti-fur information packet. We had a panel discussion, and showed the Greenpeace/lynx anti-fur commercial and a video produced by The Fur Busters. We also designed, set and releasing a steel-jaw trap, and had all the fur we had collected on display.

Evaluation: It's critical that you maintain good files throughout the campaign on everything from the campaign's implementation. Use all of this information when you evaluate your project. Monitor community and staff response to the campaign, particularly coverage, seminar attendance, and feedback back. Rate your campaign components for success or failure. Taking note of everything possible will make your next campaign stronger and easier to organize.

For a copy of our campaign materials, contact Susan Reagan, Fur Campaign Coordinator, Peninsula Humane Society, 12 Airport Blvd., San Mateo, CA 94401. Start working, and good luck!

Kim Sturla is Director of Society Services at Peninsula Humane Society.

Plenty!

Wealth alternatives to animal research exist, but they use the same big minds behind available technology. We sponsored programs to develop and apply alternative research methods. To learn more, you can write:

NATIONAL ANTI-VIVISECTION SOCIETY
53 W. HOUSTON BLVD., CHICAGO, IL 60604

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Do you want to help end distrosection and other forms of animal exploitation in schools? Send for NAABE's students and teacher biology brochures. Each brochure provides materials and information for use in science classes. Each is free.

For free samples and quantity prices, contact the National Association for the Advancement of Human Education, Box 362, East Hadlock, CT 06423. 203-434-8666.
Do Native Americans Have Hunting “Rights”?

By Raini Sequoya

The December of 1983, James E. Billie, chairman of the Seminole Indian tribe in Florida, shot and killed a rare Florida panther. On April 6, 1987, Billie was charged by the Justice Department with violating the Endangered Species Act. But his attorney, Bruce Rogers, argues that hunting panthers is part of the Seminole's religious and cultural traditions, a freedom protected under the Constitu­tion and by treaty. Rogers holds that the government is trying to punish Chief Billie for the sins of the "white man." He claims, "We find it a bit of an irony that the panther is endangered by the white man's commercial development of the Everglades, and yet Chief Billie is the only person ever to be prosecuted for this offense." Donald A. Carr of the Justice Department countered with the argument that "the onslaught of the white man's civilization is indeed responsible for the panther's endangered status, it is a sociological externality which doesn't, in its terms, bear on the pure legal question which will be litigated: whether the Endangered Species Act applies to Native Americans." We asked Raini Sequoya, a Florida animal rights activist who happens also to be of American Indian descent, to comment on what might be viewed as a situation of conflict between animal rights and Native American rights.

It is right to levy such a strong penalty on James Billie since it was the "white man" who caused the species to become endangered? My question to that question is unequivocal: Yes, he should receive a strong penalty. Two wrongs do not make a right. Though the "white man" has been almost solely responsible for the panther—and many other species—being on the verge of extinction, it does not follow that a non-white individual—because of the race and the color—has a right to join in the destruction of one of these beautiful, sentient creatures. Respect and reverence for all life forms should have no racial or religious boundaries. Although I deeply sympathize with the plight of my people, I sympathize even more deeply with the plight of our animal brothers and sisters, for they have no voices in their destiny.

The species Homo sapiens (the human animal) is very quickly constructing a concrete cage—all in the name of greed—which will ultimately destroy not only the other animal species, but the human species as well. What was once a green paradise designed for all living beings will become a concrete hell. If there is no longer a niche for species in the natural world—where the animals can live in freedom and autonomy, and without human interference—then I don't see why efforts should go towards saving them. Even more tragic than extinction is the plight of animals incarcerated in zoos.

I will never excuse any human—regardless of race, color or creed—who harms and exploits a member of our nonhuman family. Justice for all sentient creatures stands above one's heritage.

Victims of a Meaningless Show of Force

By Geraldine Q. Rutchik

On the night of May 19, 1982, New York City police, responding to reports of screams coming from Prospect Park Zoo in Brooklyn, found two polar bears fighting the body of a 13-year-old boy. They could see the clothing of three children within the bears’ enclosure. Later that night, a zookeeper found them when a zoo employee led them onto the grounds of the closed zoo. The child had run away before the police could question them.

Seeing the bears and the body of Juan Perez within the cage, the four police officers emitted twenty blasts from a 12-gauge shotgun and a .38 caliber revolver into the animals, killing them. In the aftermath of the tragedy, hundreds of people called the police to mourn and complain about the shooting of the polar bears. Apparently unprepared for such outpouring of sympathy for the bears, the New York Times and other leading publications saw fit to refer dismissively to the callers protesting the bear killings as "animal lovers." That epithet implies that their objections were founded upon the dogmatism of an extremist group ruled by sentiment. On the contrary, the people who took the time to register a protest seem to me far more likely to have been motivated by an appreciation of logic, a commitment to fairness, and a belief in practice rather than merely symbolic action. I am in sympathy with their reaction.

Polar bears, extremely territorial by nature, are kept in Prospect Park Zoo in a very small area—encouraging, one might easily imagine, their fierce protectiveness of their space. To protect the public, the animals are backed by a police presence and were equipped by spies, so forbidding-looking that it is impossible for anyone, even a child, not to understand that the bears are very likely dangerous.

Into this environment entered three children, who admit they were taunting the bears; who, in addition to scaling that fence and climbing over those spikes and invading that territory, were throwing rocks at the animals. For the bears to attack the child who did not run away last enough was for them simply to be acting as bears naturally act.

By the time police arrived, Juan Perez was publicly dead, clearly beyond saving; yet the police emptied two firearms into the bears, shooting them over and over until they were dead, sounding the life of the sea, and occasionally even the flesh of the loggerhead turtle and the Florida alligator of Group No. 4. Not to mention that we peel the hides off gators and others to shed our body of them. What animals do we own and possess? The group was told to count the survivors. There are no Group No. 7. The line ends with No. 5.

What does this signify? You might argue, as done usually, that it signifies the insignificance of human life. All the other groups have been put here for our sustenance, comfort, and decoration.

But quite a different perspective is also possible. In this view, each group serves a clear purpose—to nourish the desires of one or more of the other groups. Each group exists not only for itself, but also as fuel for other groups. Each group, that is, except one—us.

The line of usefulness ends abruptly at the tip (if it is the top). We humans benefit only one of the other groups, but no group benefits on us. And no one has yet suggested that "they also serve who only eat and cut." In this scheme of things, we humans are hard pressed to justify our existence. And we are particularly hard pressed to justify our exploitation of the other species.

This humbling view of humans is what I think friends of when he contemplates the horror stories about human exploitation of "abhumans." And perhaps he has a point. The noted Czech novelist Milan Kundera has written, "Man's most moral consists of his attitude toward those who are at his mercy: animals." In 1982 it would require a new perspective if we are ever again to utter the false words, "It's only an animal.

Niel Glixon is a writer living in Great Neck, New York.
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BY VICTORIA MORAN

It's a very definite right of every student to be educated without having to perform acts that conflict with his or her personal ethics.

Classroom Dissection: The Right to Refuse

When transferred out of sophomore biology in high school over 20 years ago to avoid further animal experimentation, I was seen by school authorities as a very foolish adolescent. My transfer wish was granted after a letter from a guidance counselor who advised me that I'd better sign up for secretarial courses, since without biology I would never get into college.

Well, I did get into college, and between then and now tremendous changes have taken place in our society. When I objected to the slicing of worms, crayfish, frogs, mice, and piglets to supposedly teach me the wonder of life, black people were still riding in the back of buses in the South, classified ad columns still separated "Help Wanted: Male" from "Help Wanted: Female." In many respects human rights have made headway, and animal rights have become an issue at long last.

In seeking to avoid classroom dissection and/or vivisection today, students are involved in a concern that bridges both human and nonhuman rights. It is an animal rights issue, certain that sentient creatures should not be killed or otherwise harmed in our pursuits, but it is also a very definite right of every student to be educated without having to perform acts that conflict with his or her personal ethics.

In recognition of this dual violation of rights, many students are taking a stand to refuse laboratory rituals that require animal abuse and/or death. In some cases, a single high school or college student acts alone, and in others entire classes protest the practices; both forms of protest can draw considerable attention. A recent case in California concerning the use of a live animal in a non-animal court. This kind of "backing the system" takes inner commitment and courage, but there is outside help available. An organization specializing in this and similar concerns is the Student Action Corps for Animals (SACA), 423 Fifth St. S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003. The following suggestions are taken from the SACA News and from their helpful pamphlet.
INTERVIEW

Continued from page 3

Many people working for animals would like to think of such ideas and issues out of the picture. However, animal liberation is not going to require major institutional and attitudinal changes. The social consequences will undoubtedly be very broad. So perhaps it isn't possible or wise to try to restrict the discussion to a purely ethical level.

I'm torn on the subject. I think on the one hand you have the idea that we can't really achieve the goals of animal liberation without a very far reaching change which would simultaneously lead us to abolishing nuclear weapons, achieving global justice, and so on. On the other hand, if we're actually talking about not the attainment of all the goals of animal liberation, but only some significant steps forward along that path, these steps might be achievable without that big change in attitudes; and if they are, then it's worth trying to get them. The big change in attitudes has been an important factor in the works and I don't see any sign of it coming rapidly. So I wouldn't like people to abandon efforts to achieve particular practical goals.

I think that the more radical ends of political struggles, however, often serve to move the issues up. The ALF is a clear example of the case of Vietnam, one would have to wonder whether those people working through the political system would have any success if the more radical edge had been absent. So maybe what that suggests is that there is a need for this element as well.

You said earlier that, in your opinion, the message of animal liberation is a moral one. Isn't it the case, though, that the issue is just as much a political and social one, and that we should recognize it as such and to discover and communicate the sweeping range of questions and implications it raises for society in terms of the economic system, education, science, government and so on. Do you see this as possibly happening?
Problems with the Animal Model

AIDS Research

BY NEAL D. BARNARD, M.D.

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was first identified in the United States in 1981. Since then, over 30,000 cases have been identified in the United States, and perhaps 5 to 15 million Americans are infected with the virus that causes the disease. The high rate of failure among primate models has led to diverse efforts to bring this illness under control. Perhaps the most significant challenge in understanding AIDS has been to come from three sources: epidemiological studies of human populations, clinical studies of patients, and in vitro studies of cells (meaning literally “in glass”), the term refers to petri dishes. Understanding of AIDS has mainly come from these three sources: epidemiological studies of human populations, clinical studies of patients, and in vitro studies of cells. This critical step allowed further studies of the virus, and studies of agents that may help control the virus. The virus has been referred to by several names including HTLV-I, HIV, and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

Many chimpanzee experiments have been carried out in order to demonstrate that AIDS is transmissible to chimpanzees, or in an attempt to cause the disease in chimpanzees. After et al. (1984) infused plasma from patients into three chimpanzees, all of whom developed AIDS, although there were no other transmissible antibodies to the AIDS virus. Francis et al. (1984) injected the virus into two juvenile chimpanzees. Both of whom remained healthy: Fultz (1986) reported further observations of those chimpanzees as well as two more injected with the virus. No chimpanzees developed AIDS, although the virus could be recovered from five of the six chimpanzees who were infected. Gilbert et al. (1984) reported 25 chimpanzees as well as several monkeys inoculated with various body fluids or fluids from AIDS patients. None of these animals had developed AIDS. One of the major subjects died in the course of the experiment, but the death was not attributed to AIDS. The surviving animals remain under surveillance. The stated goal of one team of AIDS researchers was to develop a severe, lasting immunodeficiency or clinical disease to chimpanzees and monkeys. (Gilbert, 1984) These infected samples of spleen, lymph node, bone marrow, brain, and plasma from AIDS patients were inoculated into rhesus monkeys, cynomolgus monkeys, capuchin monkeys, and a squirrel monkey. The inoculations were done into the skin, muscles, and veins of the brain of the animals. To the disappointment of the researchers, all animals remained well up to a year after infection.

Animal experiments were not necessary nor particularly helpful in showing human transmissibility of AIDS, and animal experiments directed at developing a “model” for the disease have met with little success.

Animal experiments were not necessary nor particularly helpful in showing human transmissibility of AIDS, and animal experiments directed at developing a “model” for the disease have met with little success.

They naturally have lower numbers of the T4 lymphocyte, the cell which is the principal target of the AIDS virus (Eichberg, 1984). They have higher numbers of other blood cell commonly measured in AIDS patients, the T8 lymphocyte. Chimp show a different ratio of T4 cells to T8 cells. This ratio is one of the principal blood tests for the AIDS syndrome. In response to the virus, some researchers have found that chimp have no change in the T4-T8 ratio (Fultz, 1986), while in humans a change in this ratio is the signal that AIDS is underway. In humans, the AIDS virus can be found in the blood plasma. In chimp, little or no free virus is found in plasma. The virus is found only in blood cells.

The Abuse of the Chimpanzee

The fact that no animal other than the human or the chimpanzee maintains the AIDS virus in the body has prompted many in the scientific community to call for a massive federally-funded project to intensively study the virus. The benefits to be derived from this project are apparent. There is a significant lag time between the decision to breed chimpanzees and the increased availability of mature animals. Artificial insemination of females and electro-ejaculation of males are the grim realities of this sort of proposal. Should pregnancy occur, the babies are taken away from their mothers at the earliest opportunity. This practice may promote fertility, but it also promotes marked psychological trauma in both mother and infant, and is contrary to the provision in the federal Animal Welfare Act which requires attention to the psychological needs of primates. Animals involved in AIDS research are at particular risk for long-term suffering. Not only is there prolonged and severe isolation from their peers, there is also a lack of contact with caretakers due to fear of contagion. Because of the small number and the unique nature of the chimpanzee, a special report on AIDS from the National Academy of Science was issued to the Institute of Medicine (Confronting AIDS, 1986). The committee was gravely concerned that chimpanzees

The Animals’ Agenda

September 1987

The Animals’ Agenda

Continued on next page
Antiviral Agents and Vaccines

Innovative in vitro techniques have been the backbone of AIDS research. These techniques have been enormously helpful in research on the AIDS virus, and in the search for agents that might fight or prevent the disease. For example, new agents are tested in vitro for their ability to block the viral enzyme reverse transcriptase.

In spite of this, the NASIInstitute of Medicine report pointed out that no significantly effective AIDS treatment is expected in the foreseeable future: "HIV must be approached as a member of the class of viruses for which successful treatment may be most difficult to find. Furthermore, as a member of the family of retroviruses, HIV represents a type of viral pathogen whose therapy has never before been attempted in humans."

One major stumbling block in the search for an AIDS treatment is the fact that the AIDS virus invades the brain and central nervous system. There are reports of neurological signs and symptoms in 30 to 75 percent of AIDS patients. Brain infections may be due to the HIV virus itself, or to viruses, bacteria, or fungi that invade the brain because of the weakened immune system. Kaposi's sarcoma, a form of cancer commonly seen in AIDS patients, may metastasize (spread) to the brain in rare cases.

An effective drug must be able to pass from the blood stream into the brain. This is difficult because of the "blood-brain barrier," which often ex-cludes therapeutic drugs. This was a problem with susumarin, one of the early drugs tested against AIDS. In addition to other failures of suramin, it cannot penetrate the barrier into the central nervous system.

Vaccine development will most likely proceed through in vitro testing and production by recombinant DNA techniques. Nonetheless, the difficulties of developing a vaccine against HIV are enormous. Vaccines against other viruses act to mobilize the immune system against the virus. Unlike other disease viruses, however, HIV acts specifically to destroy the immune system. No vaccine has ever been developed against a virus that attacks the human immune system. The

Because of multiple problems with the use of chimpanzees, new strategies have been developed that may dispense with animal tests of vaccines. Vaccines against whooping cough, Hemophilus influenza, and meningococcus were marketed essentially without animal testing because of the absence of a suitable animal "model." Production and batch testing for safety of some vaccines can now be done in vitro techniques. These should be expanded in order to streamline research on AIDS.

We are beginning to test potential vaccines on human volunteers. Daniel Ziegler of the Pasteur and Marie Curie University in Paris has injected himself and several other volunteers with a vaccine created by Bernard Moss at the National Institutes of Health. The vaccine is a live virus vaccine with a small piece of the AIDS virus within it. An increasing number of scientists are recommending testing of vaccines in humans without prior tests on chimpanzees.

Future Directions

It is not the intention of this article to suggest that a vaccine or antiviral agent for the AIDS virus is impossible to develop. It is, however, essential to recognize that neither of these will be available for several years. It is critical to keep hopes for distant advances from limiting other public health efforts that must be undertaken immediately.

What are the areas most likely to help turn the tide of the epidemic? The NASIInstitute of Medicine report stated: "For at least the next several years, the most effective measures for significantly reducing the spread of the HIV infection are education of the public and voluntary changes in behavior. Public education about HIV infection is, and will continue to be, a critical public health measure, even if a vaccine or drug becomes available."

In addition, important in vitro research, and clinical and epidemiologic studies should continue. These are the areas that have been most fruitful to date. It is imperative that the efforts against this difficult disease not lead us to destroy chimpanzees or other animals in the vain hope that they may someday act as an exact surrogate for the human patient.

The ANIMALS' AGENDA is the only magazine independent of an animal rights membership group. We bring you all the issues, all the activity on behalf of the animals, plus what you can do to make a difference. Our contributing authors, activists and thinkers from the U.S. and elsewhere, keep you in touch! $18.00 per year/ten issues. Subscribe today!
Herscovici's Lament

Second Nature: The Animal Rights Controversy

By Alan Herscovici
254 pages; $12.95 (Canadian), paper

Making questionable viewpoints seem perfectly normal and legitimate is the stock-in-trade of a good propagandist, and by this measure the author of this volume surely ranks with the best. For in Second Nature, a supposedly factual overview of the issues dividing Canada's indigenous peoples and animal rights advocates, Alan Herscovici, a Montreal-based journalist and broadcaster, has in actuality handed the fur industry what may well become its standard line of defense.

Arguments marshalled by Mr. Herscovici don't follow the usual pattern. Aware of the futility of debating again which method of trapping is more "human," and apparently convinced that in propaganda war truth is not essential, only what people believe, Mr. Herscovici takes a different tack. Denying the hint of "common sense" conservationist and zealous defender of a threatened culture, he hits his targets obliquely. The result is an elegant book that talks a great deal about Indian rights and ecology, and about the virtues of living close to the land, but which rarely misses a chance to discredit the idea of animal rights.

That Mr. Herscovici is prepared to go to any length to prove the pernicious effect of radical ecologists and animal defenders is clear throughout the book. If one is to believe Mr. Herscovici, the only serious issues facing wildlife are those posed by a vaguely defined habitat encroachment and the fanatization of animal defenders.

Many of our ecological crises lie in technology, urbanization, and wealth. Animal rights groups, however, force this distortion of the reality. They are not only radical, but also relatively new to the arena of political lobbying, for these reasons alone. All is needed is a bit of cleverness, and the ability to fascinate and attract the audience. Indeed, the animal rights community can now boast its own (nonprofit) video and film distribution center. Activists have long complained of not being able to secure films or videotapes on time or at reasonable prices from various commercial sources. Argus Archives, for example, which catalogs and evaluates films for human education, but which do not stock any films or tapes for rental purposes, receives many requests which must be routed to as many as 100 different distributors. Something had to be done about this horrid bottleneck, and finally. In 1996 Ron Scott, a director of Argus Archives, approached Esther Machler with the idea of starting a center devoted exclusively to the distribution of video materials dealing with animal issues. The group applied for grants, and in December of that year the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation sent word that a funding request had been approved. (The Dodge Foundation has an admirable track record in this regard, having funded many worthwhile projects over the years, and provided crucial support for some of the best cultural, informational and nature-oriented programming on public television.)

Soon after that, The Humane Society of the United States contributed additional funding and the project was on its way. Today, Focus on Animals stocks 16 films under the categories of "general," vegetarianism, animal research, hunting, furs, wildlife and pet overpopulation. The growing list includes We Are All Responsible, PETA's Unnecessary Furs, and CBS's classic, The Cany of Autumn. Argus Archives are under way to obtain The Animal Film. The formats available are half-inch VHS tapes for home and small-group viewing, 16 mm films, and three-quarter-inch tapes which include broadcasting rights. To facilitate discussion, Focus offers teachers' guides with each film. All these films can be used to raise consciousness in schools, churches and civic groups, to educate legislators and opinion leaders, and for broadcast on public access television.

-P. Greenle

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The film medium is a powerful mirror for the creatures' beauty and innocence, and a devastating witness to the horrors we visit upon them. Images and sounds require to form lasting impressions, and for elegant thought. All that is needed is decency, and the ability to fascinate and attract the audience. Indeed, the animal rights community can now boast its own (nonprofit) video and film distribution center. Activists have long complained of not being able to secure films or videotapes on time or at reasonable prices from various commercial sources. Argus Archives, for example, which catalogs and evaluates films for human education, but which do not stock any films or tapes for rental purposes, receives many requests which must be routed to as many as 100 different distributors. Something had to be done about this horrid bottleneck, and finally.

The "End of the Game" is a half-hour documentary available from Focus on Animals dealing with the disappearance of African wildlife.

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-Bernard Rollin

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It may be argued that predators or musicians in an overcrowded mosh pit may not have much joy to share but to kill humans, a pugilist may do have a choice. All animal populations produce more offspring than are needed to replace their own species and more. The excess must be eliminated one way or another. The conscience of the animal rights groups’ opposition to rap-ping is that they suggest death and suffering would be ended if trapping were banned. Nothing could be more false.

Should we really abide by this minimalist ethic? The absurdity of this position and its profound sectional base becomes immediately clear when we apply the prescription to human circumstances. For Herskovics’ suggestion is analogous to arguing that we should not prevent war because death, suffering and random violence already occurs in human society. But more importantly, the moral question facing humanity is not to try to perform miracles, but to decide whether it is proper to inflict great suffering and death on an animal when one’s own immediate survival is not at issue. Animals, imprisoned by their own evolutionary

COMING AND FOLLOW THE WHALE TRACKS

What an revelation regarding whales? —H. Marsh

The whaling companies were not ones not to be knowledgeable by the ends of having some idea of what happens to whales while they are in the air. —M. Carsey

Power’s Every page is exciting. When I finished, I was lucky enough to discuss this with the author. —J. Carlsen

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SEPTEMBER 1987

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Continued from page 5

in our battle to increase the public’s awareness of the horrors of the biomedical laboratory, its presence must also serve as a constant reminder of the dangers inherent in any human exploitation of other animals. No matter how engaging the message, the development of a movie is no different from the development of a new medical regimen based upon the use of nonhuman animals; the ends cannot justify the means. It is my sincere hope that whatever evidence of abuse in the making of Project X is finally documented, such material will be used to its maximal potential in removing other animals from any threat of physical or psychological mistreatment for the so-called “entertainment of humans.”

—Donald J. Barnes
National Anti-Vivisection Society
122 New Carolina Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003

Grateful for Letters

Two months ago, following an accident, I went through the worst slump of my life, and proceeded to set about ridding myself of all possessions—books, collections, and even things that pertained to my interest in animal rights. Yesterday, the June issue came in the mail, and happened to fall open in the Letters section. Each and every letter had a positive message or suggested an original approach to the subject dealt with. I can say now that I am back in the fight for animals. Thanks, writers.

—Pauline Blanc
San Francisco, CA

Pro-Dolphin Messages Helped

My article in the June ANIMALS’ AGENDA (“Dolphin Killing on the Rise”) came out just as we became aware of draft regulations that would have been disastrous for our dolphin coasters. These regulations would have permitted the transport of foreign nations to kill dolphins at a rate 400 percent higher than the US fleet and still meet the present requirement of a “considerable” kill rate. This would allow 180,000 dolphins to be killed before the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) would have to take any action.

The letters and postcards generated by activists plus the threat of a lawsuit caused the NMFS to reconsider. At this time, NMFS is weighing tuna industry pressure against what the American public will accept as a tolerable number of killed dolphins. We believe that no dolphins should be sacrificed for corporate greed. It is imperative to keep up citizen pressure now, and demand an end to the killing. Animal advocates should write: Secretary of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 2020.

—Todd Steiner
Earth Island Institute
500 Broadway, Suite 28
San Francisco, CA 94123-3312

New Friends

The coverage of the “shakedown” at Friends of Animals (FoA) (June 1987), focused on the negative side of the “shakedown” at Friends of Animals (News Shorts, June 1987) focused on the positive side of the transition. We’d like readers to know the positive side:

Friends of Animals (FoA) is making efforts to coordinate and cooperate with other animal rights organizations to avoid duplication and competition. We want to support the effective campaigns of other groups, and we encourage them to help us with ours—all in the spirit of building an effective political action against exploitation of animals.

FoA is continuing its long-established programs—notably the nationwide low-cost spay/ neuter program, the campaigns against hunting and trapping, campaigns to protect marine mammals, and our professional lobbying efforts.

FoA has employed a leading New York advertising agency to cook up a television ad campaign aimed at deglamorizing fur in the eyes of consumers. The ads are set to run on prime-time shows in the New York City area this fall.

FoA is preparing campaigns against factory farming and the related abuses of animal agriculture. In concert with Farm Animal Reform Movement, Food Animals Concerns, Trust, Humane Farming Association and other groups, we have launched a national campaign to stop the exploitation of female dairy calves by the abusive (milk-fed) veal industry.

—Priscilla Ford and Jim Mason
Friends of Animals
P.O. Box 1244
Northfield, CT 06054

The Tears of a Dove

I read the article about the fight to protect mourning doves in Michigan (June 1987) with interest. Dove hunting portrays the hunter’s lack of respect more than anything else. Not only is the dove an international symbol of peace, doves are held very sacred throughout the Bible. One of the reasons I quit hunting was because I noticed that the dove actually has tears in its eyes. I have been a dove hunter for 10 years! Most dove hunters have noticed this phenomenon.

—Dallas Gregg
Montezuma, NC

Editor’s Note: Dallas Gregg’s inspiring story, “Wht I Quit Hunting,” appeared in the November 1986 issue of THE ANIMALS’ AGENDA.

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and I was glad to be able to say yes. He explained that some snakes will only eat mice, and that he had taken my order of "profit" in deciding that the snake was worth more than a mouse. He told me that he had some 40 mice a week fed to the snakes, and that he used rats and rab-
bbits with the larger ones.
In their natural environment, snakes eat mice, but there the mouse has a chance to run. I don’t want a snake to starve, but predator/prey interaction shouldn’t take place in a pet store, or be controlled by humans.
—Laurence Cloze
Oxenland Park, KS

Editor’s Note: Animal advocates should refuse to patronize pet stores that actually sell animals. Plenty of pet stores only stock supplies, and don’t profit from the trade in animals. Such a boycott shouldn’t prevent anyone from inspecting the stores that do sell animals, however, and no one should be allowed to point out problems to shop employees (and their customers).

Increasing Group Visibility

I realize that animal rights people are opposed to pet shops, but often they are the first place someone with an animal problem may go for help. This is because they are so visible, and can be quickly located under "pets" in the phone book. Pet shop attendants keep telling me horror stories that are told to them because people aren’t sure where else to go. The attendants themselves don’t know who to turn to, and don’t know of the many animal rights groups and the services available.

Activists should make up a list of local humane groups (as well as national ones that might respond or have local representatives), and send copies to every pet shop and veterinarian in the area.
—Neil Kantor
South, NY

Wildlife Relocation is for Hunting

The article "Animal Airlines" in the May issue was very informative and well written. However, a crucial and unavoidable point was completely omitted. The relocation of Canadian caribou to Maine and the relocation of Canadian moose to Michigan are being done for one purpose: so these species can reproduce themselves in great enough numbers to be hunted one day. So not only do these animals suffer at the hands of those who capture and transport them, they will eventually be subjected to further suffering and death.
We also need to watch out that state income tax checkoff funds donated by taxpayers out of their refunds (which are supposed to be used for nongame and endangered species only) are not being used for relocation programs when hunting is the goal.
—Eileen M. Liska
Michigan Humane Society
7301 Chrysler Drive
Detroit, MI 48211

Merritt Clifton replies:

There’s no doubt at all that hunting is the long-term objective of the relocation programs. However, building up a herd big enough to be hunted and still maintain itself will take 15 to 20 years minimum. For several generations, the moose and caribou will be legally protected from hunting. A lot could happen over the 15 to 20 year span: public attitudes could shift to strongly oppose hunting; or that rain could destroy so much habitat that the animals won’t reproduce on schedule. As Ms. Liska suggests, vigilance is wise. But, meanwhile, the survivors of the relocations and their offspring should have healthy, natural lives, and the environment should be benefitted by their presence.
—Merritt Clifton

A Rat Fan

I was pleased to see Arthur Hinshorn’s article, "Town and Country Rats," in the May issue. It was very well written and informative. I am a rat fancier and I agree with Hinshorn’s observation that they are sociable and adaptable. I would add, however, in saying that rats are bright, gentle, affectionate companions and, if kept in decent living conditions, fastidiously clean. Anyone willing to look beyond all the bad press rats have received, and take a chance on adopting one, will be richly rewarded.
—Judith Tetter
Herndon, VA

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A CRACK IN THE SHELL

Continued from page 32

Fully exposed to the elements in wire transport crates, "spent hens" may be trucked for days on their final journey.

Molting would normally occur at a slightly different time, and for a slightly different length of time, for each bird in a flock. But for genetically identical hybrids, each hen has her own particular rhythm and cycle. But there is nothing individual about factory farming. Ready or not, when statistics indicate that egg production levels are about to decline, the egg factories inflict a "forced molt" upon the entire flock. The idea is to bring all the hens briefly and simultaneously through the molting process. It is achieved by shocking the hens' system. This causes all the birds, at the same time, to lose their feathers and (temporarily) cease laying eggs.

Forced molting involves suddenly changing everything to which the hens have come to expect (except, of course, the confinement). Millions of birds, who are entirely at the mercy of their captors for sustenance, are suddenly forced to go without food for up to four days. Water is withheld for two to three days. Lighting is sharply reduced. The forced molt lasts for six weeks. After the initial food and water deprivation, the hens are given water, but only a small amount of low-protein feed. Towards the end of the forced molt, nutrition is slowly increased and the survivors (as many as 5 to 25 percent die during this period) begin to grow new feathers. Shortly thereafter, the entire flock begins another egg laying cycle.

No discussion of battery caging is complete without mentioning "Caged Layer Fatigue" (CLF). Virtually all large flocks are affected by CLF which causes the stressed birds to draw minerals from their bones and muscles. Their bones become brittle, often breaking.

By the time battery-caged hens reach the age of 16 to 18 months, they are too old and too worn out to be sold. The number of eggs they are able to pump out is slowly decreasing. In the industry, they are now referred to as "spent hens." Life's painful journey is almost over. No longer of value to the egg factories, the "spent hens" are literally torn from the battery cages and stuffed into transport crates. The violent handling involved in this process cannot be overstated. Necks, wings, and legs are routinely injured by hired help whose job descriptions can be summarized in five words: get rid of the birds.

The transport crates, packed full of terrified hens, are tossed onto trucks waiting outside the building. Until today, the birds have existed within a climate controlled environment. Never before have they been outside. The open trucks do not shelter the caged passengers from the elements. Depending on the region and time of year, the hens may be trucked through bright sun and desert heat, or cold rain and winter storms. No provisions are made for food or water. In fact, some poultry journals recommend with-holding food from the birds the day prior to transport since the company will never see a monetary return for feed "wasted on spent hens." The flock from "spent hens" is so bruised and beaten up that its uses will be limited to soups, processed fast-food, pet food, or other items in which the consumer cannot discern the quality of the ingredients. Anywhere from one to three days after leaving the egg factory, the birds arrive at the slaughterhouse. Many have already perished. The transport crates are thrown off the truck and the hens are unpacked. They are subjected to the same barbarous handling they received at the outset of their journey. In what will be their last contact with humans, the hens are grabbed by their legs and hung upside down on a conveyor line. The punkish sound they do not cooperate in this procedure, but can do nothing more than struggle in desperate protest. Wings which have never before had the opportunity, flap wildly as the hens travel upside down through the slaughterhouse. The sound of machinery and shrieking birds resonates within the building. With varying degrees of effectiveness, the hens are stunned by electric shock. Finally, their throats are cut. Life is drained away with their blood.

By the time this group is processed, a new flock of hens have filled the cages within the house of horrors.

Brad Miller is Director of the Humane Farming Association. For information about its programs, write HFA at 3350 California St., Suite 6, San Francisco, CA 94109.

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AMANDA HARLESS: Grade-school student, S. Lyndeborough, NH, Vegetarian, Animal Protectionist, Anti-hunter
Magazine: The ANIMALS' AGENDA

"We've always had cats and dogs, and we've loved them very much. But we never thought much about other animals—until a few years ago:

"My mom and Grandma and I lived across from a garden place where a man kept deer in a pen. He used to go away for a long time without feeding them, so we started taking food over to them. One died anyway.
Then one day some hunters came and killed another one, and that left only 'Prancer', a female. We took her home and last year she had a baby we call 'Blitzen.'

"I'm against hunting because it's unfair to the animals, and because animals are beautiful and shouldn't be harmed by us. How can they call something a 'sport' when only one side has a gun, and when someone gets hurt. Besides, guns hurt people, too. And I know that when they say there's too many deer it isn't true. It's just an excuse so hunters can go out and kill animals.

"That's why I'm part of the Animal Rights Network, and read its magazine, The ANIMALS' AGENDA. Because animals are our friends and I want them to be free.

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