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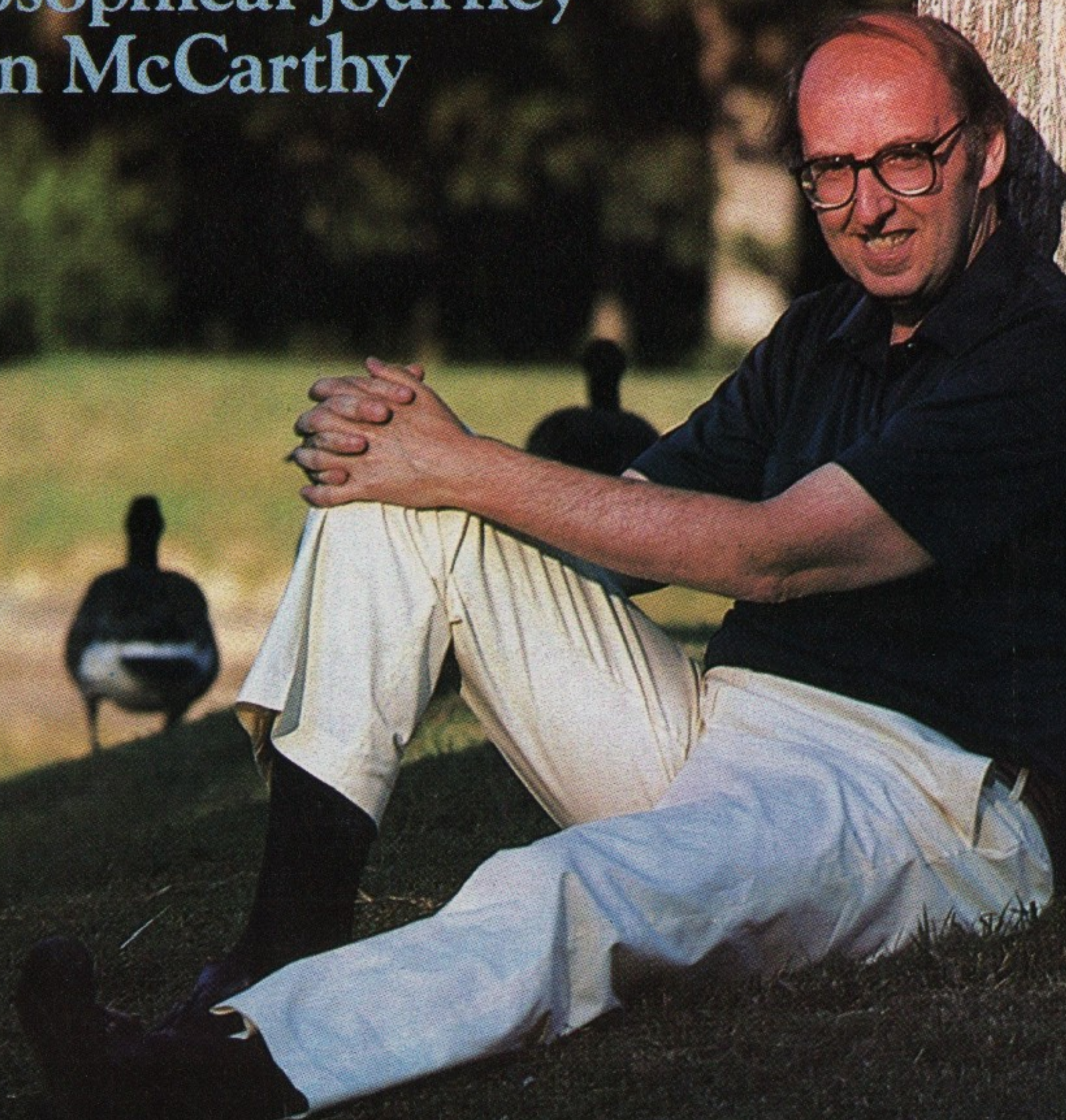
the ANIMALS' AGENDA

THE ANIMAL RIGHTS MAGAZINE • SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1988

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of Colman McCarthy



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- Mourning the death of animal friends
- Eliminating dissection from the classroom

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THE ANIMALS' AGENDA

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1988 VOLUME VIII NO. 7

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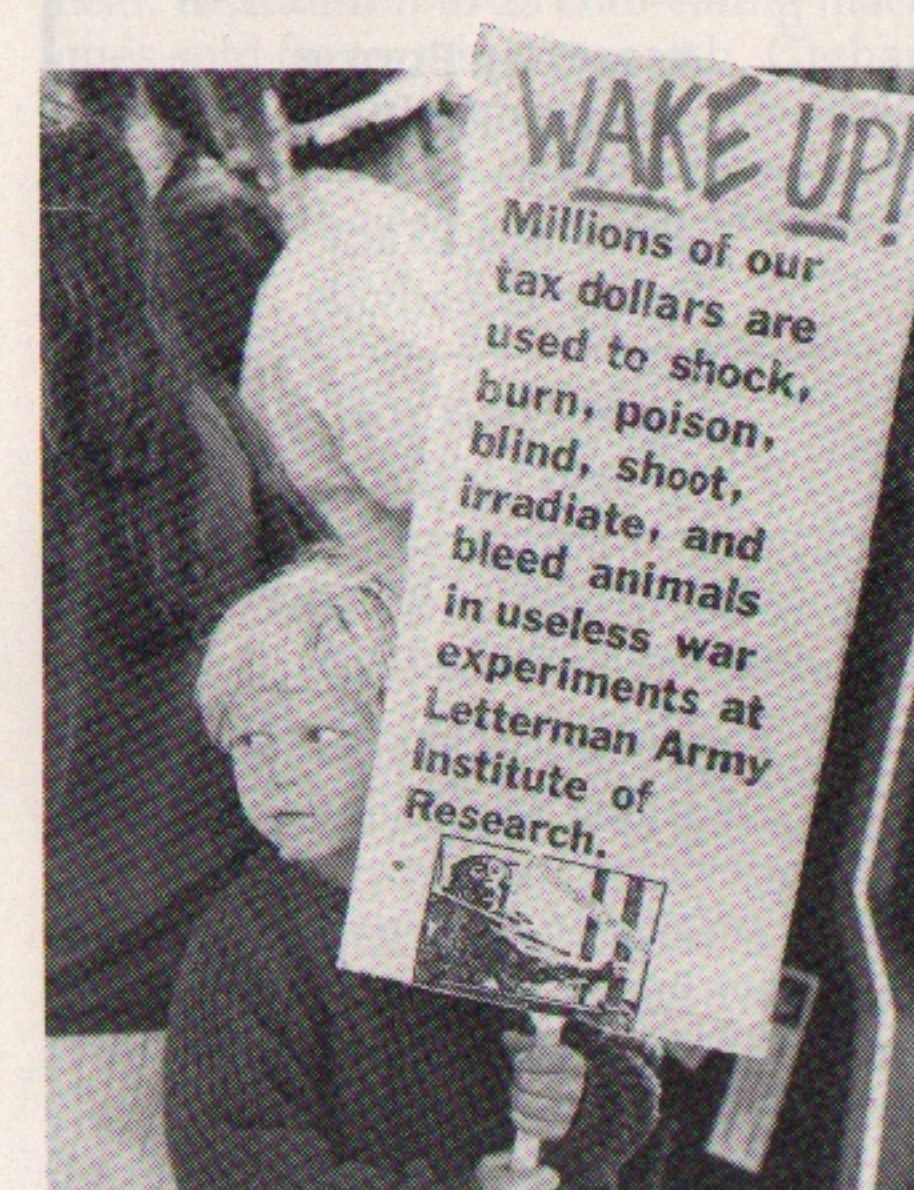
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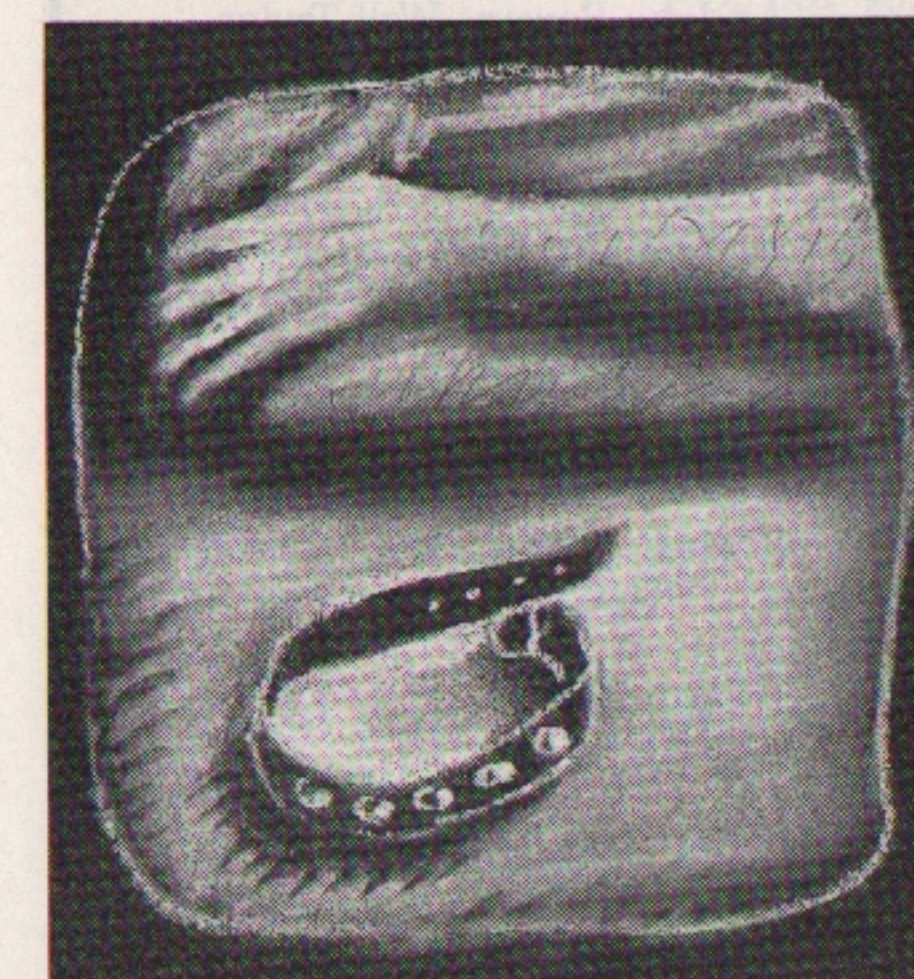
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The ANIMALS' AGENDA is published by Animal Rights Network, Inc. a non-profit charitable organization incorporated in Connecticut. We offer a broad range of materials and information about animal and environmental issues, and provide a forum for discussion of problems and ideas. We try to reach people at all levels of consciousness and commitment to inspire a deep regard for, and greater activism on behalf of, animals and nature.

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PAGE TWO

Act Locally but Think Globally

The human heart is much the same everywhere. The difference between people in terms of compassion is generally the degree to which they've had their natural empathy for others—human and nonhuman others—turned off by the acculturation process that begins in early childhood. From parents and other authority figures we learn who we should and should not care for. Nonhumans usually fall into the latter category, and often humans of different races and religions.

People born into families or societies where violence and cruelty are the norm seldom escape serious psychological distortion, and for those of us who grew up in North America or Northern Europe—where most cruelty is kept behind the closed doors of research labs and slaughterhouses—it's hard not to be enraged at stories of Koreans boiling cats alive for supper or Mexicans torturing baby bulls for sport. But we must try to look beneath the behavior, and discover why some people are capable of acts of extraordinary insensitivity. In many cases, simply not knowing any better is the cause. Other cases involve ingrained cultural behavior patterns. The people may have been taught that animal life is without value, and animal suffering irrelevant or nonexistent. Or they may have "learned" that animals are appropriate targets for releasing repressed psychological or emotional pain. Just as battered children often grow up to abuse their own offspring, oppressed people may seek to oppress others. If there's no legal or social penalty attached to mistreating animals, sadistic activities may provide people with guilt-free feelings of power and control.

Knowing what's happening to animals worldwide may add to our burden of pain, yet we must develop a "worldview." All life on this planet is totally interconnected—failure to realize that will limit us to a narrow vision of animal problems, which will prevent us from making any real and lasting change. For example, we may campaign to close down our local zoo, but where will the animals go if their habitat is not preserved?

It's a fact that it's easier to prevent a disease than it is to cure it. The same is true of systems of animal abuse like factory farming and vivisection. Now, before the Third World is totally converted to "modern" agriculture and medicine, is the time to help developing countries institute more sensible and humane methods of food production and health care. Non-animal agricultural assistance programs, such as Oxfam, are trying to achieve just that—without a great deal of public or governmental support.

Maintaining a comfortable myopia will, in the short term, cause us to miss many opportunities for making a real difference in the lives of millions of animals. For instance, there have been tourist and trade boycotts successful in helping animals. Letter-writing campaigns suggesting to heads of state that their country may suffer a loss of prestige or international goodwill if certain practices are allowed to continue have also met with some success. Often it's possible for international pressure to have a greater effect on governmental policies than pressure from within a country, and there are animal advocates in every nation who need external support in their campaigns. They also need financial assistance. In the poorer areas of the world, activists could achieve major gains for animals with pennies compared to what we spend on animal rights campaigns in the U.S. It's critical that some of the financial resources of the wealthier nations be diverted to animal programs in the Third World.

A greater awareness of global activity may indeed distress us, but it can also be comforting. Americans can take heart from knowing that some European nations are way ahead of us in protecting animals, with better laboratory animal legislation and even laws to prevent the worst excesses of animal agriculture. And we cannot fail to be cheered by the news that the fur trade is down 90 percent in the Netherlands, due to the efforts of dedicated and sophisticated activists. The most progressive countries can be a model for the rest of us.

We all have our work cut out for us at home, but we're a part of an ever-expanding worldwide network. Grassroots activism with a global perspective would seem to be the key to an enlightened and civilized world.

—The Editors

A Look at Zoos

As the only international organization that deals with zoo animals both on a welfare and conceptual level, I must say what an excellent article "Chuckling Zoo Animals Overboard" (March 1988) proved to be and how delighted we are at Zoo Check that this area of animal abuse has been drawn so comprehensively to the attention of your readers.

Zoo Check has been around for four years now, and has grown from a purely British domestic pressure group to a truly international charity which receives complaints from all over the world. We are currently undertaking a survey of European zoos which we hope will lead to legislation to establish a minimum standard of zoo animal welfare across Europe. We are also establishing contacts in North America—in Canada through Rob Laidlaw, and in the U.S. through Dr. Michael W. Fox. We hope in the not too distant future to open a contact office in America, and are glad that we have found like-minded people who are not willing to sit back and accept zoo-based propaganda without questioning the whole concept.

—William Travers, Director
Zoo Check
Cherry Tree Cottage
Coldharbour, Dorking
Surrey RH5 6HA, England

The zoo industry attempts to brainwash the public by advertising that zoos are "for the study, appreciation and conservation of wildlife animals." But zoos are not saviours of wildlife—they isolate humans from nature. Depriving wild animals of their freedom cannot be justified either ethically or scientifically. Any so-called conservation efforts are wasted without parallel efforts to protect animals' natural environments. Zoos and their cohorts in the aquarium industry have done nothing to raise public awareness of exploitation such as poaching, smuggling, whaling, and sealing.

In order to end the abuse caused by the zoo/aquarium industries, we must stop their expansion. If the money spent on zoo entertainment was channeled into conservation in the wild, many of the rare species would no longer be endangered. An increase in protected international parks is essential. The existing prisons should be shut down and rehabilitation centers created in order to release the prisoners into the reserves—to give them back their freedom.

—Peter Hamilton, Director
LifeForce
Box 3117, Main Post Office
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6B 3X6

LETTERS

This is a double-issue

Due to our office relocation and some organizational restructuring, this is a September-October double-issue. So that subscribers will receive their ten magazines a year, we will publish a separate issue in February (which is usually combined with January). Those whose subscriptions run out with the October, November, December, or January issues will have their subscriptions automatically extended an extra month. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause readers, distributors, or advertisers. Thanks for your understanding and support.

As an ex-elephant keeper, I would like to make animal rights activists aware of a cruel zoo practice. Most of the captive elephants in the U.S. are chained by two legs to their stalls for up to 16 hours every day. Zoo management will offer various feeble excuses for all-night chaining, but essentially it's an old habit that dies hard. Consider this fact: elephants in the wild forage for 18 of every 24 hours, requiring only a few hours of sleep each night. This fact alone makes it obvious that all-night chaining is inhumane and unhealthy for these highly social and intelligent animals. Also, elephants defecate and urinate every few hours and, when chained, are forced to stand in it for many hours. This leads to skin and food pad problems. Activists should find out if their local zoos practice all-night chaining and, if so, write a letter to them and the local newspaper mentioning the facts above. They may contact me for more information. I would like to compile a list of zoos that do not chain elephants, and would appreciate hearing from those who take on this project.

—Donna J. Robb
c/o Network for Ohio Animal Action
P.O. Box 21004
Cleveland, OH 44121

The article on zoos was excellent; however, I would like to make a few comments regarding the Detroit zoo and its

director Steve Graham. The article stated that "public pressure" resulted in the sale of five snow monkeys to another zoo rather than for terminal research. But, unfortunately, Graham has never been affected by or given in to public pressure regarding the way in which he runs the zoo. In 1982, when he decided to destroy four Siberian tigers, there was a tremendous public outcry—and they were not the only animals to lose their lives. Under Graham's tenure, the entire herd of bison were sent to a slaughterhouse, and five lions were destroyed along with a Kodiak bear. In addition to 25 crab-eating macaques sold for terminal research, Graham donated the entire troop of 34 baboons to form the nucleus of a breeding colony at the Southwest Texas Foundation for Research and Education. During Graham's first 18 months at the zoo, 20 birds and mammals were listed as having died for reasons unknown. These ranged from a polar bear and a gorilla (both found bleeding from the nose and mouth) to a swan who starved to death after Graham ordered food withheld.

Although there was tremendous opposition to Graham's plans for the snow monkeys, that opposition would not have been sufficient to save them. We firmly believe that had we not filed a lawsuit against the City of Detroit, the Detroit City Council, and Steve Graham to block the sale, those five monkeys would not be alive today.

—Ann Klosowski, President
Michigan Coalition for Animals
P.O. Box 402,
East Detroit, MI 48021

No Tolerance for Torture

In the March 1988 article "Sorting Out the Facts from the Fiction," there seems to be tolerance for some forms of animal research torture despite evidence that many people have suffered and/or died as a result of misleading information obtained from animals. Hans Ruesch, the Swiss medical historian and author, has convinced me through his books *Slaughter*

Continued on next page

The ANIMALS AGENDA has moved!

On August 15th, The ANIMALS' AGENDA staff moved its headquarters. The new office is located at 456 Monroe Turnpike, Monroe, Connecticut 06468. By the next issue, which will be published in November, we should have new telephone and post office box numbers, but we will continue to receive mail at the old box (P.O. Box 5234, Westport, CT 06881). The subscription address remains the same: P.O. Box 6809, Syracuse, NY 13217.

TRIANGLE ANIMAL AWARENESS: 1988

Raleigh, North Carolina
Friday, September 30—
Sunday, October 2

Friday, September 30 7:30-9:30 p.m.
The City Gallery of Contemporary Art
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Reception honoring **Sue Coe**

Saturday, October 1 9:30 a.m.-noon
Alumni Building
North Carolina State University
Symposium
"Reverence, Responsibility, and Rights"
Featuring **Rev. Dr. Andrew Linzey**
Director, The Center for the Study of Theology
University of Essex, England
Sponsored by the Dept of Philosophy & Religion
North Carolina State University

3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
The City Gallery of Contemporary Art
220 South Blount Street
Slide and lecture presentation
Featuring **Sue Coe** Painter, Printmaker
"The Role of the Artist in the Struggle for
Social Justice"

8 p.m.
Pullen Memorial Baptist Church
1801 Hillsborough Street
Jeremy Rifkin
Director, Foundation on Economic Trends
"The Patenting of Animals:
Why a Moratorium Is Necessary"

Sunday, October 2 1 p.m.
Stewart Theatre
North Carolina State University
"Music & Dance: For (and About) Animals"
Featuring **Brigitte Lucienne Rovindore**
(composer) & **Clay Taliaferro** (dancer)
(Admission: \$4.00. For reservations, phone (919) 737-3104)

5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Vegetarian Dinner: \$15.00
The Brownstone Hotel
1707 Hillsborough Street
Honoring **John Robbins**, author,
Diet for a New America
Reservations are necessary: (919) 781-1196

8 p.m.
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(919) 828-0811

For Additional Information:
Contact The Culture & Animals Foundation,
Eden Croft, Raleigh, NC, 27612, (919) 782-3739

Now in its third year, **TRIANGLE ANIMAL AWARENESS** is made possible through the cooperative efforts of The Culture & Animals Foundation, The North Carolina Humane Federation, The North Carolina Network for Animals, The Triangle Vegetarian Society, University Chapters of Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, and The Wake County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

LETTERS

Continued from previous page
of the *Innocent* and *The Naked Empress* that animal research is not only a disgusting waste of animal life, time, and money, but also a counterproductive and dangerous approach to medical science.

I am distressed by reports of some well known animal welfare groups being infiltrated by vivisection advocates. Many of them are sitting on large amounts of money that could be spent for media advertising to point out to the uninformed public what is really going on in laboratories. The watered-down information a lot of groups mail out (at great expense) does little or nothing to convince most of society to stop supporting animal research. Even folks who don't care about animals would protest the spending of their tax money on foolishness. With all the money being poured into the humane movement, there's no reason for the general public to be kept in the dark.

The only way I see to end this barbaric practice is for responsible animal rights groups to present the vivisection facts just as avidly as the vivisection community presents its "babies or dogs" type messages. Hans Ruesch and the group SUPPRESS are telling it like it is. Any humane society that condones (even in part) animal research is either not fully informed or is more interested in money than in educating people about animal abuse.

—Mrs. Floyd Suggs
Quincy, FL

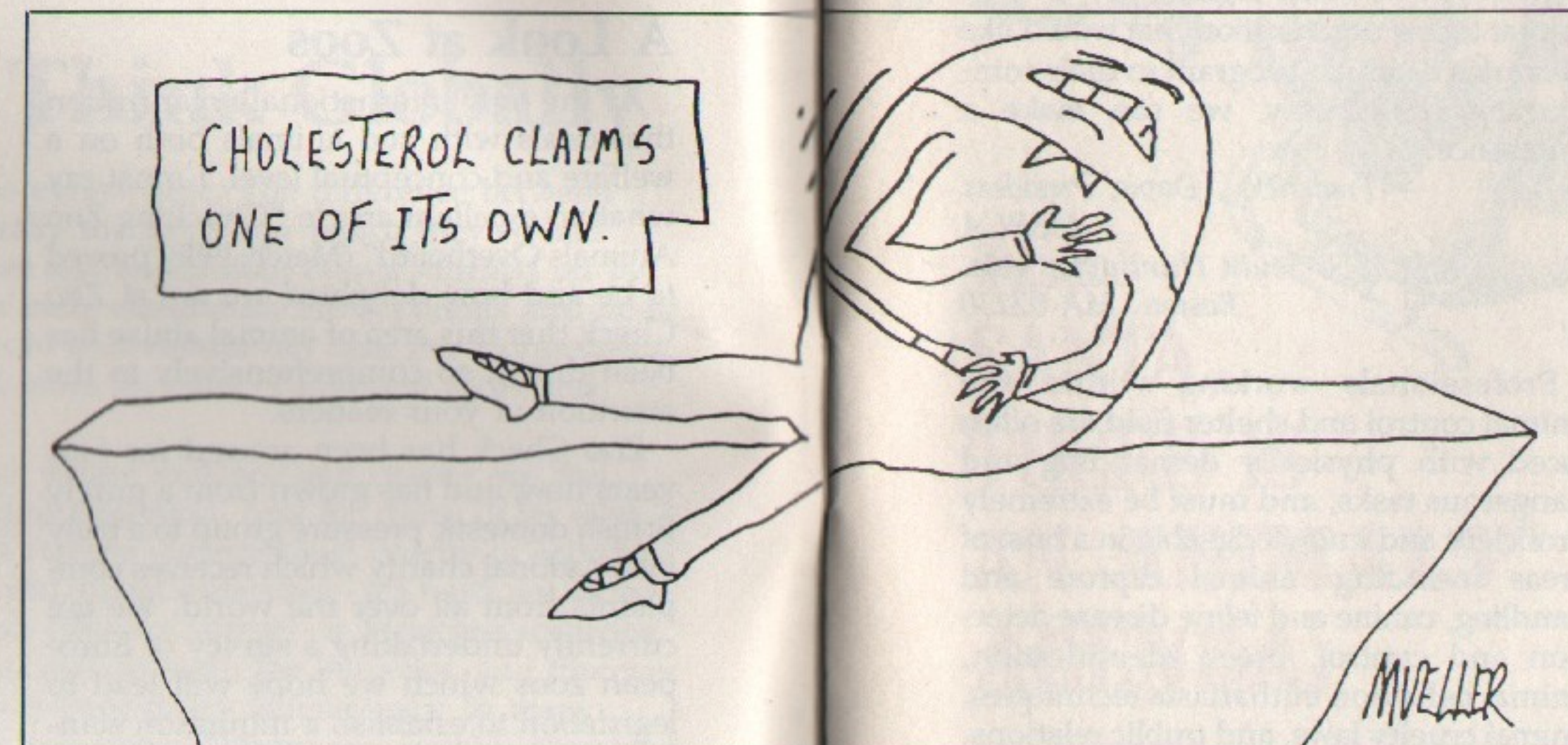
North Shore Reform

As a resident of Port Washington, N.Y., I would like to thank the Animal Shelter Reform Committee for making people aware of the goings-on at the North Shore Animal League (NSAL).

With the tremendous amount of money available to NSAL, one would think they could afford to test cats for feline leukemia and both dogs and cats for distemper before allowing them to be adopted. But I personally know three families who have adopted from NSAL only to lose their animals to these diseases.

Although I realize NSAL does place many animals successfully, their no-return policy for animals who don't work out, their misleading ads, and their big business attitudes don't make for a responsible and caring shelter. With their influence and funds they should be promoting spay-neuter consciousness rather than free watches and tote bags—not to mention Burger King coupons!

With the March 1988 *News Shorts* item, The ANIMALS' AGENDA has helped



—P.S. Mueller

make concerned people throughout the country aware of the problems of this influential and nationally known facility.

—Dawn Willis-Hernandez
Port Washington, NY

Editor's Note: Readers wanting additional information should contact the Animal Shelter Reform Committee at P.O. Box 20451, New York, NY 10017.

Beware of Bogus Organizations

The April 1988 *Network Notes* item on the decision by officials of the Miss USA Pageant to once again offer a coat made from real fur as a prize incorrectly identified the Fur Farm Animal Welfare Coalition as an organization of furriers. We are not.

The Fur Farm Animal Welfare Coalition is, as our name implies, a group representing American fur farmers dedicated to promoting the humane care of farm-raised mink in the U.S.

—Jim Manley, Asst. Executive Director
Fur Farm Animal Welfare Coalition

Editor's Note: Readers, don't be fooled. This is a trade organization for mink ranchers. There are a growing number of organizations with names that suggest a concern for animals. Before sending money to groups you aren't sure about, investigate them thoroughly.

Dogs, Cats, Pounds, and Shelters

New York animal lovers are green with envy that Michigan Humane Society has at its helm a man who genuinely cares

about animals and makes protecting them his true priority (*Interview* with David Wills, May 1988). At a time when the situation in New York City is at an all-time catastrophic level for stray and unwanted animals, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) is turning away from the problem just as fast as it can. While the streets absorb more stray animals every day, the ASPCA has closed two of five borough shelters and sold the sites of the third and fourth. Clearly, the ASPCA means to look past the suffering cats and dogs who surround it in astronomical numbers and talk dolphins, endangered species, and wild horses. No question about it—it is easier, less costly, and still fund-generating. It is also very wrong.

—N. Cummins
Bronx, NY

On behalf of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA), I commend you for an insightful report on dog and cat overpopulation. Recognizing the need for an innovative and vigorous public-education campaign, the MSPCA last summer unveiled a multifaceted approach designed to spotlight the importance of sterilization. In addition to other approaches, we launched an award-winning advertising campaign that has been featured as a public service in major magazines and newspapers, receiving tremendous local and national exposure. Since last August, spay/neuter surgeries performed through MSPCA programs alone have increased over 50 percent.

I strongly urge your readers to contact us for materials and additional information. The MSPCA advertising campaign is available at no charge and in a "generic"

Continued on next page

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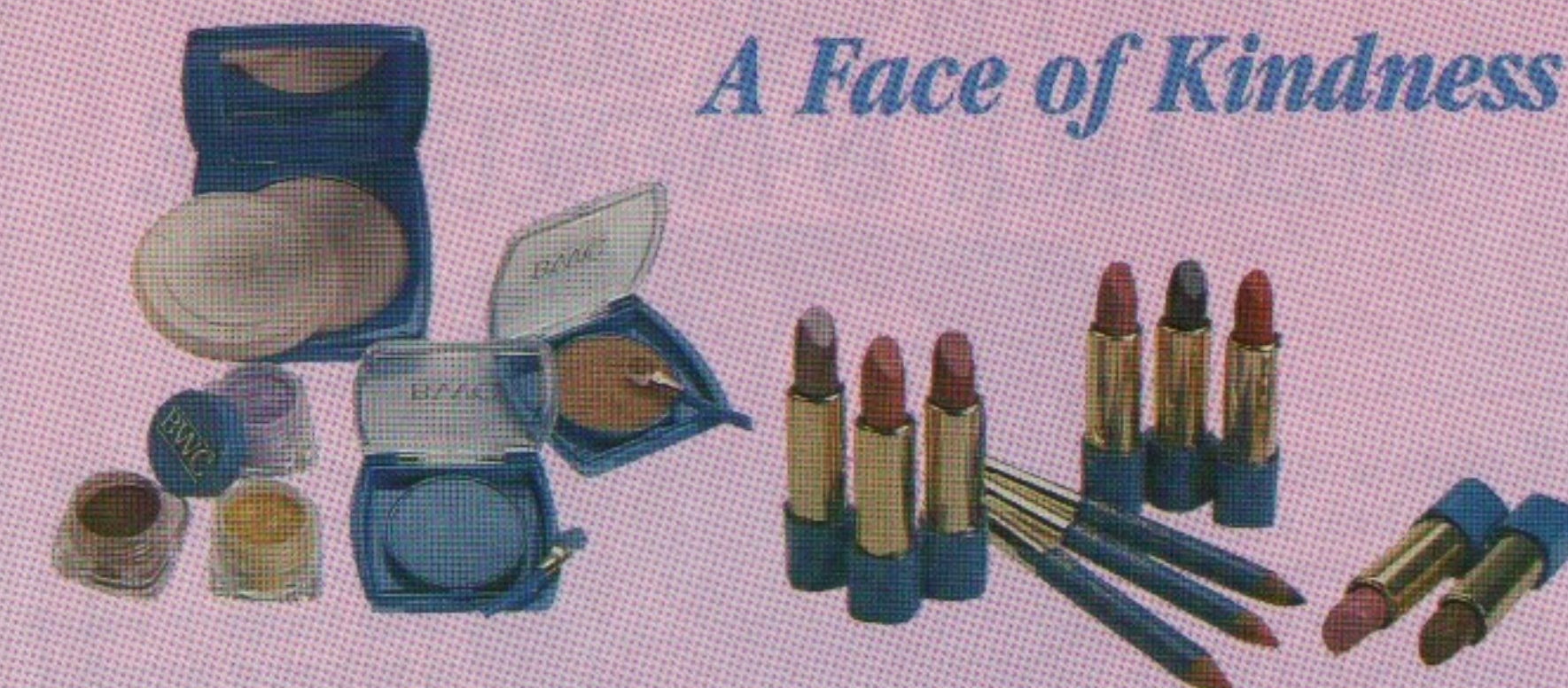
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footage from a major
university research lab
show primates being bat-
tered while their tormen-
tors laugh at them. These
cruel and useless head trauma experiments
went on for 15 years until activists convinced
the government to withdraw funding.

Vivisection is one of the worst cruelties to
animals. Tens of millions die each year from
induced diseases, psychological torture, toxic

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

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

I can no longer excuse the inexcusable.

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NATIONAL ANTI-VIVISECTION SOCIETY
53 W. JACKSON BLVD., CHICAGO, IL 60604
Dept. 804-9

LETTERS

Continued from previous page
format to any organization that would like
to launch a similar program in their com-
munity. Collectively, we can make a
difference.

—Frederick J. Davis, President
MSPCA
350 South Huntington Ave.
Boston, MA 02130

Professionals working within the
animal control and shelter field are often
faced with physically demanding and
dangerous tasks, and must be extremely
proficient and knowledgeable in a host of
areas including: animal capture and
handling, canine and feline disease detec-
tion and control, breed identification,
animal behavior, euthanasia techniques,
animal cruelty laws, and public relations.
It would seem that anyone entering a field
this demanding should be certified in
these areas prior to employment, but the
reality is that there are few pre-service
training courses leading to certification.

Another important issue is the frequent
turnover of qualified personnel. There is
no doubt in my mind that the majority
of people entering the field are truly
dedicated to animal welfare. However, are
they offered fair and equitable wages and
security so that they can remain in the
field and still afford a decent standard of
living for themselves and their families?
The companion animal problem is seri-
ous and frustrating, and it will continue
to receive low priority for funding unless
we offer credentials verifying the skill
level necessary for optimal performance
and continue to impress upon the public
that animal control and sheltering ser-
vices deserve greater attention and
support.

—Ursula Goetz and Sheri Trainer
Bide-A-Wee Home Association
3300 Beltagh Ave.
Wantagh, NY 11793

Thanks for focusing on the problem of
surplus cats and dogs. This tragedy has
for too long been overlooked by the
animal rights community in favor of less
boring subjects. Yet in terms of sheer
numbers and degree of suffering, the
problem of surplus cats and dogs is of
primary importance, and, in fact, may be
an area of animal misery that lends itself
to a solution more readily than others.

I was especially pleased to see the item
about humane trapping of feral cats.
Every animal welfare group receives calls
for help rescuing stray animals. Few re-
spond. If dogs and cats are not removed
from the streets and sterilized before they
breed, the homeless population con-

Continued on page 52



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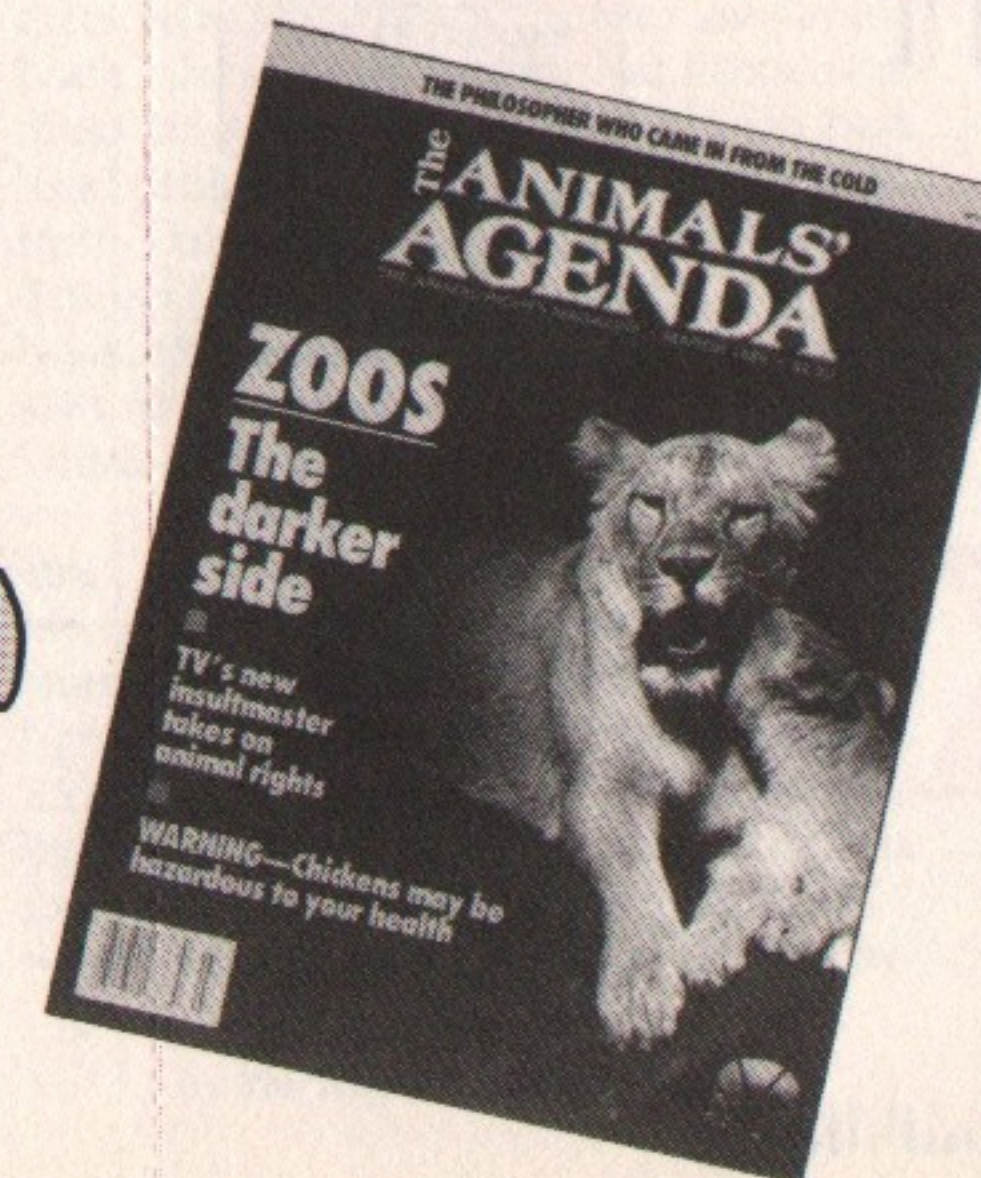
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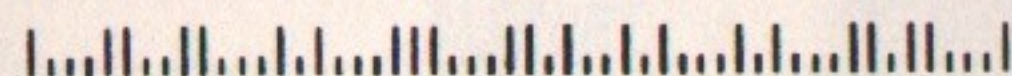
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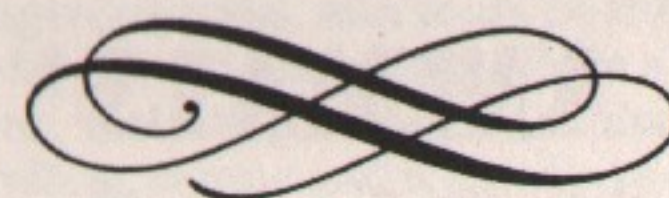
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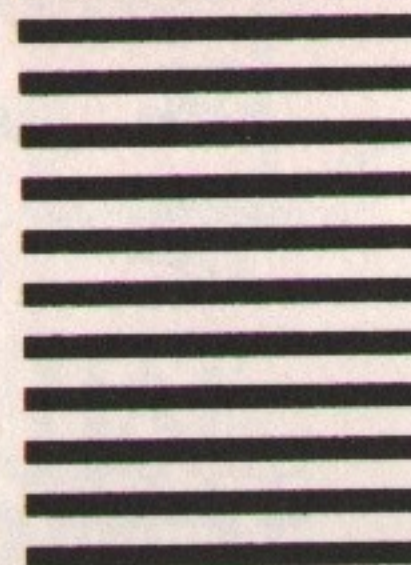
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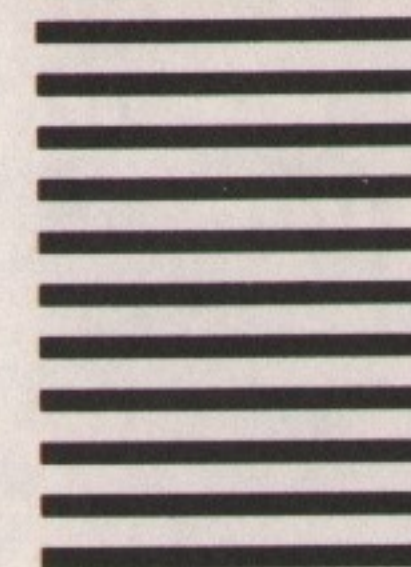
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— Jeff McMillan

An Interview with Colman McCarthy: On Peace, Justice, and the American Way

BY KIM BARTLETT

In his syndicated column for The Washington Post Writers Group, which runs twice weekly in 50 papers nationwide, Colman McCarthy writes about issues of peace and justice. Animal rights is a favorite theme—one he considers fundamental to his basic philosophy of nonviolence—along with human

*rights and potentialities, politics, poverty, militarism, and education. His most recent book, *Involvements: One Journalist's Place in the World*, includes a chapter titled "Animal Rights and Human Wrongs."*

What makes Colman McCarthy care so much?

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s great line was "You're either going to be self-centered or other-centered." Journalists aren't exempt from that, nor is anybody else. I try to write about victims. When you're talking to people who are hurting—people who are pushed out or pushed down—you tend to develop a philosophy of caring, because you want to use whatever skills you have to ease the other person's suffering. If you can add a bit of joy to their lives, that's an extra you should try for.

You feel then that you developed this consciousness, rather than having had an instinct to help the downtrodden?
I grew up in a small town where I saw

a lot of men and women who were outcasts. My father was a country lawyer on Long Island, and his office at home was often filled with poor people who had legal problems—particularly immigrants from Europe. As a child, I saw people coming from Ellis Island with no jobs, no housing, no family, no nothing. And I said to myself, "What's going on here?" I think all that went into my subconscious.

You spent five years in a Trappist monastery. How did that experience change your outlook on life?

I graduated from Spring Hill College in 1960, but the only thing I got out of college was myself—which isn't a lot. I was just another uneducated young fool. I wasn't emotionally, educationally, or psy-

chologically ready to go waste my time on a job, so I went to a Trappist community in Georgia. I went for a couple of weeks and stayed five years. I read a lot and wrote a lot, kept a journal and studied English grammar and even the dictionary. I read Tolstoy, Dostoevski—as many great writers as I could. It was a strenuous, disciplined life with hard manual labor, but I loved it. I really started to study and learn on my own then.

So it was a growth experience.
Definitely. I think everybody ought to spend a couple of years in a monastery or ashram—some kind of a contemplative setting. In parts of the East, it's expected. But Americans have little sense of the

Continued on next page

INTERVIEW

Continued from previous page

contemplative life. We're activists, which means we're wheel-spinners. Sometimes you need to stop the wheels and get away from the motion. I think Trappist monasteries are wonderful for that. Their guest houses have more bookings than Club Med.

Isn't the Trappist order vegetarian?

Yes, they don't eat meat, fish, or eggs, and the diet is agricultural, simple, and nutritious.

Is the vegetarianism for moral reasons?

It's a discipline, a form of asceticism. That was the first time I became aware of vegetarianism. I felt healthy, and I began to see the ethical reasons also.

Thomas Merton was a Trappist, and it seemed as though right before his death in 1968 he was on the verge of realizing a broad, cosmic connection between all life. It seemed he was evolving in a way that would have inspired those in the animal movement.

I was in Kentucky last week and went to Merton's monastery. I said a prayer at his grave. Merton was evolving. He was a restless man—an intellectual and spiritual universalist—who was trying to unite East and West. Unfortunately, few theologians have written about animal rights. It's one of the neglected areas. I'm always asking priests and rabbis and bishops, "What are you doing to cherish the animals?" It's inconceivable that God doesn't love them.

I stopped going to church as a personal statement against the clergy's lack of moral concern about animals, in particular, and what I see as their general irrelevance to many other important issues.

I understand. Few people know about such heroic Christians as Francis of Assisi. He was a wild, rake-hell sort of a rich kid. Francis had a conversion after a battle in the Fourth Crusade, the bloodiest of them all. Most people think he was just a dreamer who was kind of dippy about the moon and the sun, and kind of liked animals a little more than he should. But he was a hard-thinking saint. He really understood reverence for life. Today, the church puts an asterisk on the commandment "Thou shalt not kill"—no killing *except* when you're hungry or need a fur coat or leather shoes. But the reality is that there's no asterisk on that commandment. It applies to more than human life. Out of intellectual laziness, the church has never developed a theology of reverence for animals.



Students in one of Colman McCarthy's classes join him in making the sign of peace. Teaching materials for classes in nonviolence can be obtained from the Center for Teaching Peace.

What can we do to stimulate the development of such a theology?

It depends on where each of us is. I'm going to stay within the Catholic Church even though it's flawed. Dorothy Day said, "The church is a whore, but she's my mother." It's not an anti-war church or a pro-animal church, but it's an evolving church. I have no plans for leaving. It's spiritually exciting and perhaps more productive to stay in—to be a nuisance and raise questions the Vatican and its current reactionaries would rather ignore in the name of holy conformity.

When did your feelings for animals arise?

I guess when I was working in the monastery's dairy. We had a herd of a hundred Jerseys. When a cow's milk production declined, off she went to market. When I thought things through, I said, "Good God, what are we killing these animals for?" Every month a truck would come from some slaughterhouse. I had become friendly with the cows; I knew them as individuals. But after four or five years, off they would go. That's when I first realized something was ethically wrong with the milk industry—and I was right in the middle of it. You don't really know your relationship with an animal until you're making your living off of it. But I don't think it's right to exploit animals for money, or for any reason.

That puts you at odds with most of your readers, certainly. But you've also managed to infuriate some animal advocates with your views about companion animals.

I don't think we ought to be able to keep animals as pets. I wrote a column saying that we shouldn't allow dogs in cities. Readers thought I hated dogs—the "barking" was loud. But, no, I cherish them. I just don't think dogs want to live in apartments or in our houses. I want them to be free of humans. I think we should have a 20-year plan to phase out breeding them. Then, after a few centuries, we can move on to cats.

I'm sure you'll agree that in the meantime, while dogs and cats are still breeding or being bred, we have to care for them. We took these animals out of the natural order, and we have a special responsibility to them.

Of course. They're victims. That's why I write about animal rights. Animals are easy to victimize. They can't go lobby Congress as other victims can—they have to be represented. It's crazy: both parties have animals for symbols—the donkey and the elephant. Yet neither party has a platform that takes a stand for animals.

What brought you to realize the connection between violence to animals and human violence? Was there a particular incident?

No, the realization evolved. Unfortunately, there are many in the animal rights movement who don't yet understand it. I think the movement's greatest weakness is that it has yet to become part of a coalition—a pro-life coalition. Pro-life is a loaded word, of course, but I go among groups that oppose capital punishment yet see nothing wrong with eating or wearing animals. I go among animal rights people who see nothing wrong with doing violence to fetal life. I go among people who are opposed to abortion but who see nothing wrong with supporting military violence. A lot of different groups of people are out there, but few are *consistently* opposed to violence. Everyone, it seems, has his or her own little exception: Let's have one more war and we'll have peace, one more abortion and things will be fine, one more fur coat and I'll be warmer, one more execution and the crime rate will drop. I say you have to consistently refuse to accept violent solutions. All have failed.

Abortion has become identified as a feminist issue—as a right a woman has to control her own body. The issue is so controversial that it's even blowing apart the Catholic Church. I think the animal rights movement doesn't want to touch abortion because of its potential to divide people.

Some 25 million abortions are done annually worldwide. If we had 25 million chimpanzees, horses, goats, or elephants being aborted every year, I'm sure the animal rights movement wouldn't be silent. Hell, no. Killing pre-born life is not a women's issue. The leading feminist in Congress is Mary Rose Oaker, and she always votes against funding abortion bills. So do plenty of other liberals.

In 1971, the American Medical Association [AMA]—one of the most regressive lobbies, and one that has opposed most medical reforms over the years—came out for abortion. How'd that happen, I wonder? It happened because there were enormous profits to be made. Two years later, the Supreme Court came out in favor of abortion. Who wrote the decision? Justice Harry Blackmun. Who's Harry Blackmun? Former general counsel for the AMA. Think that's a coincidence? Blackmun's argument in *Roe vs. Wade* was uncannily similar to the AMA position. So you have the reactionary doctors in favor of abortion, and you have a liberal like Mary Rose Oaker opposed. It's really not a liberal concern. It's illiberal to want to end life. And it's not a feminist issue at all. It was sold that way, and a lot of women bought the argument.

Obviously, there are a few loonies in the

anti-abortion movement—you have a few loonies in the animal rights movement, too—a few everywhere. But that doesn't detract from the argument that you've got to have reverence for life all across the board. If you pick and choose, you've got to let me have my exception and I've got to let you have yours. What we have is a world of exceptions, where my violence is okay and yours is okay. That's why we have at least 14 million animals killed a day for food, 25 million abortions a year, 40,000 people killed a month in wars, 41,000 children dying every day in the Third World for lack of medicine, nearly 100 people executed from death rows in ten years, while weak gun laws sanction 22,000 handgun deaths a year. That's why King said in 1968 that his government was the leading purveyor of violence in the world.

But do you think we can legislate morality?

No, but we can legislate fairness. I don't want to make criminals out of anybody. I want to educate people. Education is the best way to reduce the violence rate—not jailing people. But education is a slow reform. That's why I'm in the schools. I teach courses in nonviolence. In the past five years, I've had about 1,100 students at four universities and three high schools.

How do you teach nonviolence?

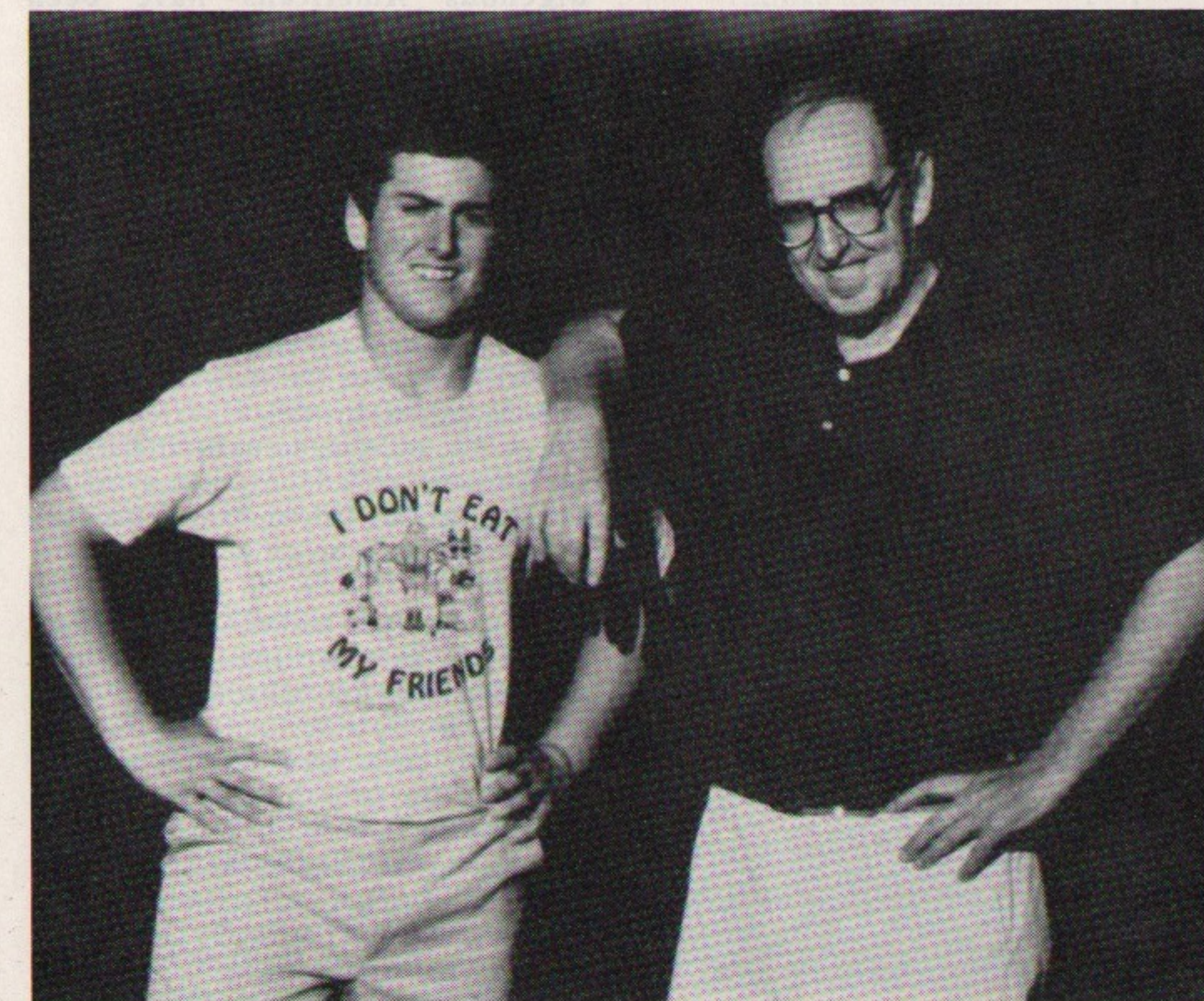
Patently and carefully. The course I teach is called *Alternatives to Violence*. We study Gandhi, Addams, Merton, Day, Muste, Einstein, Tolstoy, Rankin, Isaiah, Francis, Jesus, Berrigan, and a long list of others. I bring in animal rights people to talk to my students. I find there's no issue that radicalizes students as easily as animal rights, because you can start with the next meal.

I know you agree with Gandhi who felt that nonviolence is not a theory but a force. What kind of force is it?

The force of justice, the force of ideas, the force of love, the force of organized resistance to the latest pharaoh or caesar. There are only two types of force: violent and nonviolent. There's no third way. You either accept nonviolence or you commit yourself to the force of fists, guns, armies, nukes, or harsh language to solve problems. Take love. What happens when you fall in love? You start doing things differently. Love is the strongest force we have, but we're not used to thinking of it in that way.

Plato said you can't make people good, you can only create the conditions in which they'll *want* to be good. That's why you publish *The ANIMALS' AGENDA*, because you want to create the intel-

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Colman McCarthy and son John share a respect for animals.

INTERVIEW

Continued from previous page

tual conditions in which people can choose to be good. That's what schools are for.

How did our culture become so militaristic?

War is an illusion that weak and cowardly leaders push, saying, "One more war and we'll create the conditions in which justice can flower." It's a lie, but people buy it. Warfare has become a major world industry, and it's supported by myths of nationalism. American presidents say the U.S. must protect its "vital interests." That's a lie. It's "vital privileges" that are being protected, beginning with the vital privilege of our being five percent of the earth's population taking 40 percent of the earth's goods.

Since 1945, all wars in the world except one have been fought in the Third World. What's happening? Rich white people in Europe and North America who make money selling weapons are letting the poor kill each other. Nearly all wars today are civil wars. Salvadorans fight Salvadorans, Nicaraguans fight Nicaraguans. Look at Chad, Angola, Ethiopia, Kampuchea, the north of Ireland. It's a new development in warfare.

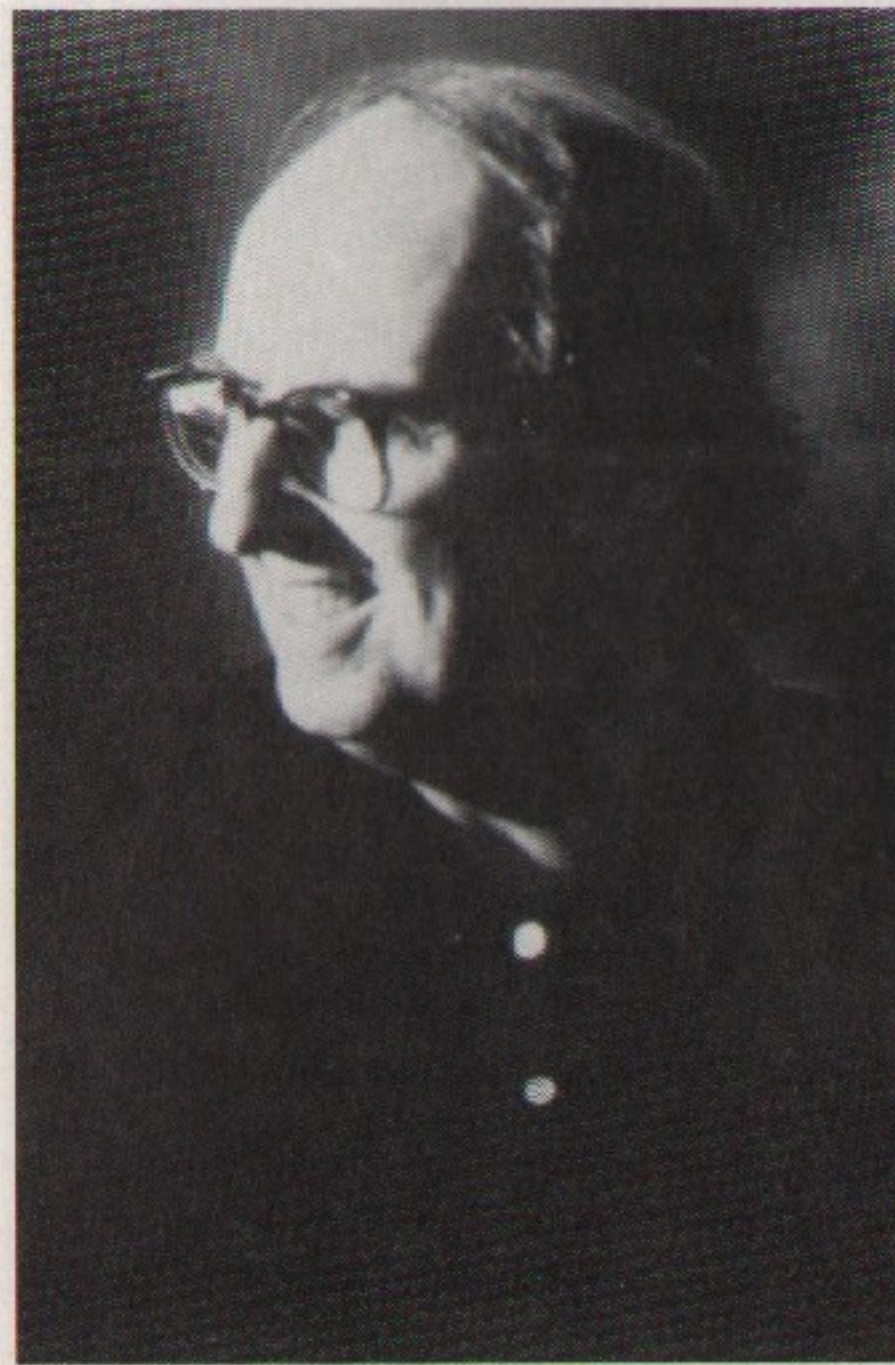
What's the best way to destroy the myths that perpetuate violence?

Use the schools, a structure that's already there—don't waste time trying to create another one. There are 16,000 high schools in America, and 3,000 colleges and universities. That's where the next generation is. But what are we doing to them? Teaching them algebra and a lot of other useless courses. Have you ever read a help-wanted ad for an algebraist? Let's teach them nonviolence—starting in first grade.

How can people utilize your teaching programs?

Through the Center for Teaching Peace. I supply schools with a syllabus, reading lists, and course materials. I'll go to schools, too, and organize the kids and the faculty. There's always a little hardcore group of faculty members who used to be out marching in the Sixties. Now they're subdued a bit—with mortgages and all—but they've still got the fires burning inside. Those are the ones I work with to get peace courses into the schools. I'm raising foundation money now, and the money I make from speaking goes into the center.

There's a situation in Canada that's put



Colman McCarthy: A pundit for troubled times.

animal advocates in opposition to an oppressed people—the Native North Americans—over the issue of trapping. Since at least the 17th century, indigenous Americans have been systematically exploited by the fur industry, but now they see us as their enemy. What can we do to demonstrate concern for those people without compromising our compassion for the animals?

It's a long process. In the civil rights movement, activists would go among white ethnics, the so-called hardhats, who saw blacks as the enemy. They'd try to make them see that they were all being victimized by the same economic forces. The trapping issue is similar. The natives are exploited the same way oceans are stripped for fish and rainforests are stripped to become cattle lots.

You say you try to make the radical look normal in your writing. Is that your special role in journalism?

I don't wake up every morning thinking that, but, sure, why not do that? It shouldn't be radical what the animal rights people are doing. It shouldn't be radical to want to stop teenage suicide or live without weapons. I try to be professionally angry and personally gentle. One trouble with American journalism is that we're mostly a white, upper-middle-class male trade. We don't get too alarmed

about injustices that don't harm us. Too many American newspapers just want to tinker with the system. Say a car comes in the repair shop with four flats, a shattered windshield, no clutch, no brakes, exhaust pipes dragging on the ground, no headlights. "Give it a squirt of Havolin Supreme and it'll run well," says the average editorial in U.S. newspapers. But the whole system needs to be overhauled!

Since journalism is not a particularly victimized profession, we tend not to see the enormous amount of violence in the world. We don't write about it enough or get angry about it. There are some radical journalists, however. There are also some struggling radical magazines with small circulations of 60 or 70 thousand. But *Reader's Digest* has 20 million. I think *Reader's Digest* is an absorbing magazine. When you wrap garbage in it, it absorbs the odors better than any other magazine we have.

It seems to me that there's a great deal of censorship in the American media. Not censorship due to governmental pressure so much as personal biases, editorial allegiances, or considerations about advertising revenue. Do you agree? I think you'd have to go paper by paper. There are dozens of examples of reporters being told not to write about something because the papers take ad money. If a reporter is grinding out copy about the unhealthiness of meat, and the leading advertiser is a packinghouse, its owner may make a phone call to the publisher, asking, "Hey, why do you let that reporter write this stuff?" The publisher says, "Yeah, you're right." So he kills the story. I've never experienced that kind of pressure, however. I've never had an editor or my publisher say not to write about something, but I know it happens a lot elsewhere—especially in small towns where the owner of the paper may be on the board of, say, the Rotary Club with some local big shot. I'm sure some of the columns I write make my publisher gag, but I've never even had a scowl from him. In fact, he's always been supportive. So I'm fortunate.

How can the animal rights movement better use the media?

Think of it as three U's: understand us, utilize us, and unify yourselves. By "understand us," I mean that much of the media are like crows. Crows are highly intelligent and proud birds, but they have one character defect: they lack judgment. If you've ever seen crows in the fields, they'll fly around and swoop in and peck away at whatever is shiny. The media tend to do that. Last year, the hot

INTERVIEW

story was teenage pregnancy. Now it's drugs. Next year it'll be something else.

Second, utilize us. Lots of groups just send press releases and don't know how to approach the media. The best way is to call up your local editorial page editor and ask, "Can we come in on Thursday morning?"—or whatever morning. Get an appointment and go in to explain what you're doing. Focus on a bill that's coming up in the state legislature or Congress, or something that happened or will happen. Say, "We'd appreciate your looking at what we're going to hand you now"—some well-documented fact sheet or other information—"and we'd be grateful if you'd consider writing about this." Editorial writers have got to fill up 20 or 40 inches of space a day, and they often write editorials based on what people

force we have, and where charity is no longer needed because we have justice.

While I sincerely believe that we are headed towards such a world—a world of love and justice for the animals, too—my optimism is often qualified by some pessimism, because I fear we may not have any world much longer if we go on polluting and damaging it. Are you sure there's time to instill new values?

I've no idea. I don't even think about it. I just think about what I can do today and let someone else worry about results. I think you need to free yourself from result anxiety—and you have a severe case! If we can develop a philosophy of social change that doesn't need results as a fuel, we'll be much more effective. It's especially difficult for Americans because

An ideal world is where wealth is shared, where love is recognized as the strongest force we have, and where charity is no longer needed because we have justice.

feed them. Why is it important to go to them? Because editorials are read by people who think other people are reading them. Legislators read them and their aides read them, and they think other people are reading them. You're more effective with one editorial than with a whole letter-writing campaign. One caution: don't go in there telling them their shoes are made out of animal hide or that they shouldn't be eating a corpse for dinner. Just calm down a little bit!

Your third U?

Unify. I mean by that, come with a unified voice. Have a specific issue, and let the editorial writers know that you're all together on it so that you're a collective force. If it's just one crank coming in about something, editors will dismiss it. You see, a lot of the mainline media still don't know who you are. They still think you're a fringe group. You've got to approach them in a civilized, sophisticated way.

What is your vision of an ideal world?

An ideal world is where wealth is shared, where love is recognized as the strongest

of our materialism. We want to have something to show for our effort.

Six or eight thousand years ago we started to read and write symbols on the walls, but today literacy has spread to only 65 percent of the planet. If that's the case, how long will it be before complicated ideas like sisterhood and brotherhood, and sharing wealth and love will get into our heads? It's going to be 600,000 times 6,000. So you need to liberate yourself from results. We're short-time creatures up against long-time issues. And the system wants you to get frustrated. It wants you to leave your \$22,000-a-year job with The ANIMALS' AGENDA and get the big job making 50 grand writing ad copy for IBM or GM or the fur industry, and define yourself that way. Too many people in the animal rights movement wear out, burn out, or run out because they become what the system wants them to be: result-oriented. Don't worry about being successful, just be faithful.

The Center for Teaching Peace is located at 4501 Van Ness St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016; telephone (202) 966-7682.

Dear Carmé,

I am concerned about animal rights and cruelty in animal lab testing.

I saw your company's name in the National Anti-Vivisection Society's guide to choosing cruelty-free cosmetics.

May I please know more about Carmé?

Sincerely,
Sunday Jamison

Black Earth, Wisconsin

Dear Ms. Jamison:

Thanks for writing. Carmé has been in business for eleven years and markets only natural ingredient products. We have never, and will never test on animals. What's more, our research shows that there is really no need to use animal by-products in our formulas. Instead, "we made nature our model" in developing our products, such as our Sleepy Hollow Botanicals. They contain no animal products and no oils. We use only plant extracts and natural moisturizers.

Also, we make donations to animal rights groups and run promotions for their benefit. Hope this helps.



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Victories

In response to letters from animal advocates, Walgreens Drug Stores has announced that once inventories are exhausted, its nationwide chain of stores will no longer carry inhumane rodent glue traps. Readers may write letters of thanks to: Edward H. King, director of government and corporate relations, Walgreens, 200 Wilmont Rd., Deerfield, IL 60015. ♦ The Humane Society of the United States has announced that Seafirst Bank of Seattle, Wash. has withdrawn its sponsorship of the Omak Suicide Race, a brutal downhill horserace held in conjunction with the Omak Stampede rodeo. Sponsors who have not yet pulled out include Coca-Cola USA, the Adolph Coors Company, and Pepsi-Cola. ♦ Public television station WGBH-Boston has responded to activists' letters and has announced that it will no longer accept furriers' sponsorships of programs. ♦ Perry Drugs, a large Midwestern chain of stores, is phasing out its sale of live animals. Thank-you letters may be sent to: Rita J. Farrell, customer relations coordinator, Perry Drugs, P.O. Box 1957, Pontiac, MI 48056. ♦ The Wyoming Rodeo, held for the past 25 years in Wyoming, Mich. and billed as "the largest rodeo east of the Mississippi," has become the third of four rodeos in the local area to bite the dust. The group West Michigan for Animals led the successful campaign against the rodeo, picketing the events and providing information on rodeo cruelties to ticket sellers and sponsors.

Slaughter Educational?

On May 17, two teenaged girls—students at Comstock Junior High School in Santa Rosa, Calif.—took a stand against institutionalized animal killing. After discovering a bucket containing the remains of two dead rabbits in their classroom, Wendy Paterson (age 15) and her friend Johanna Ulloa (14) absconded with two remaining live rabbits, scheduled to be killed that day in an agriculture class taught by rabbit farmer Susan Nystrom. The girls' action won a temporary stay of execution for the rabbits, who were returned to their "owner," a student who raises

EDITED BY LESLIE PARDUE



Rallying for new shelters in New York.

rabbits for slaughter. Wendy and Johanna received two weeks' detention for saving the animals, who would have been clubbed to death in front of students. An outpouring of public support for the students at first convinced school officials to promise an end to classroom animal killings—a promise broken less than a week later, when administrators reversed their position and announced that killings of chickens, rabbits, and lambs will be conducted in "well-concealed" parts of Santa Rosa's junior high and high school campuses. The group Sonoma People for Animal Rights (701A 4th St., Santa Rosa, CA 95404) is calling for letters in opposition to the slaughtering to be sent to: Superintendent Dr. John Landis, Santa Rosa Board of Education, 211 Ridgeway Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95401. Letters in support of the girls' actions may be sent to: Comstock Jr. High School, 2750 W. Steele Ln., Santa Rosa, CA 95403.

Mayoral Indifference

On May 14, animal advocates converged on Gracie Mansion, the residence of New York Mayor Ed Koch, to bring attention to the city's urgent need to establish animal shelters in the Bronx and other boroughs. The group staging the action—the Bronx Animal Rights Coalition (BARC)—says that the American Society for the Prevention of

Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), which until recently held the sole contract for animal control operations in the city, seems to be phasing out its animal sheltering operations. No other organization has yet come forward with the financial resources to take its place. The ASPCA has sold its Manhattan and Queens shelters already, and the city is now supposedly searching for new shelter sites. But, for nearly six years, a "search" has been underway for shelter sites in the Bronx and Staten Island—and to date there are still no shelters or site acquisitions. Says BARC, "Other large cities like Los Angeles and Chicago have good shelter systems. Why can't New York? ...No definitive plans have been announced for the future of animal welfare in a city with a population of over seven million people!" Readers are encouraged to write Mayor Koch (c/o City Hall, New York, NY 10017) and urge him to give this issue the attention it deserves.

Meatout Proclamation Creates Controversy

The Las Cruces, N.M. chapter of Sangre de Cristo Animal Protection was pleased this past spring when Las Cruces Mayor Herculano Ferralez complied with their request for a mayoral proclamation in support of the nationwide Great American Meatout, and the group was planning on honoring the

mayor with a Certificate of Merit. That was before the New Mexico Cattlegrowers Association got into the act, moving its planned convention from Las Cruces to Roswell in protest of the proclamation and the mayor's statements about the health benefits of a meatless diet. The Las Cruces Convention and Visitors Bureau projected a loss of \$28,000 to the city as a result of the move of the convention, prompting the major to issue a public apology for the proclamation he'd previously supported. "It is unfortunate that monetary gain should supersede the consideration for the health of the citizens of Las Cruces," commented Sangre de Cristo's Claude Bentley. The group plans to continue seeking proclamations from state and local officials in New Mexico in conjunction with future Meatout observances.

Events for Activists

Vegetarian Events, Farm Sanctuary and Trans-Species Unlimited (TSU) will host Farm Animal Freedom Marches in Chicago and Washington, D.C. on Saturday, October 1 (World Vegetarian Day). Speakers, music, and vegetarian food will follow the D.C. event. For information, call TSU's Chicago office at: (312) 751-0118; Farm Sanctuary at: (302) 654-9026; or Vegetarian Events at: (301) 493-2526. ♦ The New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance (NJARA), together with the National Alliance for Animal Legislation, will host the New Jersey Animal Legislation Conference on September 10. The event will feature workshops, speakers, and activist training sessions. NJARA is also planning a rally and march for September 19 at the State House in Trenton to demonstrate support for state legislation to ban the Draize test. For more information on these events, contact NJARA at: P.O. Box 703, Woodbridge, NJ 07095; (201) 855-9092.

♦ Downtown Community TV Center in New York City will, as part of its ongoing screening series, dedicate September 13, 20, and 27 to the issue of animals rights—offering videos, guest speakers, displays, and opportunities for group discussion. A percentage of the proceeds will be donated to People

for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. For information, contact: Downtown Community TV Center, 87 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10013; (212) 966-4510. ♦ The World Week of Prayer for Animals is scheduled for October 2-9. Information about events—or materials to assist those wishing to organize local observances—may be obtained by writing to: International Network for Religion and Animals, 2913 Woodstock Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910. ♦ Humane Services of Middle Georgia will sponsor a seminar October 8 in Macon, Ga. For information, contact Dianne Bailey at (912) 745-CARE.

Veggie Conferences

In celebration of World Vegetarian Day (October 1), Baltimore Vegetarians will host a vegetarian conference and expo at the Waldorf School in Baltimore. Cooking demonstrations, food samples, speakers, and displays will be featured. For more information, contact Baltimore Vegetarians at: P.O. Box 1463, Baltimore, MD 21203; (301) 752-VEGV. ♦ Animal Rights Community is sponsoring a Midwest vegetarian conference on Sunday, September 11 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Natural foods exhibitors, cooking classes, a gourmet vegan buffet, and speakers on various aspects of factory farming and vegetarianism are all part of the festivities. For details, contact Animal Rights Community at: P.O. Box 31455, Cincinnati, OH 45231; (513) 542-6810.

Mother's Day Veal Actions

The Farm Animal Reform Movement (FARM) reports success in its recent nationwide Mother's

Day veal actions, as numerous restaurants around the country agreed to stop serving milk-fed veal for a day—or forever. The Triangle Vegetarian Society (3513 Edencroft Dr., Raleigh, NC 27612) ran a very professional local campaign which was well-received by restaurateurs in the area, and the group is eager to share its strategies with activists in other locales. FARM is now gearing up for observances of World Farm Animals Day (October 2)—for information on activities, contact them at: P.O. Box 70123, Washington, DC 20088.



Still no protection for California's big cats.

Lawyers, Guns, and Money

True to form, the California Fish and Game Commission has adopted for 1988 the same plan it presented last year for a renewed trophy hunt of mountain lions in the state—a plan which was nixed by San Francisco Superior Court Judge Lucy McCabe after she determined that the agency had not adequately studied the possible effects of the proposal on lion populations and the environment. Undaunted, the agency has now gone so far as to file a lawsuit against one of the organizations that successfully sued the state last year to stop

the hunt—namely, the Mountain Lion Preservation Foundation. Says the Foundation, "This is par for the course for these agencies, who care little about administrative procedures, potential impacts, and public opinion, and who cater to special interest trophy hunters." Readers are encouraged to write letters to California Governor George Deukmejian in opposition to the hunt and the state's lawsuit against the Foundation. Deukmejian, who in 1987 vetoed legislation to protect the mountain lions, has a habit of appointing hunters to serve on the Fish and Game Commission. Readers may write the Governor at: State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814. For more information about this issue, or to help offset the legal expenses incurred in this battle, contact: The Mountain Lion Preservation Foundation, P.O. Box 1896, Sacramento, CA 95809.

Help End Pound Seizure

Animal advocates in Virginia are seeking support for H.B. 933, a state bill to stop pounds from turning over animals to research institutions. The organization Voices for Animals is looking for medical professionals, veterinarians, and disabled Virginians who support the bill. Contact the group at: P.O. Box 1324, Charlottesville, VA 22902; (804) 977-8547. Virginians are also urged to write or call the following three State Representatives, who comprise a subcommittee which will be reviewing the bill over the next few months: Rep. Kenneth Plum, P.O. Box 3354, Reston, VA 22090, (703) 893-1090; Rep. Harry Parrish, 8898 Bond Court, Manassas, VA 22110, (703) 368-3121; and Rep. Henry Maxwell, 900 Shore Dr., Newport News, VA 23607, (804) 380-1779.

Free Sunset Sam

"Sunset Sam" is an Atlantic bottlenose dolphin who was stranded on a Florida beach in 1984. He was treated for pneumonia, pox virus, and worms at the Clearwater Marine Science Center, but was not released back into the ocean, ostensibly because of impaired vision in one eye. Since 1984, Sunset Sam has been confined

in isolation in a substandard and abandoned concrete sewage pit. The Garden Club of Tarpon Springs, Fla. has been working to have the dolphin rehabilitated and released, or to at least have him transferred to an appropriate facility where he may enjoy contact with others of his kind. One of the problems is that the head coordinator for the entire Southeast Stranding Network also happens to be a biologist for the Sea World theme park. Says a spokesperson for the Garden Club, "Unfortunately, stranded whales and dolphins fall into the hands of those who are using them for attractions to make money and once in their hands, they cannot escape." The group is seeking support, especially from Florida animal advocates, in its efforts to free Sunset Sam. Interested persons may contact: Mary Mosley, Conservation Unit, Garden Club of Tarpon Springs, 321 E. Tarpon Ave., Tarpon Springs, FL 34689; (813) 938-5303.



In a glass prison.

Trans-Species Needs Support

Trans-Species Unlimited (TSU), an activist grassroots organization headquartered in Williamsport, Penn., is in dire need of financial support to help overcome debts incurred during several recent campaigns, and to help current campaigns continue. In addition to opening up several new offices, and printing and distributing a wide range of literature on animal rights issues, TSU has led recent campaigns against animal experiments at Cornell and New York Universities. The group is also working on several pieces of state legislation, including a bill to ban live bird shooting events in Pennsylvania. Those wishing to help support TSU's work may contact them at: P.O. Box 1553, Williamsport, PA 17703; (717) 322-3252.

Motherless calves.





The hides and skins of cattle, sheep, and goats provide the main sources of "raw material" for American tanners.

From Craft to Commodity

Leather and the Leather Industry

Leathermaking is probably both the world's oldest craft and trade, older even than farming. As an activity, it dates back at least 600,000 years, when early humans forged tools such as the "lissor"—a polished bone discovered by anthropologist Louis Leakey—to pound, shape, and soften animal skin. At that time, leather was used to make blankets for cave floors, roofing for huts, hulls for boats, shields and helmets for protection, and, of course, clothing. The first loin cloths, footwear, corsets, girdles, bras, aprons, and hose were all made of leather. Many of the earliest writings by governments and churches were done on parchments of goat and sheep skin; much primitive and medieval art made use of leather; and some of the first forms of currency consisted of leather script or pieces with denominations engraved on them. Leather has even been used as food at points in history. During Magellan's voyage to the Pacific in

BY DAVE MACAULEY

1611, the food supply of his ships was so depleted that the crew had to boil and consume everything made of animal hide in order to stay alive, as did tens of thousands of Chinese peasants when a famine struck in the 16th century. It is no wonder then that leather has been called "man's survival kit" and been referred to by archaeologists as "a barometer of civilization."

However, what has been for centuries a family trade, an art, and a means of survival for indigenous people is now a highly profitable business that depends upon the death of millions of animals each year. Leather has been transformed from an item of subsistence to an article of status, from an article of protection to an accessory for fashion, and from a community craft to a market commodity. A single Rolls Royce car, for example, today re-

quires eight full hides from specially raised cattle for its interior upholstery. And leather has been used to such an extent by the military that during World War II, the U.S. Department of Defense officially declared it to be "America's seventh most strategic war material." With clothing and other accoutrements, chicness is stressed over comfort and fashion is given primacy over function by the industry. Thus, to the degree that leather is a "barometer of civilization," it now measures the extent to which we have turned animals into commodities.

In 1611, Thomas Gates and other early settlers introduced cattle into the U.S., and in 1623, Experience Mitchell established the first tannery near Plymouth, Massachusetts where a type of tree bark used in tanning was in plentiful supply. During these initial years, "tanneries" consisted only of several large vats in the ground and a shed located near a stream for drying and currying the leather. Unlike

today, leather was produced simply to meet the needs of a locality, and most of the hides and skins came from wild animals who were hunted and killed for food. As the colonies expanded, the number of tanneries increased: by 1795, there were 2,400; by 1850, 6,600 existed; and by 1870, the number had grown to 7,500. Nearly all the tanneries, however, were still very small and local.

The modern era of leathermaking began abruptly around the middle of the 19th century with the development of new technology and machinery. Perhaps the most significant advancement from the current industry's standpoint was the discovery of chrome tanning—in which mineral salts replace bark tanning agents—because it allowed for the manufacture of lightweight and multi-colored leather. The introduction and widespread use of chemicals in the production process also had several effects: it reduced the loss of hide material; shortened the tanning period; put forth methods of acid control for softening the hides; and opened up new ways of coloring, dyeing, and finishing the product. These changes, in turn, enhanced the profitability of making leather and helped to create a large market for it. After thousands of years as a craft, leathermaking became an industry virtually overnight as the attendant centralization, mechanization, and standardization drastically altered the nature of the trade.

The Meat Connection

By the turn of the 20th century, a popular saying about the meat industry was "the packers make money out of everything except the pig's squeal," and one of those items which continues to turn a pretty profit for the packers is the animal's skin or hide. The leather industry, in fact, is intimately bound to the animal slaughter industry. This marriage was initially one of convenience, as the growth of stockyards and large meat-packing plants made hides a logical by-product of animal slaughter, but it developed into a more incestuous affair with the passage of time. The biggest meat packers, such as Swift and Armour, not only became mass sellers of hides but also opened up their own tanneries.

Since most leather is now a by-product of slaughter for food, the supply of hides bears no direct relation to the demand for a particular

kind of animal skin. Rather, the amount and type of meat which the public eats determines the supply of specific kinds of leather. For example, since the appetite for beef greatly exceeds the demand for leather products in this country, American packers export the vast majority of their hides overseas where, according to *Livestock Market Digest*, "they are fabricated with cheap labor and sent back to the United States as finished products." Japan, on the other hand, has few cattle but a relatively strong demand for leather goods, and is therefore a hide-importing country.

It would be incorrect, however, to conclude from this information that abstaining from purchasing leather products has no impact on the meat industry and thus no part in reducing animal suffering and death. Just the opposite is true, because the selling price of an animal to a slaughterhouse is very nearly equal to the selling price of the meat derived from the animal. As a rule, profits and expenses must come from the sale of by-products, the animal's "fifth quarter," which in the case of a 1000-pound steer averages 568 pounds of the animal: bones, horns, and hooves for

making gelatin to be sold to the photofilm and pharmaceutical industries; hair for paintbrushes, toothbrush bristles, air filters, mattresses, and furniture stuffing; blood to manufacture "livestock" feed, "pet" food, fertilizer, and drugs like Thrombin and Fibrinolysin; and skin to be transformed into leather. Packers often have a considerable amount of capital tied up in the hide inventory since the curing of hides takes approximately a month in a salt pack, and their value is generally between five and ten percent of the meat. Thus, a reduction in leather purchases by consumers can have a significant effect on the economic foundations of both the leather and meat industries.

The hides and skins of cattle, sheep, and goats provide the main sources of "raw material" for American tanners. In terms of volume and economic value, cattle hides and calf skins predominate, furnishing most of the footwear and leather goods produced in the U.S. These come from the more than 35 million beef cattle who are slaughtered and consumed each year and from dairy cattle who are killed once they are no longer "efficient"

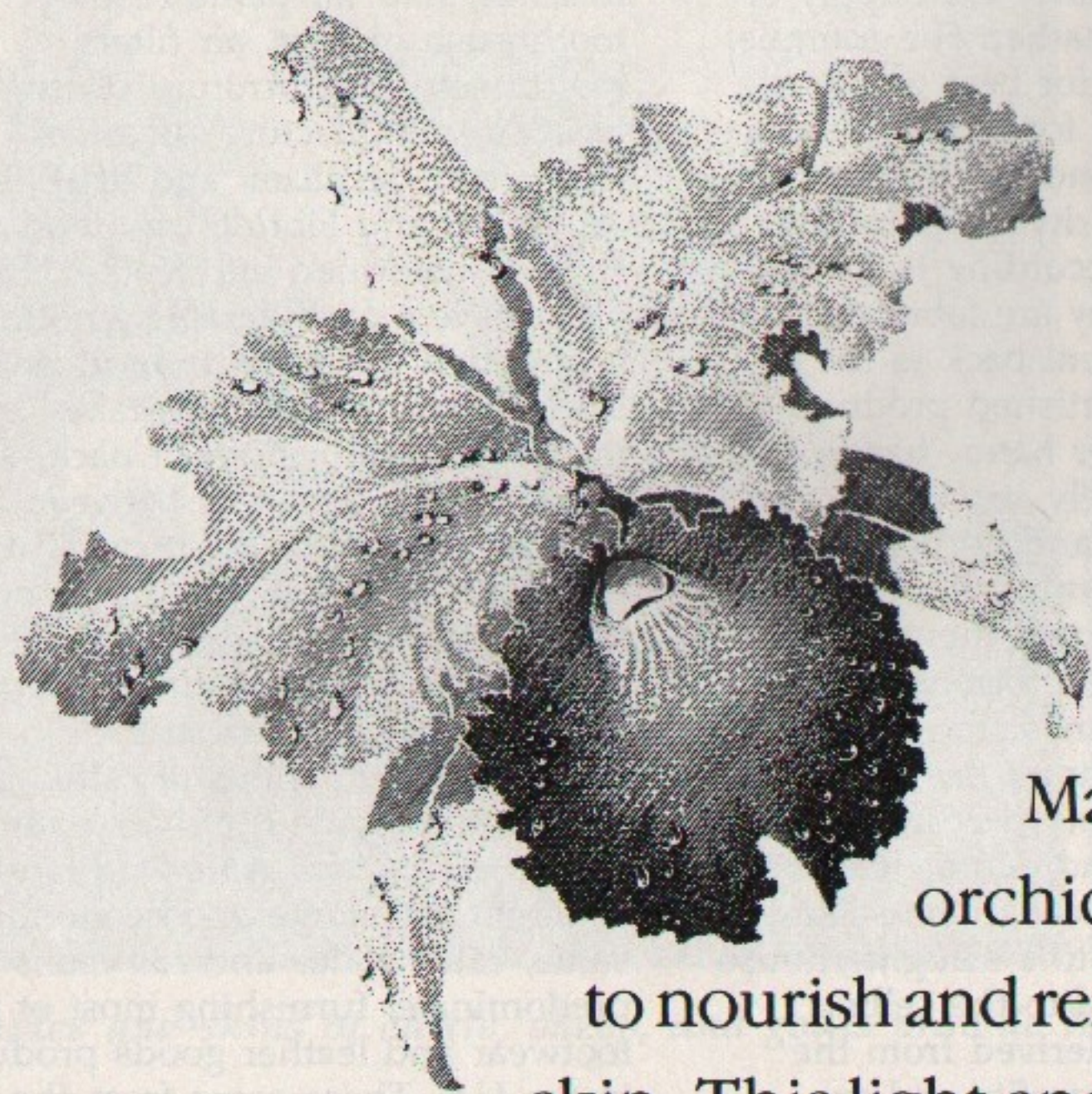
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Continued from page 15

In addition to clothing, cattle hide is used in insulation, as a base for many ointments, and as a binder for plaster and asphalt. Calf skin is a by-product of the dairy and veal industries, which subject animals to some of the most stressful and inhumane conditions in all of factory farming. Calf skin is highly valued by leather producers because of its fine-grain structure, and usually commands three to five times the price of heavy cattle hides. The skin of a "slunk," or unborn calf, obtained at the time of slaughter from a pregnant cow, brings especially high prices and is used to make fine suede leathers.

Most sheepskin comes from Australia and New Zealand when old "wool" sheep are slaughtered for meat. As with the beef and dairy industries, the wool trade causes suffering to millions of animals before they are shorn and skinned. Sheep, for example, are routinely transported without food and water in extreme heat or cold and in cramped conditions that commonly result in broken legs, eye injuries, or death. The skins are sold in a pickled state and used to make rugs, seatcovers, and similar products. Pigs, too, are animals used not only for their flesh, but also for their hides. In the U.S., the bodies of pigs are usually scalded in hot water after slaughter in order to loosen hair which is then brushed from the skin. Recently, a system has been developed whereby the best portions of domestic pig skin can be recovered in a condition suitable for use as suede shoe leather. The wild boar, or peccary, on the other hand, is "converted" into tougher grain-type leather products, including gloves, garments, and shoes. Footballs, sometimes referred to as "pigskins," are generally made of cowhide, contrary to popular opinion. The horse is among other domesticated animals whose skin is used to a lesser extent by the leather industry. Horse hide serves as a material for gloves and orthopedic braces.

Exotic Animals, Chic Products

Many wild, endangered, and so-called "exotic" animals, including ostriches, sharks, kangaroos, elephants, turtles, and frogs, are also killed for chic and fashionable leather products. Of these, kangaroo and shark skin items are sold on the commercial market in the



Kangaroo-skin items are sold on the commercial market in large quantities.

largest quantities. The skin of sharks is tough and very abrasion-resistant, and is used to make men's shoes and belts, and children's shoes. Kangaroo commodities are derived from the two to three million animals slaughtered each year under the Australasian Council of Nature Conservation Ministers approved "National Plan of Management for Kangaroos." Kangaroo flesh is made into "pet" food, and the skins end up as athletic shoes, golf bags, and belts. The Australian government permits the killing because it views kangaroos as "pests" who allegedly overgraze on grass needed by cows and sheep, despite the lack of evidence to support this claim and the fact that most of the kills occur in the outback where kangaroos are little, if any, threat to farmers. As Paul and Anne Erlich have pointed out in their book *Extinction*, "Many excuses for killing the kangaroos have been made, especially by graziers, and are related to their misconceptions about the impact of the kangaroos on pastures that the stockmen themselves have often ruined by overgrazing with sheep. But the main reason once more is greed mixed with the lack of compassion." The U.S. serves as one of the world's largest markets for finished kangaroo products, providing an economic incentive for continued killing.

Among other animals killed to make leather are numerous species of

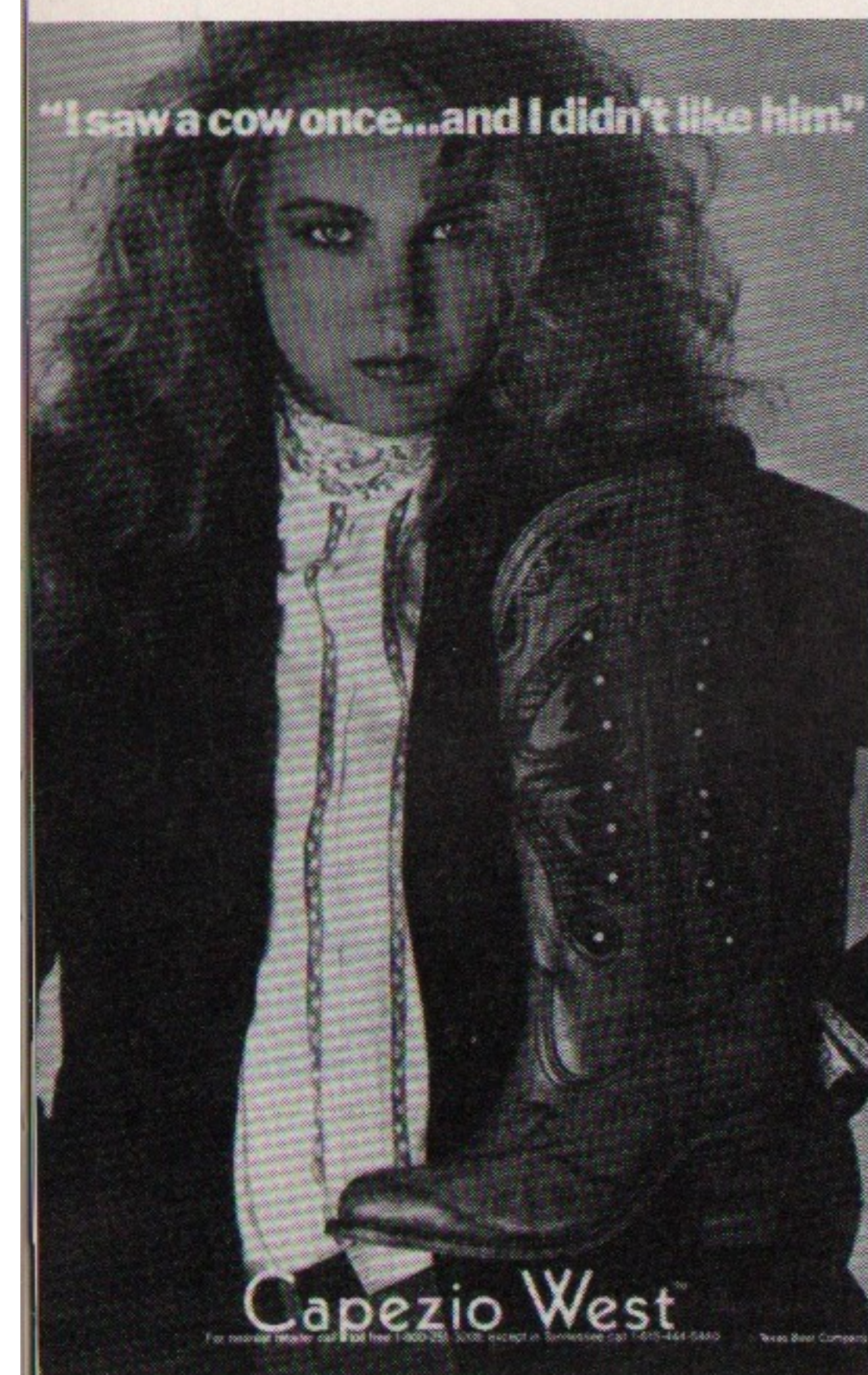
snakes, such as the python, boa constrictor, watersnake, and cobra, whose skin has a high commercial value. Snakes are caught in the wild and often staked and skinned alive, a procedure which precedes the salting and drying of the skin and which is extremely painful to the animals. In South India, hunters attempt to kill members of one species of snake while preserving the skin by rubbing snuff into the reptile's eyes, but this practice probably only paralyzes the animals, and the natives frequently pull the skins off immediately after administering the substance.

The ostrich, a native of Africa, is now slaughtered for both meat and skin. The skin—which is used to manufacture shoes, wallets, handbags, and purses—fetches a high price and makes ostrich farming very profitable. Skin from the shin of the animal is especially sought after for the production of expensive handbags for women. In South Africa, a new generation of millionaires is emerging in the ostrich-farming town of Oudshoorn in the Southern Cape, where feather barons lived at the turn of the century. The latest development planned for the area is an abattoir which will process 700 birds a day. There, ostrich farmers use massive incubators capable of hatching up to 30,000 eggs at one time.

Two species of wild animals among

Continued on next page

— Photo courtesy of International Wildlife Coalition



Sexy marketing by the leather industry has kept the demand for the product high. The latest campaign by the Texas Boot Company has added an element of animal hatred to its pitch.

Continued from previous page
the most exploited for their skin are the alligator and crocodile, who are killed in the waters of Africa and South America, on the islands of Southeast Asia, and—in the case of gators—in the wetlands of Florida, Louisiana, and Texas. In order to get profitable hides, reptile skimmers cut straight down the bellies of smaller alligators and crocodiles, and procure the skin on their backs (called "horn-back"), while larger animals are cut down the back and the square belly is kept. In their book, *Keine Angst Um Wilde Tierre*, Manfred Behr and Hans Meissner shed some light on the way crocodile skin is typically obtained in Africa. A European hunter and manager, described as one of the great killers of crocodiles, believes that the best method for catching the animals is with bait fixed to a wire that is then attached to an air-tight drum. Once the hook is swallowed, the wire prevents

the crocodile from closing her gullet. The animal drowns upon diving beneath the surface of the water. The hunter explains:

"If several tough and hefty men are present, they can also pull on such wire as soon as the crocodile has swallowed the hook which is barbed. In this way, the animal's inside is gradually torn and lacerated and its resistance abates. It is more or less the same as with fishing with line and hook, except that the victim and the hook are proportionately larger."

Another European wholesale contractor who supplies thousands of crocodile skins each year to the leather industry says he "naturally cannot achieve much with separate catches that waste so much time." Thus, he instructs his African employees to lay out large nets which are baited with the bodies of several dozen monkeys who have been shot. When the crocodiles have gathered around the dead monkeys, the nets are drawn in. The contractor describes what follows:

"The men who had drawn in the net now straightened themselves and pressed against the ground with all their strength in order to drag the net nearer to the bank... With their hammers and picks the others dashed forward and smashed with all their might at the dark and indiscernible mass that consisted of crocodiles. There was a hideous and ghastly noise... the dull thud of the weapons and the splashing and foaming of the churned-up water, when the captured beasts struck with their tails... Through this racket and uproar I now heard the queer, weak squeaking whimper of the crocodiles which were cornered and were vainly trying to escape from the blows that were being rained on them from all sides."

The plight of alligators is not much different from that of crocodiles. Once protected as an endangered species in the U.S., alligators are now legally hunted in a number of Southern states.

Presently, there are just two commercial reptile tanneries in the U.S. One of these, Florida Reptile Tanning Inc., began production in January, 1988 in Tarpon Springs, Florida and is owned and operated by Jay Wilson, who hunted caimans on the Venezuelan Amazon for eight years. The process of converting raw reptile hides into a marketable skins takes about eight weeks, and involves removing the scales, bleaching the

color out, slating and drying, chemically treating, and dyeing, glazing, and trimming the skin on large machines. According to Wilson, the company plans to tan 6,000 alligator skins, 33,000 yards of snakeskin, 35,000 square feet of caiman skin and substantial amounts of tegu lizards and crocodiles this year and sell them to companies such as Ralph Lauren. Wilson purchases the alligator carcasses for \$170 to \$200 each and sells the finished skin for about \$75 per foot (about \$6,000 a carcass). While most reptile tanneries are concentrated in Europe and the Far East, Wilson says, "There are 100 buyers for every skin, all over the world. The demand just overwhelms the capacity of supply," a fact which does not bode well for members of the reptile kingdom.

The Industry

The \$1.5 billion U.S. leather industry tans approximately 100 million animal skins each year, and tanning activities are concentrated in Northeast, Mid-West, and Middle Atlantic States, and in California. Shoe manufacturers serve as the primary customers for this business, consuming between 66 and 80 percent of the total volume of leather made. The amount of leather needed to produce a single pair of shoes varies greatly, but averages slightly over one square foot per pair.

Despite reaping handsome profits, the leather industry is facing some problems which could threaten the viability of the business. Once the world's largest, the U.S. leather industry is currently only fourth in size, behind Italy, Russia, and India, respectively. This decline has come about as many former leather markets—such as manufacturers of shoes, handbags, upholstery, and luggage—have, to a large degree, switched to synthetic materials. In addition, leather imports have increased substantially in the last 20 years. Footwear imports, for example, now comprise 83 percent of the U.S. market for shoes. The increasing concentration of power in the meatpacking industry, it seems, is also a trend threatening the viability of many hide dealers. There were 400 U.S. tanners 25 years ago; now there are less than 100. The four largest packers—IBP, Excel, Conagra, and National—control 65 percent of the cattle killed and 71 percent of the cattle fed. This translates into control of an estimated 80 percent of cattle hides

Continued on page 20

EVERY TIME YOU HEAR KOREAN OLYMPICS THINK OF THIS!



Watching TV coverage of the South Korean Olympics this Summer you'll see all the traditional scenes. Smiling athletes, flag-waving crowds and the dramatic lighting of the torch.

You WON'T see the evil, uncivilised side of life in the host country. Outside Seoul's Olympic Park cats and dogs, just like our pets, will be brutally killed as *LUXURY* food for those who believe such dishes give them the strength and stamina of the animals.

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Please join us. Your petition signature, and your campaign support donation, are absolutely vital if we are to win. Help us carry a Torch of Hope this September... for the animals.



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8AUG1

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I would also like to offer EXTRA help for the animals and enclose \$.....

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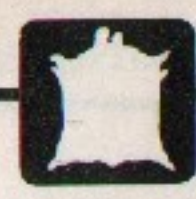
Address

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The International Fund for Animal Welfare, P.O. Box 193,
(169 Main Street), Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts 02675.

IFAW

Our financial statement is available to contributors.
A copy of the last financial report filed with the Department of State may be obtained by writing to:
N.Y. State Department of State, Office of Charities Registration, Albany N.Y. 12231 or IFAW.



Continued from page 18

available, a figure which is likely to rise to 90 percent by 1995. The number of cattle slaughtered, too, has fallen by ten million in the last ten years, and it is expected that major packers will do more direct marketing of their hides, reducing the need for intermediaries in the industry. While certain trends may be encouraging to those who oppose animal slaughter, it is necessary to keep in mind that the demand for and production of leather is still at its highest point in history.

Impact on the Environment

In addition to being responsible for the slaughter of millions of animals each year, the leather industry, like the factory farming industry, is also responsible for much environmental destruction in the U.S. As Thomas C. Thorstensen, author of *Practical Leather Technology*, has noted: "Tanning has the unenviable reputation for being one of the filthiest, evil smelling industries. This reputation was established by the character of the village tannery a century ago, and still persists. With the expansion of the industry to modern, highly mechanized factories in urban areas, the problem [has become] more acute..." In the eastern Kentucky town of Middles-



— Dave Macauley

A stack of alligator skins await processing at a Florida tannery.

boro, for example, the sewage from the Middlesboro Tanning Company has destroyed much of the life in nearby Yellow Creek and polluted the water to the point that it is dangerous to drink. Studies conducted by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control concluded that the incidence of leukemia among people who use the creek as a drinking source is five times the national average, and tests performed by Vanderbilt University researchers

found increases in the incidence of liver and heart disease, cancer, and gastrointestinal ailments in the same group. Like many other tanning companies, the Middlesboro plant has been polluting water since the beginning of the century, injecting lead, zinc, formaldehyde, dyes, cyanide-based chemicals, and other dangerous substances into the stream. The Middlesboro Tanning Company is, in fact, one of the smallest tanning plants in the U.S., and the problem likely exists throughout the entire leather industry. Recently a tanning plant in Auburn, Kentucky was shut down for polluting local groundwater.

Alternatives to Leather

If leather is not quite the great "survival kit" that many imagine it to be, the alternatives to animal hide are not always so clearly apparent, politically acceptable, or readily available either. Lewis Gompertz, the second secretary of the England's Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and a strict vegetarian, once suggested that animals might be allowed to live in pastures until they died a natural death, after which their skins could be used to make leather. But this proposal, while thoughtful and compassionate, is extremely impractical today.

Synthetics such as nylon, vinyl, rubber, and plastic offer seeming alternatives to leather for making shoes, clothing, and other items. Following World War II, Dupont Co. developed a type of "miracle" plastic that was designed to replace and surpass

leather. It was supposed to breathe like animal hide, wear like steel, and never require polishing, but the product did not survive the pressures of market forces and vested interests. Despite possessing such useful properties, synthetic materials are frequently disastrous to the environment. Plastic, for example, is a petroleum-based derivative that causes much pollution, waste of energy, and destruction of delicate biotic communities in its production. More natural fibers such as cotton and linen appear to be preferable to leather and synthetics in that they involve simpler technologies and are usually safer and cleaner for the environment, even though cotton, too, is treated with toxic chemicals and insecticides.

For those seeking alternatives to leather, there are now many stores and distributors that carry special lines of nonleather shoes and clothing, and organizations such as Beauty Without Cruelty distribute newsletters and material providing information on these companies and products. Obtaining used shoes and clothing is an attractive option because it circumvents the market almost entirely and does not directly support undesirable industries and corporations, although there is probably some truth to the claim that wearing leather of any kind (including substitutes which may be mistaken for leather) helps to legitimize the product indirectly by making it publicly visible. When thinking about and discussing the issue of leather, it is important to avoid falling into either one of two traps which exist: a kind of moral hypochondria and self-righteousness on the one hand, and a hands-up-in-the-air hopelessness on the other. It is useful to remember that with some items such as motorcycle gear and special work shoes, there are few, if any, existing alternatives to leather that are both safe and affordable. Still, by refusing to buy animal by-products whenever possible, and by considerable reflection about alternatives to leather, we will be minimizing the baleful effects that our choices have on animals, people, and the rest of nature.

Note: For more specific information on obtaining nonleather products, contact: Aesop Unlimited, Dept. 304, P.O. Box 315, Cambridge, MA, 02140 (free catalogue); Heartland Products, Ltd., Box 218, Dakota City, IA, 50529 (free catalogue); Beauty Without Cruelty, 175 West 12th St., Suite 16G, New York, NY, 10011.



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Lene Lovich

Last year, Wax Trax Records released *Animal Liberation*, the album. Conceptualized and organized by Dan Mathews, special projects director for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), and featuring such top rock stars as Howard Jones and Lene Lovich, the LP sold over 50,000 copies and demonstrated that music can be an effective tool in communicating animal rights messages.

On June 11 of this year, Mathews, Jones, and Lovich—among other notables—linked up again to put on the first-ever Animal Rights Music Festival near the Washington Monument in the nation's capitol. Also featuring musicians Natalie Merchant and Robert Buck of 10,000 Maniacs, Guadalcanal Diary, Exene of X, Betty, Big Bang Theory, as well as the B-52s as special guest hosts, the Music Festival attracted a crowd of 35,000 on a sunny warm Saturday afternoon—making it the largest animal rights gathering ever held in the world. Besides the music, several other major personalities including Mink Stole—star of John Waters' hit musical *Hairspray*—and Rue McClanahan—a star of the NBC hit series *The Golden Girls*—delivered speeches to the crowd.

Without exception, the speakers and performers at the Festival were all true believers in the cause of animal liberation. In addition to doing public service announcements (PSAs) for PETA, McClanahan has recently spoken out on several talk shows about the strength of her animal rights commitment—even hinting that the next step for her to take is illegal

PETA's Music Festival Attracts Thousands

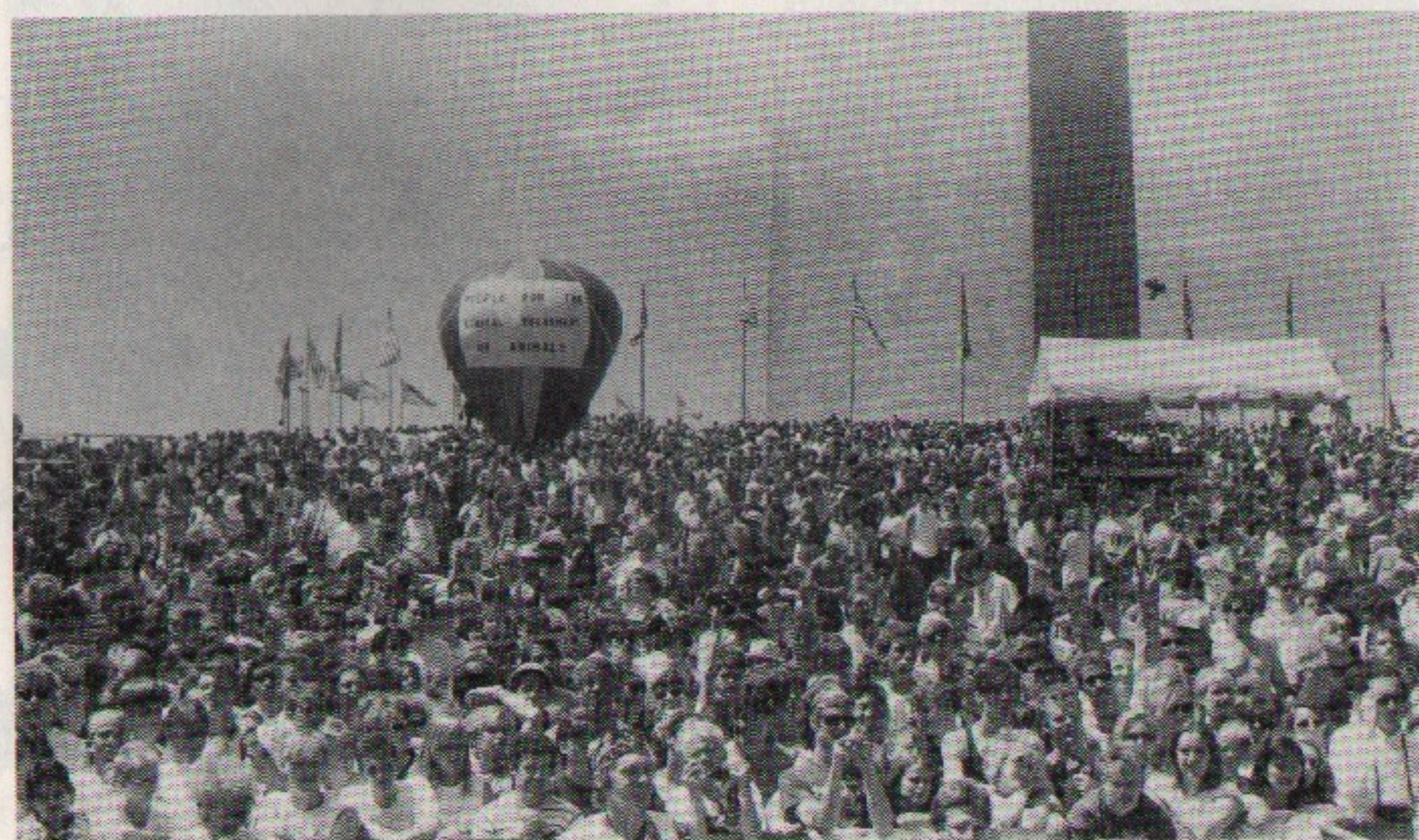


Photo courtesy of PETA

actions on behalf of animals. Also, most of the featured rock stars have added animal rights songs to their repertoires. Lene Lovich's and Nina Haagen's "Don't Kill the Animals" is rapidly developing into a theme song for the animal movement. And Howard Jones' "Assault and Battery" delivers a potent message about the injustice of slaughtering animals for food. Said the British singer-songwriter, who has recently opened a vegetarian restaurant in New York City, "Animal rights is an extension of human rights. It's all bound together. It's all about us surviving on the planet and that we have to respect other things..." Added Natalie Merchant, whose 10,000 Maniacs are developing a large following in the U.S., "When I think how animals are abused in this world, I wonder to myself who defined the word 'civilized.'"

Clearly, it was the talents, not the beliefs, of the performers that attracted the huge crowd to the event. Nonetheless, the spectators—most of whom seemed to have had little prior exposure to animal rights—were treated to a heavy dose of the issues. Besides assembling the cast of rock stars and speakers, PETA offered vegetarian food and free animal rights literature, and displayed photographs of animal abuse and its newest piece of art—"Dr. Destructo's Can of Pain," a 17-foot model depicting the realities of cosmetics and household products testing.

Local television and print media and the national cable channel Music Television (MTV) covered the festival in a very positive light. The tone of the coverage in-



Vegetarian performer Howard Jones

icated that "happenings" like music festivals generally receive more favorable treatment from the press than demonstrations and other confrontational events.

Mathews said that the gathering was only the first of many scheduled to take place all over the country. He added that the festival, with its huge turnout, legitimized the cause of animal rights for many performers who may now consider participating in future events. In addition to organizing the music festivals, PETA is also coordinating a second album to be released in late 1989. The list of contributors is not yet complete, but Michael Stipe of REM and Natalie Merchant are already working on songs.

—Wayne Pacelle

Picking up the Pieces at the Animals Farm Home

In recent issues, *The ANIMALS' AGENDA* has reported on discoveries made in November of last year by law enforcement officials investigating the Animals Farm Home, a non-profit organization in Ellenville, N.Y. operated for the past 14 years by Justin McCarthy. Officials were tipped off to the rampant abuse and neglect suffered by animals at the farm when McCarthy's adult nephew, a short-term employee at the Farm, contacted them with information. An unannounced, court-authorized raid of the facility occurred on November 21, 1987, bringing to light the inhumane conditions which had previously been hidden behind closed doors and locked gates.

Several species of animals were confined at the Animals Farm Home. Dogs comprised the largest number of animals there, and it was the dogs, in general, who were in the most deplorable condition. Of the hundreds of dogs, most were extremely emaciated. Virtually all suffered from various stages of sarcoptic mange—some to the point where they were virtually hairless, covered with open sores, and so debilitated as to be beyond saving. At the time of the court-authorized entry of the Farm on November 21, 1987, bread appeared to comprise an inordinate part of the dogs' diet. Cannibalism among the dogs was one of the discoveries that led an Ulster County grand jury, on May 19, 1988, to indict Justin McCarthy and the Animals Farm Home on 25 counts of cruelty to animals. At press time, the criminal trial is expected to take place at the end of the summer or early in the fall. In addition to the criminal charges brought by Ulster County District Attorney Michael Kavanagh, New York State Attorney General Robert Abrams has filed a civil action which may lead to the dissolution of the not-for-profit corporation operated by Justin McCarthy.

Four days after the initial discoveries of deplorable conditions at the Animals Farm Home, the Ulster County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (UCSPCA) in Kingston, N.Y. obtained court authorization to ensure that the medical needs of the animals would be met. Over a two-day period, veterinarians determined that almost 200 of the dogs had to be euthanized because they were deemed incapable of surviving the ivermectin treatments that would be administered to them to fight the rampant sarcoptic mange infestation. The intense suffering of the animals so moved several local veterinarians that they donated their services on Thanksgiving Day to assist Dr. Lawrence Bartholf, the veterinarian ap-

pointed by the UCSPCA to direct the emergency medical effort, in euthanizing the dogs who were beyond saving. In addition to treating the remaining dogs for mange, Dr. Bartholf vaccinated all the dogs against rabies, distemper, parvovirus, and other contagious diseases.

Since that sorrowful beginning, the UCSPCA has focussed its efforts on restoring and maintaining the health of the remaining animals—who, because of their numbers, had to be impounded on the property of the Animals Farm Home. The UCSPCA has been regularly monitoring the animals' housing and health conditions while the two court cases are pending against McCarthy.

The cat population also required intensive veterinary care. About a dozen of some 60 cats at the Farm had to be euthanized because they suffered from advanced stages of disease. The operators of the Farm agreed to have the unneutered male cats (who had been housed with unspayed females) surgically sterilized. Dr. Bartholf tested the cats for feline leukemia and arranged to have the leukemia-positive cats housed separately from the rest of the feline population.

The equine animals presented yet another problem. Among the more than 40 horses and ponies, many had laminitis (also known as founder), an extremely painful hoof ailment often accompanied by purulent infections. Ponies in particular are susceptible to this affliction, which experts say can be brought about

or exacerbated by an improper diet. Dr. Bartholf recommended that the excessive amount of bread being fed to the ponies be eliminated from their diet. This measure has resulted in considerably increased comfort for many of the ponies, but since long-term cases of founder usually cannot be quickly corrected, some of the ponies are still undergoing treatment for the condition. Additionally, several pony stallions and a burro were gelded to prevent them from mating with females of their respective species with whom they were pastured.

The Farm had over 80 goats in November. Some suffered from urinary tract blockage problems, and several had an extremely painful incurable arthritic condition which caused them to hobble on their foreknees. Those animals were euthanized, and the remainder were tested for brucellosis and tuberculosis. The remaining farm animals—chickens, peacocks, geese, and pigs—appeared to be in acceptable health, with the exception of one sow with a large hernia.

In a continuing effort to prevent conditions from deteriorating to their earlier status, UCSPCA representatives visit the Farm at least twice a week to monitor operations, ensuring that all animals receive proper food and water. In a previous story, *The ANIMALS' AGENDA* mistakenly reported that food for the animals was being supplied by the UCSPCA. The Animals Farm Home has to date been providing the food required

Continued on next page



Living on bread alone caused severe malnutrition in the Animals Farm Home dogs.

Valerie McCusker/UCSPCA

STOCKHOLDERS' RESOLUTIONS ON ANIMAL TESTING

Encouraging Corporate Responsibility

This past spring, shareholder proposals sponsored by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) regarding product testing on animals were voted on by over 750,000 stockholders in seven major cosmetics and household product companies. The proposals focussed on the shareholders' "right to know" pertinent information about company operations, ways in which these companies now use animals in painful product tests, and their plans for eliminating animal testing in the future. The proposals took the form of disclosure requests, and asked the companies to report to shareholders on: 1) which of their cosmetics and/or household products are tested on animals; 2) which tests are not required by law; and 3) the companies' progress toward their stated goal of eliminating animal tests, including the numbers of animals used. In the two instances in which the companies had not yet committed themselves to the goal of ending



Protesting the Draize test at a stockholders' meeting.

Photo courtesy of New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance

Animal Farm Home

Continued from previous page

by the animals there. The UCSPCA had purchased and delivered a vanload of dog and cat food on the afternoon of November 21, after having discovered hundreds of emaciated animals at the Farm, but Justin McCarthy refused to accept it.

Since the rescue effort began, there has been significant improvement in the condition of almost all of the surviving animals. However, the most dramatic change has been in the health and appearance of the dogs, virtually all of whom gained weight and acquired fuller coats, and who now demonstrate a liveliness they did not possess in November. Their housing, however, is still unacceptable, and dogfights resulting from overcrowding continue to occur at the Farm. The UCSPCA is urging the Animals Farm Home to conform to an agreement stipulating that an adoption program will be pursued. This would reduce the stress created by the overcrowding. Thanks to the cooperation of area veterinarians who have donated their services, the UCSPCA recently began a program whereby an average of four dogs a week have been transported by UCSPCA volunteers to veterinary hospitals for spaying.

Some people have expressed an interest in seeing the Animals Farm Home continue as a retirement colony for abandoned animals, albeit under different management from that of the past 14 years. This idea, though perhaps attractive upon initial consideration, does not upon closer examination appear viable for economic, legal, and administrative reasons. The Animals Farm Home is mired in debt and beset with legal problems. The IRS has a lien of over \$230,000 on the property for McCarthy's failure to submit withholding taxes from employees' wages over a period of several years. In addition, there are two legal battles being waged—the criminal case and the civil one—which will, in all likelihood, involve considerable expense.

As a result of positive treatment by the media in the past, the Animals Farm Home has been thought of as a "great farm in the sky," to borrow an expression from the Humane Society of the United States' Phyllis Wright, who has used the phrase to describe public attitudes about facilities where animals are actually warehoused rather than protected. Many people want very much to believe the

farm-in-the-sky myth, imagining a place where unwanted animals are afforded a carefree existence until they die a "happy, natural death"—the kind of end promised on a form signed by people who relinquished their animals to the Animals Farm Home. Those who accept this myth are not only deluding themselves, they are potentially placing animals in peril. Those who must find new homes for their companion animals must do so responsibly. Otherwise, places like the Animals Farm Home will continue to exist and cause needless suffering.

—Patricia Valusek

Patricia Valusek helped in the emergency relief effort, and is a volunteer public relations consultant for the UCSPCA.

The UCSPCA has been generously assisted in its efforts on behalf of the animals at the Animals Farm Home by organizations and individuals too numerous to list. Others wishing to help the UCSPCA in its endeavors may send donations to: UCSPCA Emergency Fund, P.O. Box 124, Kingston, NY 12401.

animal testing, the proposals asked that they do so.

The votes were as follows:

American Home Products	5.1 percent (4.3 million shares)
Avon	5.3 percent (3.2 million shares)
Bristol-Myers (Clairol)	4.6 percent (3.2 million shares)
Colgate-Palmolive	9.0 percent (3.9 million shares)
Gillette	11.4 percent (9.9 million shares)
Greyhound (Dial)	10.0 percent (2.5 million shares)
Schering-Plough (Maybelline)	5.8 percent (4.3 million shares)

PETA member Lynn Pulis' proposal at IBM got a vote of 9.9 percent, or 22 million shares. Pulis travelled for the second year to IBM's annual meeting, where she addressed an estimated 2,000 shareholders on the product testing issue.

Securities and Exchange Commission regulations allow proposals receiving a vote of three percent or more to be reintroduced. With the discussion of these proposals taking up anywhere from a fourth to a third of these meetings' time, it's likely that the companies do not relish the thought of the activists' return.

As director of PETA's Compassion Campaign, I presented the proposals at stockholders' meetings in Wilmington, Del.; Kenilworth, N.J.; Boston, Mass.; and New York, N.Y.—while attorneys Peter Lovenheim and Stephanie Nichols-Young of the Animal Legal Defense Fund spoke at the Colgate meeting in New York and the Greyhound meeting in Phoenix, respectively. Attendees also heard from several animal activists representing shareholders who were unable to attend: these speakers included Bernie Unti of the American Anti-Vivisection Society, Dr. Murray Cohen of the Medical Research Modernization Committee, Susan Brebner of the National Association of Nurses Against Vivisection, and Dr. Ethel Thurston of the American Fund for Alternatives to Animal Research and Beauty Without Cruelty.

After the Gillette meeting, PETA presented company officials with several mailbags containing 45,000 petitions collected from consumers who no longer buy Gillette products. A color photo of demonstrators from the Boston group Coalition to End Animal Suffering and Exploitation (CEASE) posing with bags of petitions appeared on the front page of the Massachusetts newspaper *The Lawrence Eagle-Tribune*. Activists from

Delaware Action for Animals and the New Jersey Animal Rights Alliance demonstrated in support of stockholders' proposals outside the American Home Products meeting in Wilmington and the Schering-Plough meeting in Kenilworth, respectively.

Reaction from stockholders—who numbered in the hundreds at most meetings, with 1,500 at Gillette—was very positive, and most of the activists' presentations met with prolonged applause. Many shareholders expressed their gratitude at having been made aware of the issue and indicated interest in getting more involved in efforts on behalf of animals.

While a proposal needs over 50 percent of the vote to carry, it is encouraging to note the positive reaction of stockholders and the opportunity these proposals afford us to educate them and to broaden our base of support. Animal advocates have also begun to expand their dialogue with corporate executives, and the press coverage of the stockholders' meetings has educated millions on the product testing issue. A comparison with other social issue proposals (courtesy of the Investor Responsibility Research Center, Inc.) provides further encouragement: for example, proposals on divestment from South Africa (which have been brought before stockholders for several years) received an average vote of 6.6 percent in 1986 and 12.2 percent in 1987.

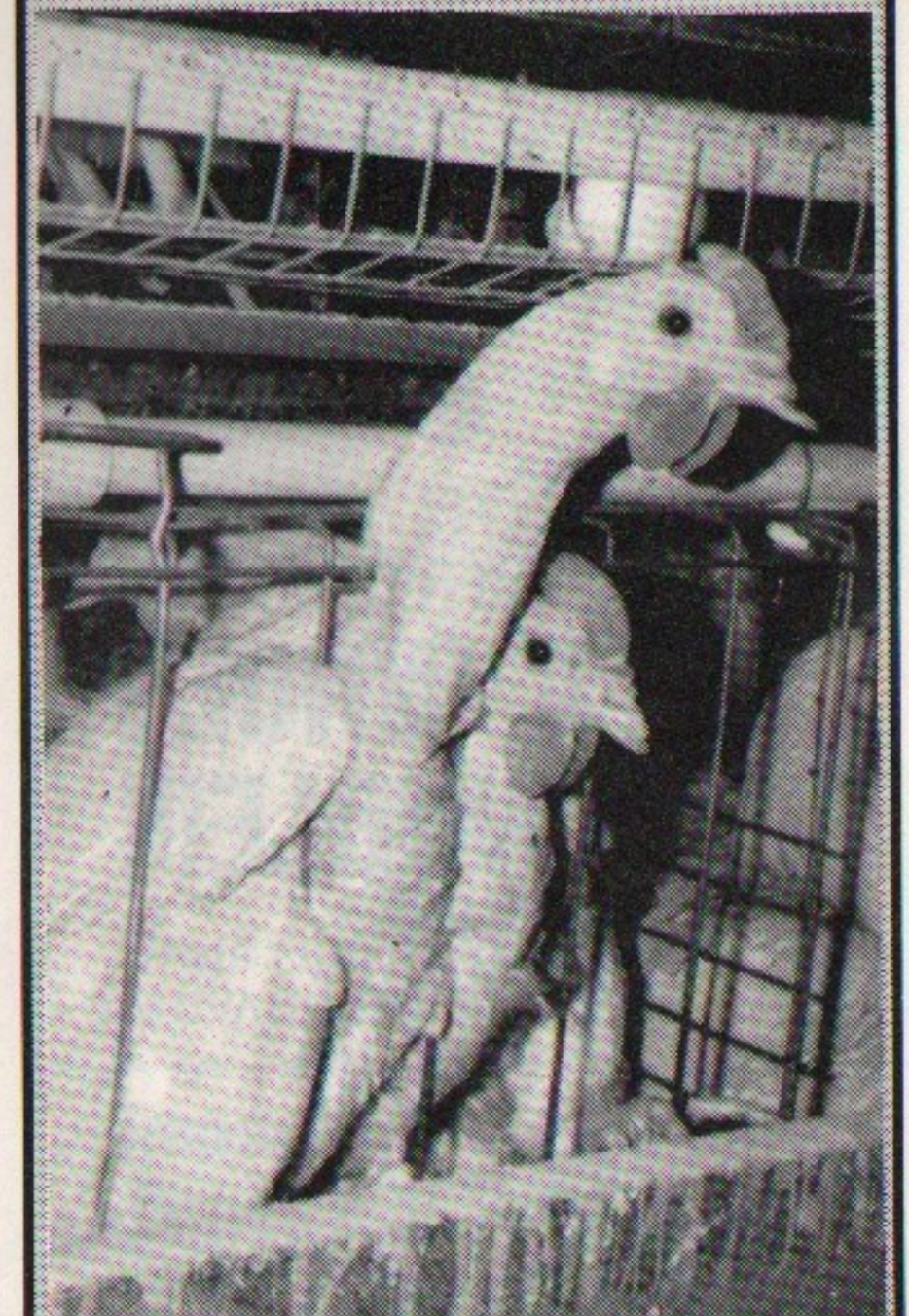
—Susan Rich

Susan Rich is the director of PETA's Compassion Campaign.

PETA welcomes all activists' participation in this project. If you or any person, company, or organization you know of owns stock in any companies that abuse animals to test their products (or, if you wish to consider buying a share or two of stock in order to participate in this project), contact PETA at: P.O. Box 42516, Washington, DC 20015.

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—Voltaire

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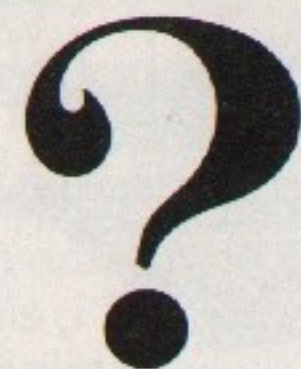
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LANCASTER STOCKYARDS DEMONSTRATION

Hundreds March for Farm Animals

In what is believed to be the largest demonstration for farm animals ever held, an estimated 600 people travelled to the small central Pennsylvania town of Lancaster this past Memorial Day (May 30) to protest inhumane conditions suffered by animals at Lancaster Stockyards. Farm Sanctuary, the Delaware-based group which organized the demonstration, has been investigating conditions for animals brought to the stockyard over the past two years, and has documented numerous incidents of animals being denied food, water, shelter, veterinary care, and humane euthanasia. Animals at the stockyard were routinely left to die where they fell, thrown onto piles of already-dead animals, or beaten to death with a sledgehammer. Lancaster, the largest stockyard east of Chicago, handles each week an estimated 6,000 pigs, cattle, sheep, and goats destined for slaughterhouses or feedlots, who are trucked to the facility from farms all over the Eastern U.S. and Canada.

Shortly before noon on Memorial Day, buses and carpools of animal advocates from all across the Northeast and as far away as Ohio began arriving at the century-old stockyard. Organizations represented at the event include the Associated Humane Societies, the North American Vegetarian Society, Trans-Species Unlimited, Vegetarian Events, and numerous local and regional organizations from several states. Police closed off several street blocks in front of the stockyard, and within half an hour it was impossible to see from one end of the demonstration to the other. Temperature soared into the 90s as participants



Jim Mason, co-author of *Animal Factories*, addresses the assembly.

gathered for a rally featuring speeches by Lorri and Gene Bauston of Farm Sanctuary, *Animal Factories* co-author Jim Mason, and Valerie Stanley of the Animal Legal Defense Fund. Street theater, exhibits, and vegetarian food provided further awareness and sustenance to the demonstrators during the six-hour protest and rally. News of the protest was carried by Associated Press and United Press International wire services, as well as Pennsylvania Network News. Both cable sta-

tions and all three network affiliates in Lancaster aired stories about the demonstration, with the NBC affiliate making use of video footage of injured animals left unattended at the stockyard.

Several months' worth of extensive news coverage about conditions at the stockyard which ran prior to the demonstration convinced an official of the Dunlap firm, which brings in almost all of the stockyard's calves, sheep, goats, and pigs, to allow Farm Sanctuary to remove sick and injured animals from the site and transfer them to their Delaware sanctuary for possible adoption under the group's "Adopt-A-Farm-Animal" program. During the first six weeks of the stockyard animal rescue program, Farm Sanctuary gained custody of 96 unwanted animals. The group is calling on Lancaster Stockyards to adopt a set of basic humane standards for animal treatment, to include provision of food, water, appropriate shelter, humane euthanasia of downed animals, and veterinary care for sick or injured animals. So far, stockyard officials have refused to adopt these basic standards, insisting that their gross mistreatment of animals is normal operating procedure. Stockyard president Bill McCoy even went so far as to tell local news reporters that he considers sledgehammer blows to the head to be a more effective and humane means of euthanasia than use of a captive bolt gun. "We're now in the 20th century, not the 15th," responded Farm Sanctuary's Lorri Bauston.

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) reports that cruel treatment of animals in stockyards is commonplace. "It is often the smallest, oldest, or weakest animals which suffer the greatest abuse. Baby calves, just a few hours old, are picked up and thrown off

unloading platforms, beaten with canes, jabbed with sticks, and kicked to goad them along. Adult animals, frightened and stressed by shouting and bright lights, and injured by slamming gates, are further abused by humans wielding 'hot-shot' shocking devices, whips and prods... Because most stockyards lack equipment or handlers who care enough to move suffering animals to individual pens, [downed or injured animals] may be trampled to death or may spend hours in agony before dying," reports HSUS.

Farm Sanctuary plans to keep the pressure on Lancaster Stockyards until their demands for humane treatment are met. Those wishing to support the group's campaign are encouraged to write letters to: Henry Kenderdine, Lancaster District Attorney, Lancaster County Courthouse, 50 N. Duke St., Lancaster, PA 17602. Tell him that farm animals deserve basic consideration—necessary food, water, shelter, veterinary care, and humane euthanasia. Urge him to prosecute stockyard officials for cruelty to animals. For further information about Lancaster Stockyards, or about the farm animal adoption program, contact Farm Sanctuary at: P.O. Box 37, Rockland, DE 19732.

—Leslie Pardue

Correction In our coverage of World Laboratory Animal Liberation Week activities (July/August *Animal Newsline*), we incorrectly credited Last Chance for Animals with the organization of a demonstration at the University of California at Irvine. Credit goes to the Society Against Vivisection and People for Reason in Science and Medicine.

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A Global Gathering in Toronto

"A Clash of Cultures" was the theme at the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) biennial meeting in Toronto in May. But though Native American trappers were drawn to the conference by the news that WSPA would be unveiling its international anti-fur campaign, the interpersonal clash was minimal. "Uh-oh," was the collective response when representatives of the Aboriginal Trappers Federation of Canada lined up at the registration table, but fears of their disrupting the meeting turned out to be unfounded. Deluded by the fur industry into believing that animal advocacy is the newest (and perhaps most final) threat to what's left of their traditional way of life, they arrived with chips on their shoulders, but appeared to soften as the conference progressed. The truth is that Native American trappers are today, as always, mere pawns in the fur game. Their plight presents a real human rights dilemma (the survival and well-being of an exploited people) to serve as a smokescreen for the greed and self-interest of those who control the real profits. Involvement in the "white man's" fur trade has meant nothing less than two centuries of social catastrophe to Canada's



Seated from the left: Patricia Forkan, Vice President of HSUS, and WSPA representatives Wim de Kok (Europe) and Michael O'Sullivan (Canada).

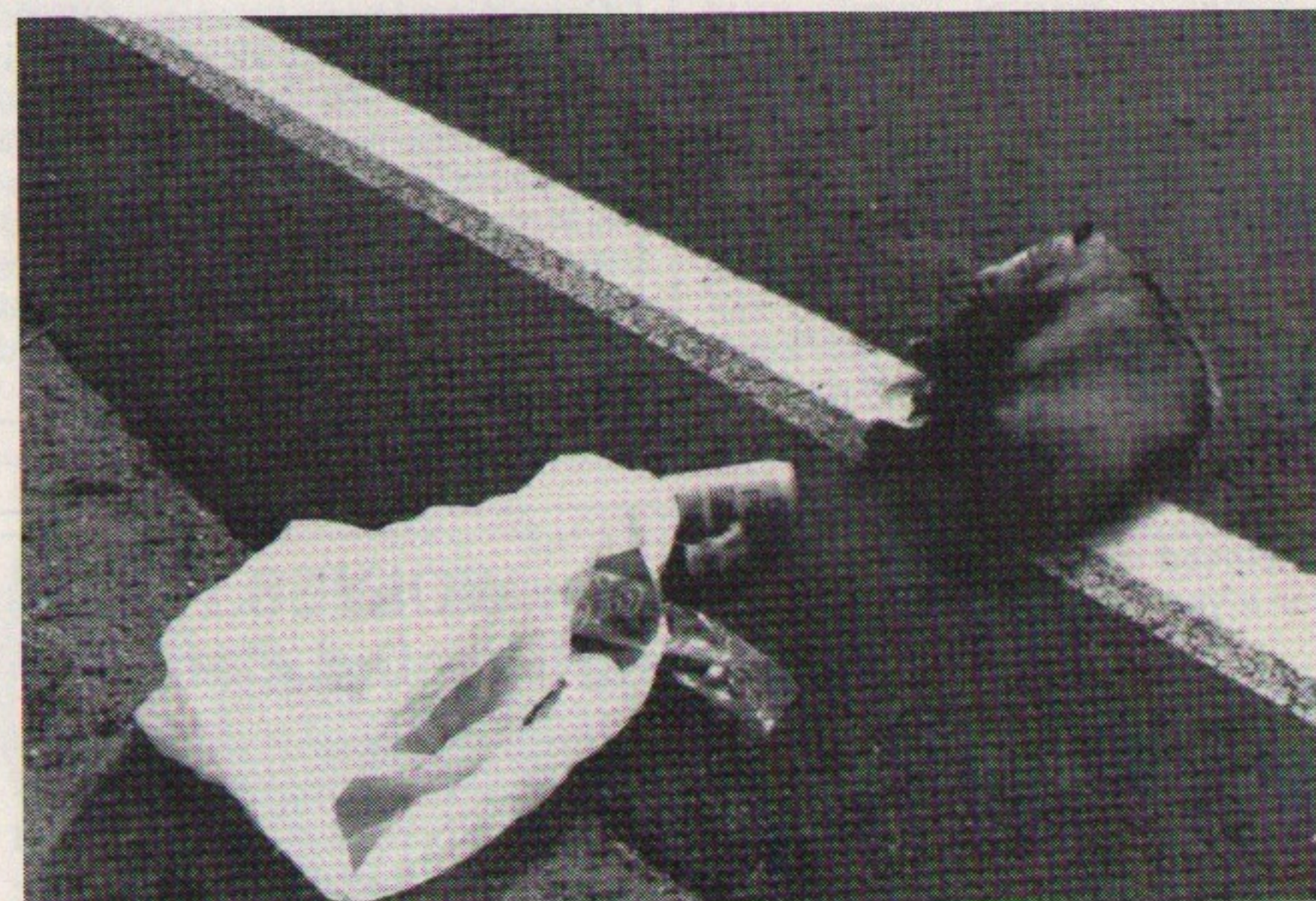


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ANIMAL NEWSLINE

take up with the Vatican—along with humane education and the abolition of the fur trade. Noting that the organization is "ready to take off," he expressed a sense of urgency for getting the operation shipshape and functioning efficiently by modernizing its communications system and expanding offices.

John Walsh, the Boston-based director of WSPA's Western Hemisphere operations, half-jokingly referred to the presence of the group as "the best kept secret in the world." Indeed, WSPA's low-key approach and conservative style have

probably stunted the growth of its membership base in the U.S. Presently composed of 312 member organizations in 63 countries and thousands of individual members, the group is actively seeking new supporters in both categories. For membership information, contact world headquarters (106 Jermyn St., London SW1Y 6EE, England) or the U.S. office (29 Perkins St., P.O. Box 190, Boston, MA 02130).

—Kim Bartlett

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Korea—

Now, "Hyundai" Furs?

Just as in only a few years Korean firms such as Samsung, Daewoo, and Hyundai have established a good reputation for reliability in electronics and automotive products, grabbing a respectable share of their respective industries, now the Jindo Corp. of Korea, the world's largest manufacturer of mink garments, aims to replicate their success by putting a mink coat in every American home. Well, not quite, considering that even when stripped down to the basics these full let-out coats produced on an assembly line in Seoul will set consumers back a hefty \$1,995.

Jindo, which is now busily opening fur salons in some of America's leading cities, including Los Angeles and New York, seems confident that its strategy will work. "We don't consider [the Jindo fur coat] a luxury item," says Jindo CEO Kim Young-Do, 45, referring to his firm's reliance on the low-cost, high-value formula that has put his compatriots on the U.S. consumer map. Kim, a graduate of Sacramento State's Business School, admits that Jindo will avoid the carriage trade, and instead concentrate its marketing fire on price-conscious, first-time customers—usually young working women who until recently ruled out the purchase of a mink coat as an unaffordable item.

That marketing target is not entirely new; "Fred the Furrier" and his imitators have built a sizeable

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trade in recent years by doing precisely that. Jindo's competitive edge, however, may be labor costs, since South Korea, where no independent labor unions are allowed, can often outcompete any manufacturer in the developed or underdeveloped world. This price advantage may succeed in enlarging the potential fur coat market dramatically. A Jindo official estimates that the company's sales this year from its 35 U.S. stores will capture up to \$35 million of the \$1.8 billion retail fur market. *Main sources; L.A. Business, The Animals' Agenda* correspondents.

Mexico/U.S.—

The Bovine Serum Connection

In a case that underscores the necessity for international collaboration in the defense of animals, and the fact that progress in one area may often signify a setback in another, the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) recently uncovered a booming Mexican business in the supply of bovine serum—the main fluid utilized by research labs in the manufacturing of cell-tissue culture. Bovine serum is extracted principally from the blood of newborn calves and fetuses.

In an investigation coordinated by John Walsh, WSPA's Western Regional Director, that organization was able to ascertain that, in

the process of obtaining this crucial ingredient for an animal research alternative, newborn calves were subjected to extreme cruelty, including the following practices:

- Prior to bleeding, the calves were isolated for up to two days without food and water;
- The animals were restrained in an inverted position with tubes inserted directly into their hearts until they were bled to death;
- To make sure that the blood was free of colostrum (mother's milk containing antibodies that may taint the blood for research purposes), the calves' stomachs were surgically opened, often without the benefit of anesthesia or other pain-killing drugs.

The magnitude of this new problem can be gleaned from the following figures. It is estimated that every liter of blood yields approximately one-half liter of serum, and that a newborn calf will yield about one-half liter of serum, while a fetus will contribute no more than one-tenth of a liter. WSPA's investigation covering only six serum-producing facilities in Mexico, revealed that 49,282 liters of serum were imported into the U.S. during the first six months of the current year, suggesting that more than 100,000 calves may have suffered terrible deaths to supply the U.S. cell-tissue market just during this period.

Because of the high profitability of bovine serum—a liter may fetch up to \$300 on the open market—WSPA believes that other countries

may soon join Mexico as sources of this product, and many of them may not have any slaughter laws or regulations to prevent suffering.

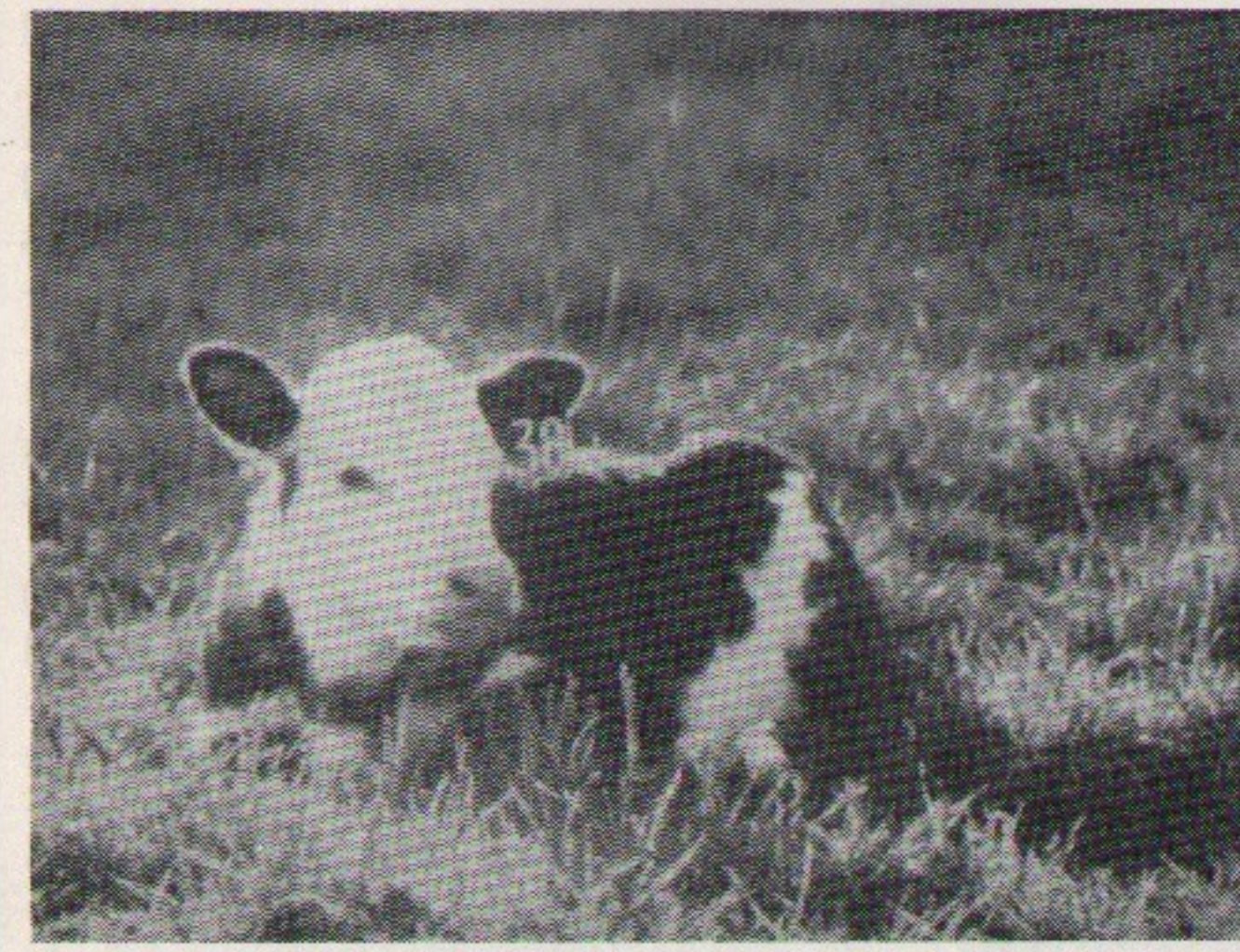
The bovine serum business was thriving largely as a result of a loophole in U.S. regulations permitting the importation of serum obtained under conditions that would not be tolerated in the U.S. itself. Sensing an opportunity in this regulatory inconsistency, Walsh wasted no time in sending a letter to Richard Lyng, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), on June 30th, advising him of the problem and requesting prompt administrative remedy. The letter was followed by telephone consultations with other USDA officials, including Gary S. Colgrove, Senior Staff Veterinarian for the USDA in charge of import-export operations and laboratory support.

To everybody's delight the strategy worked—sooner than anticipated. On July 15th Walsh received a letter from Colgrove advising him that, on July 8th, he had notified all individuals holding import licences for bovine serum that henceforth the USDA would withhold import licences from any outfit dealing with establishments not complying with minimum anti-cruelty regulations. The full text of this important administrative decision follows:

"This is in reference to your permit to import newborn calf serum from facilities in Mexico that have been inspected and approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

We have recently received reports of inhumane practices in slaughterhouses approved by

Bovine serum—the latest outrage?



USDA, APHIS, as sources of newborn calf serum for export to the U.S. While the USDA has no direct control over slaughter methods used in other countries, we cannot condone inhumane practices by granting approval to foreign establishments in which the methods of slaughter and handling of livestock in connection with slaughter do not comply with our own humane slaughter regulations. Therefore, effective immediately, USDA, APHIS, approval of sources of newborn calf serum will be removed from any establishment that fails to comply with USDA, Food Safety and Inspection Service, humane slaughter regulations published in Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 313. Among other things, these regulations require that animals must be stunned or otherwise rendered unconscious and remain in this condition throughout the shackling, sticking, and bleeding procedures.

You should be aware that removal of USDA, APHIS, approval from any foreign establishment will automatically result in the cancellation of all permits to import serum from that establishment."

While the above letter seems to take care of the problem in Mexico—at least in its most barbaric aspects—WSPA recommends that member organizations investigate and maintain vigilance on this issue in their respective countries. Meanwhile, well-deserved thank-you notes may be sent to the USDA officials involved in the prompt resolution of this issue at the following addresses: Richard Lyng, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, 14th and Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250; and Gary S. Colgrove,

Senior Staff Veterinarian, Emergency Planning Laboratory Support, Import-Export and Emergency Planning, Veterinary Services, Department of Agriculture, Federal Building, Hyattsville, MD 20782. John Walsh, whose timely intervention secured this admirable precedent in animal regulatory practice, may be reached at: WSPA, Box 190, Boston, MA 02130; tel. (617) 522-7000. *Main sources: WSPA, The Animals' Agenda* correspondents.

U.K./Canada

Brits Back Down on Fur Labelling Initiative

With the Canadian Government and the fur industry hailing it as "a triumph of common sense over the animal rights movement," Britain has withdrawn a proposal that would have required the labelling of fur coats if the pelts involved had been taken by use of leghold traps. The proposal, inspired by animal rights groups in Britain, was expected to deter consumers from purchasing furs, especially those from wild-caught animals. (See *Dateline: International*, July/August 1988 on this subject.)

When first announced last February, the fur-labelling idea drew a storm of protest in furtrapping circles, especially in Canada, which supplies up to 75 percent of Britain's furs. Canada exports \$18.5 million worth of raw and dressed pelts and fur apparel to the United Kingdom each year. Canada's

Canada's chauvinism won the second round.



—Photo courtesy of Associated Humane Societies, NJ

worldwide exports amount to \$280 million a year.

The counterattack against the measure was spearheaded by Joe Clark, Canada's External Affairs minister, as well as the Fur Institute of Canada, representing about 75 percent of that nation's furriers. From the outset, the drive was framed in highly tendentious and jingoistic tones, making it sound as if the issue was a replay of past colonialist excesses, and a crime against defenseless minorities—chiefly native trappers—clinging to an "environmentally sound way of life." "It is an especially Canadian victory—kids, teachers, parliamentarians got behind the trappers and native people and brought political pressure to the highest level in Britain," declared Kirk Smith of the Canadian Fur Institute. "It's the reversal of colonialism," he exulted. Smith's views were echoed by George Erasmus, head of the National Indian Brotherhood, a group supported by the fur industry and the Canadian Government. Indeed, as has become customary for the fur industry to do in its propaganda skirmishes with animal rights groups, the specter of hardship for native trappers, and "widespread unemployment" for many Canadians did much to swing public opinion to their side.

The industry claims that upwards of 110,000 individuals are directly involved in the fur trade, but critics have repeatedly shown that this figure is grossly inflated, reflecting many workers in the garment industry who have only a minimal or tangential connection with the fur business.

As expected, the Canadian Government itself played a decisive

role in the controversy. Besides diplomatic pressure, British Members of Parliament received a tape recording and transcript of a Canadian parliamentary session lambasting the British proposal, and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney pressed the issue with his British counterpart, Margaret Thatcher, during his London visit last May. Also, for good measure, some Canadian MPs, sensing the political mileage to be won by embracing the flag, began to talk publicly of a boycott of British imports if the labelling plan wasn't lifted, and threaten cancellation of defense contracts with Britain involving big-ticket items.

The news of the reversal was received with general dismay throughout the animal liberation community. At a news conference in Toronto, World Society for the Protection of Animals field representative Michael O'Sullivan summed up the prevailing mood when he declared that the Canadian Government "in collusion with the fur trade [had] lobbied to support and encourage cruelty towards animals." "What the Government of Canada and the fur trade can celebrate today," said O'Sullivan, "is that they have formally institutionalized these cruel practices."

WSPA's support for the labelling of fur garments was a compromise struck after a motion in the British Parliament advocated banning the importation of all furs where the animal had been caught in a leghold trap. "Clearly it was a mistake to compromise with the fur trade, and we won't make that mistake in the future," said O'Sullivan. *Main Source: The Globe and Mail, Fur Age Weekly.*

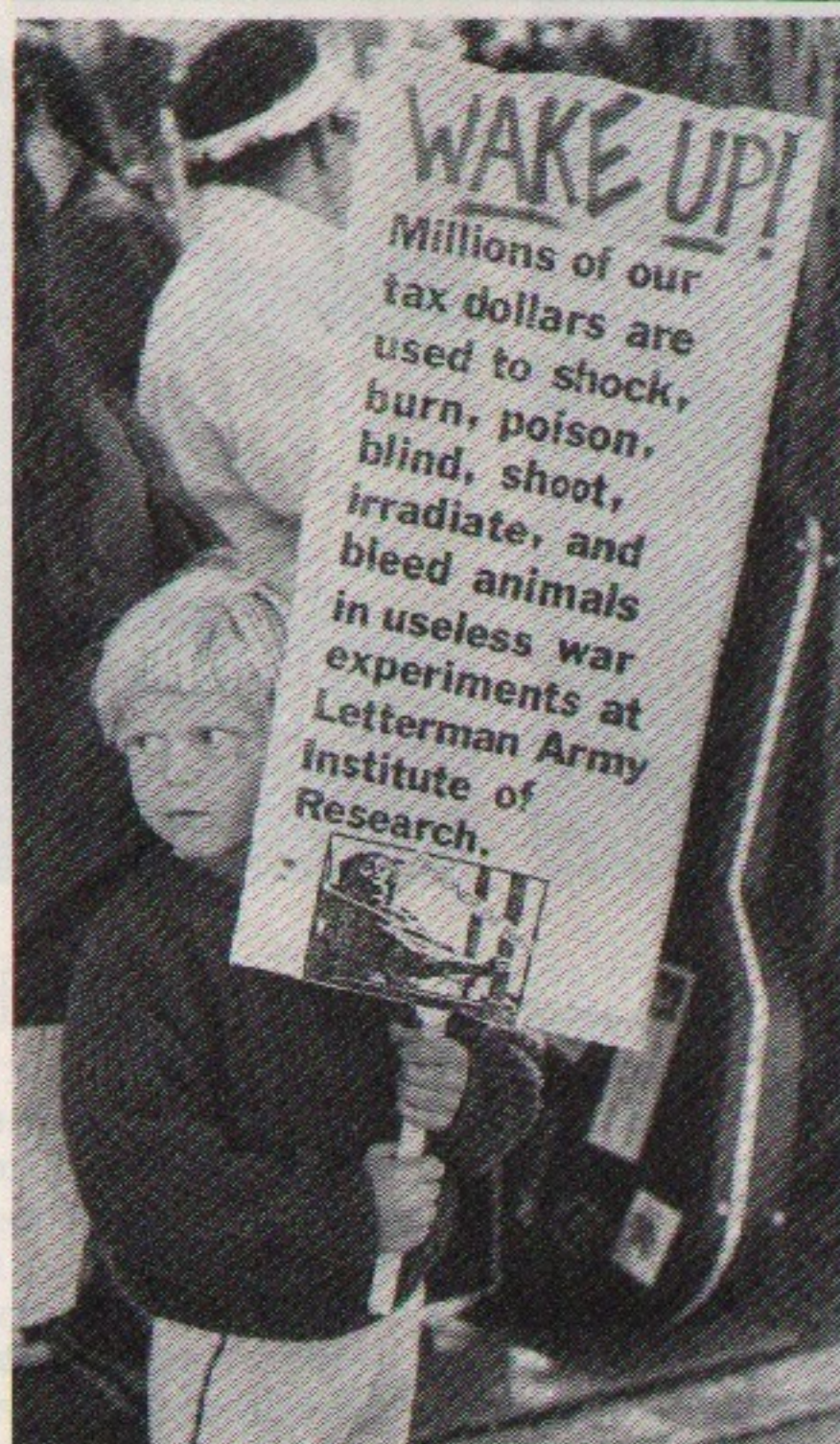
NEWS SHORTS

■ **Farm animals used in biomedical research** have been excluded from protection under the Animal Welfare Act since its passage in 1970, when the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) thwarted the will of Congress and decided that, in formulating regulations for enforcement of the Act, farm animals, rodents, birds, and other animals would be excluded. These species, which by law should have been afforded some protection from experimental abuses for the past 18 years, have been all been at the mercy of researchers. Many facilities have begun to substitute farm animal species—especially “minipigs”—for dogs and other animals covered by the regulations in order to circumvent the Act’s requirements. Now, thanks in large part to legislation introduced by Rep. Ed Townes (D-NY) to specifically include farm animals under the provisions of the Act, along with intercession by Sen. Alan Cranston (D-CA), the USDA has announced that it will draft new regulations which will afford farm animals the same protections as species already deemed to be covered by the Act.

Animal advocates are strongly urged to write letters thanking the USDA for this action, as well as Sen. Cranston and Rep. Townes, stressing the need to expand the Act to specifically include all warm-blooded species, especially rodents, as Congress originally intended in 1970. Write to: Richard Lyng, Secretary of Agriculture, Room 200A, Administration Bldg., 14th St. and Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250. Also write to: Dr. James Glosser, Administrator, APHIS, USDA, Room 312E, Administration Bldg., 14th St. and Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250.

■ **Some 225 animal advocates** marched on the Letterman Army Institute of Research (LAIR), located on the Presidio Army Base in San Francisco, on June 5 to commemorate all of the animals who have suffered and died in wars and warfare research. The action, sponsored by Vigil for Animals, included a march from Fort Mason Center to LAIR, followed by speeches, songs, and nonviolent direct action. The direct action participants outmaneuvered military police and successfully entered the base through a side entrance, avoiding barricades that had been set up to keep them out. They were stopped by military police (MPs) at the entrance to LAIR itself, and were warned to leave or be arrested under a U.S. Code

EDITED BY LESLIE PARDUE



Tina Coffman

Protesting war research.

section which prevents “demonstrations or acts of public persuasion” on military installations. The activists delivered their demands to Presidio Provost Marshall Major William Reese and left without being arrested. The demands call for an immediate halt to military experiments on animals, the release of documentation of the current conditions in LAIR’s labs, and rehabilitation and humane care of animals used in warfare research. Since 1983, LAIR has refused to allow members of the humane community to tour its facilities, and has refused to release information on the current extent of its animal experiments. Vigil for Animals is calling on activists all over the nation to write their Senators and Representatives and request a Congressional investigation into the use of animals in military experiments. Already, 14 Congressmembers from California have received letters or petitions from constituents on the matter, but many more letters are needed to help the cause. For more information, contact Vigil for Animals at: P.O. Box 18134, San Francisco, CA 94118.

■ **Exhilaration and renewed commitment** resulted from a successful rescue operation which took place in New Orleans during the Summit for the

Animals, a meeting of some 30 animal protection groups held there in May. When local activists told Friends of Animals (FoA) president Priscilla Feral about a chimpanzee named Joe who was languishing in a roadside zoo, Feral immediately suggested a rescue attempt. Despite initial hesitation and opposition, Feral persisted, and together with seven other activists and specialists from various groups, set out for the zoo.

They found Joe, 26 years of age and 20 years at the zoo, and four monkeys, all housed in three small, dark, filthy cages without toys of any kind to occupy the endless days of boredom they experienced. Joe, whose cage contained only a dirty piece of carpet, danced pathetically for the group. The activists quickly recorded violations of the Animal Welfare Act, negotiated with the owner, and explored preliminary plans to evacuate the animals. To the amazement of the group, the owner agreed to relinquish the primates. Feral committed FoA to pay all expenses. Other groups and individuals pitched in, and a rescue strategy developed. A National Anti-Vivisection Society official called the Audubon Park Zoo in New Orleans for technical and veterinary advice, and made arrangements with the Texas sanctuary Primarily Primates to receive the animals. Animal Legal Defense Fund lawyers drafted a contract of sale. A psychiatrist from the Medical Research Modernization Committee provided an informal assessment of Joe’s behavior for zoo officials. A primate specialist from the International Primate Protection League delineated the animals’ specific needs. A wildlife biologist anticipated the requisite legal documents. All worked in an exemplary spirit of cooperation and teamwork, with only the animals’ needs in mind.

Four days later, the animals arrived at Primarily Primates, where they were able to breathe fresh air, enjoy normal primate activity, eat fresh fruits and vegetables, and live in freedom with others of their own kind for the first time in 20 years. They are reported to be doing well, and after all his years of isolation, Joe has expressed an interest in a female chimp. FoA paid the bills and filed a complaint with the U.S. Department of Agriculture listing the multiple Animal Welfare Act violations. This event dramatizes what can be accomplished by persistent activists, and demonstrates how disparate components of the animal protection community can work together supportively and effectively.

—Murray Cohen, M.D.

NEWS SHORTS



Photo courtesy of HSUS

Beaten with ax handles at the zoo.

■ **The beating of an elephant** at the San Diego Wild Animal Park has caused an uproar in California, and may lead to the enactment of state legislation to provide greater protection for animals in zoos. The elephant, an 18-year-old wild-caught African female named Medundamella (“Dunda” for short), was transferred from the San Diego Zoo to the San Diego Wild Animal Park (both operated by the San Diego Zoological Society) in February of this year. Trainers at the zoo say the transfer was poorly planned, noting that Dunda was given no time to become familiar with her new keepers or with the crate in which she was to be transported. Following arrival at the Wild Animal Park, Dunda exhibited fear and aggression which, according to elephant training supervisor Alan Roocroft, necessitated “discipline.” Under Roocroft’s direction, five individuals chained Dunda to the ground in a spread-eagle position and beat her over the head with ax handles on several occasions over a period of two or more days, out of sight in a barn at the park. Dunda was struck at least a hundred times, causing her so much agony that she “rolled over on her side and moaned,” according to Steve Friedlund, a senior elephant trainer at the zoo, who learned of the beatings from two elephant handlers who witnessed and participated in the abuse. Steve Schwenn, an elephant trainer at the Wild Animal Park, said that those engaged in the beatings emerged periodically from the barn complaining of aching arms from the exertion required in administering the blows. Ragged patches of skin are still visible on Dunda’s head some five months after the beatings occurred. Schwenn said that he has seen Roocroft and others beat elephants with ax handles numerous times in his three years as an employee of the Park.

Although an investigation by the Humane Society of the U.S. concluded that Dunda was abused, The San Diego city attorney refused to press charges against those involved in the beatings, saying that the “... discipline of Dunda, although seeming harsh to the uninitiated, is a technique accepted in the animal training profession.” The city attorney’s office based its decision on an investigation by the San Diego Humane Society, which concluded that the beatings “arose from a legitimate need to discipline and train a dangerous, four-ton elephant.” The Zoological Society hailed the decision as a “vindication” of the trainers involved in the beatings. State Senator Dan McCorquodale (D-San Jose) labeled the decision not to press charges a “whitewash,” and announced an investigation by his office into the incident, including a public hearing scheduled for July 29. Said McCorquodale, “Average people won’t tolerate an elephant being tied by four legs, pulled to the ground and beaten.” As a result of the incident, McCorquodale may introduce legislation to strengthen present anti-cruelty laws and allow for state oversight of zoo operations. Letters from animal advocates protesting the beating of Dunda may be sent to: Robert O. Wagner, Executive Director, American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums, Oglebay Park, Wheeling, WV 26003; and to: Douglas Myers, Executive Director, San Diego Zoo, Box 551, San Diego, CA 92112.

■ **A coalition of 13 animal shelters** in Northern California has joined forces as the Alliance for Pet Population Control, and is launching a campaign called “Fixed for Life,” with the goal of increasing participation in spay/neuter programs—and, ultimately, bringing an end to the killing of dogs and cats in area shelters. The campaign will include print advertising, TV and radio public service announcements, posters, brochures, and educational efforts in schools. A kick-off rally for the campaign was held at Justin Herman Plaza in San Francisco’s Embarcadero Center on May 3 to coincide with Be Kind to Animals Week, and received substantial media coverage.

This kind of high-profile action by shelter workers is what’s needed all over the nation to end the tragic killing of some 20 million unwanted dogs and cats each year, and shelters in other parts of the country are encouraged to initiate similar cooperative campaigns in their locales. Says Judy Cassada, education director for the Santa Cruz SPCA, “The trend to join forces with other shelters is long overdue! Alone, the resources are so limited. Together, we can produce much more and interest the media much more easily.” Those wishing to learn more about this innovative effort may call the Alliance for Pet Population Control’s toll-free hotline: (800) 272-SPAY.



A high-profile campaign kicks off in California.

More SHORTS on next page

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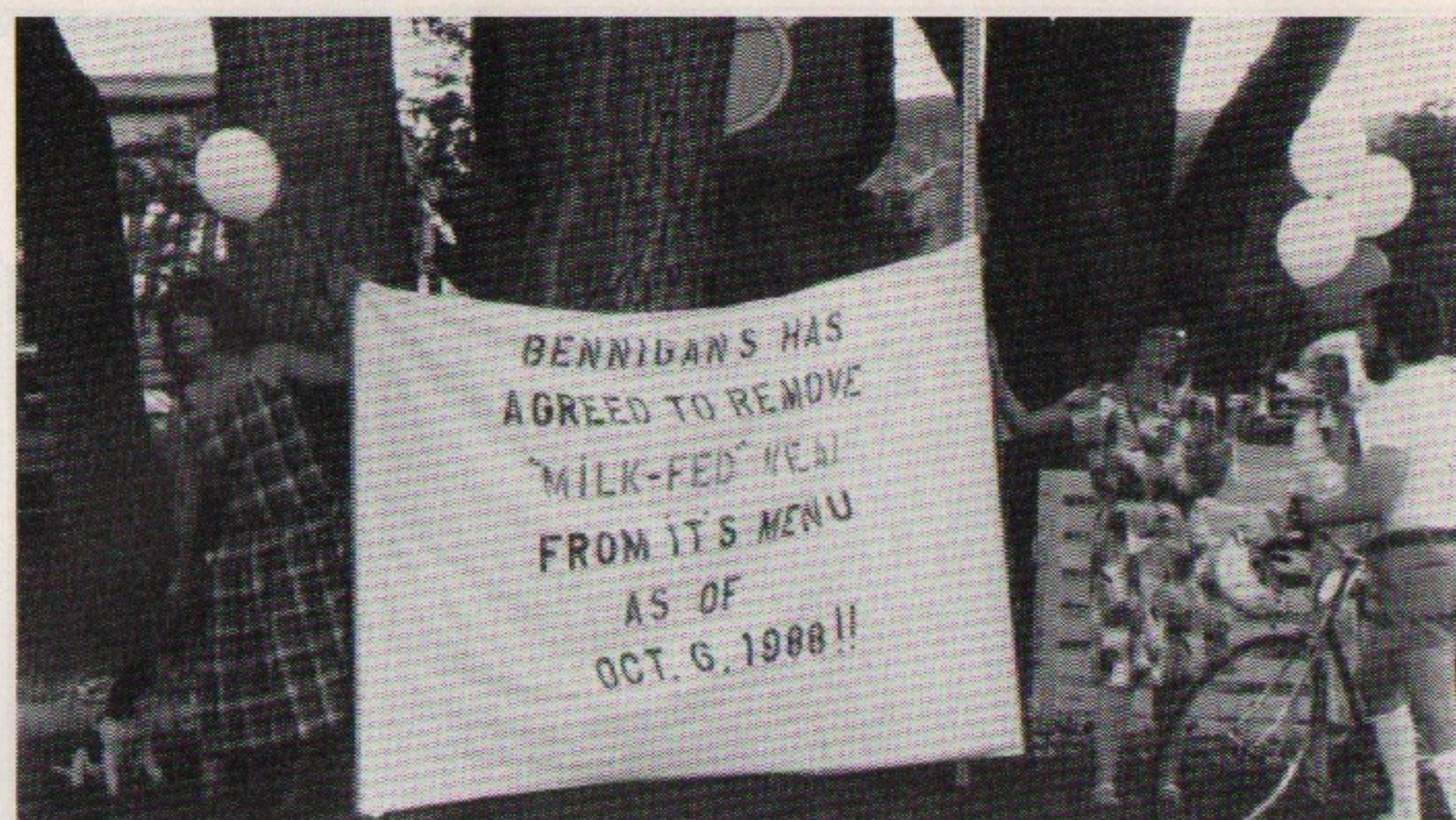
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A restaurant picket in Boulder, Colo.

■ This year's National Veal Boycott, coordinated by the Humane Farming Association (HFA), was their biggest ever, including demonstrations in more than 55 locations in 28 states this year. On June 24, activists picketed restaurants serving milk-fed veal, serving up a lesson in the realities of anemic veal production to customers. Radio and TV coverage of the demonstrations was extensive and very favorable. HFA ran a full-page paid ad in *Time* magazine the week of the demonstrations, reaching some 4.6 million people with the message. In Louisville, Ky. and San Luis Obispo, Calif., activists ran the *Time* ad in their local newspapers.

In Rhode Island, animal advocates held a 24-hour vigil outside a restaurant serving milk-fed veal, serving up a lesson in the realities of anemic veal production to customers. Radio and TV coverage the demonstrations was extensive and very favorable. HFA ran a full-page paid ad in *Time* magazine the week of the demonstrations, reaching some 4.6 million people with the message. In Louisville, Ky. and San Luis Obispo, Calif., activists ran the *Time* ad in their

local newspapers.

In Rhode Island, animal advocates held a 24-hour vigil outside a restaurant with one activist conducting a day-long fast inside a veal crate. In Boulder, Colo., activists from Speak Out For Animals convinced an entire chain of over 200 Ben-nigan's restaurants to remove veal from their menus. HFA plans to continue the National Veal Boycott campaign until the veal industry eliminates the veal crate and the drug-laced anemia-inducing diet fed to calves.

On the eve of the boycott day, two veal calves were released from their crates at the Santa Rosa Veal Farm in Santa Rosa, Calif. and taken by members of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF). The farm kept four calves tethered outdoors in front of the facility for public viewing—while within the confines of the farm's two barns, calves were kept in tiny crates, deprived of light and adequate nutrients in order to produce the pale, anemic flesh preferred by gourmets. The ALF reports that the two calves will receive proper veterinary care before being placed in permanent homes via the "underground railroad."

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NEWS SHORTS

■ Some 400 animal rights and environmental activists rallied in Lafayette Park across the street from the White House on May 28, calling on President Reagan to impose sanctions on the government of Japan for its defiance of the International Whaling Commission's ban on commercial whaling. Japan, Iceland, and Norway continue to conduct whaling expeditions under the guise of "scientific research." The meat from the whales is sold to markets and restaurants, and byproducts are used in the manufacture of such items as cosmetics and tennis rackets. The activists called on Reagan to invoke the Pelly Amendment, which authorizes the U.S. to embargo fish imports from nations that continue to kill whales. The rally included participants from the Animal Welfare Institute, the Center for Environmental Education, Cetacean Society International, Earth Island Institute, Friends of Animals, Greenpeace, the Humane Society of the U.S., and the International Wildlife Coalition.

Greenpeace has also carried out several



Still trying to save the whales in Washington, D.C.

anti-whaling actions on its own recently, including one in Helsinki, Finland in which five activists chained themselves to containers of whale meat in transit from Iceland to Japan. Following the action, the Finnish government announced that it was returning the 200-ton shipment to Iceland and banning all future shipments of whale meat through its territory. In still another action on June 20, eight

Greenpeace activists boarded and chained themselves to the Icelandic freighter *Jokufell* in Gloucester, Mass. to bring attention to the whaling activities of the ship's owner, Samband Corporation. Greenpeace is calling on three fast-food chains—Burger King, Long John Silver's, and Wendy's—to stop buying fish from Iceland until that country gives up whaling once and for all.



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REPORTING
COMMON GROUND (II)

The Greening of Animal Rights

BY PATRICE GREANVILLE

While grassroots groups have put together a very compelling critique of "business-suit environmentalism," other critics have charged the direct-action groups—such as Earth First!—with gross insensitivity to human misery.

If there's something that sets the animal protection movement apart from other social change movements is its pronounced distaste for "politics." We seem to think—when we think at all about these topics—that we are children of exception, free to pursue social change outside the larger political context in which most issues are eventually resolved. That's why it was refreshing to find a panel of leading activists at the recent National Alliance conference in Washington addressing topics such as feminism, world hunger, deep ecology, economics and the Third World, and the Green Party option.

Encouraging as the idea of this panel was, I'm afraid that adopting a more sophisticated political perspective into our deliberations won't be easy. The tunnel-vision, "single-track" approach to animal problems dies hard in this movement. Yet the price we pay for refusing to look at the broader picture can't be ignored indefinitely. Problems derive a great deal of their intractability from linkages to deeper causes and to related problems, so it is imperative for us to formulate unified strategies that take into account these complex connections.

The "treadmill" type of activism is present in other contemporary movements. A case in point is the struggle against hunger, which has become of late, at least in the U.S., the prime province of marketing charlatans and corrupt televangelists. With hunger, you can just fight the symptoms, and keep fighting forever, or you can fight—as available energies permit—both the most acute symptoms and the root causes of this tragedy, eventually making some progress. Hunger in our time isn't likely to be cured through more tractors, better seeds, and better irrigation (the so-called "technical solutions"), nor by grotesquely inadequate handouts spawned by charity extravaganzas like "Live Aid," or "Hands Across America." The reason for this is that hunger is not at bottom a "technical" problem, but a political one, caused by the terribly unfair distribution of land and social power still prevalent in the world. Under these conditions, even a modest land reform program can do more to stamp out hunger than a thousand "Live Aid" concerts. Unfortunately, given the diet of deliberate confusion that passes for "objective information" in our society, not to mention the natural instinct of most people to avoid trouble, issues are seldom tackled at that basic level.

Although there are no precise formulas to sort out political options, some of the criteria below may offer a departure point. First, it's rather clear that causes, as far as we are concerned, easily fall into two broad categories: "ethical" and "organic."

"Ethical" struggles may be defined as those showing a moral and ideological affinity with our own, but which, in general, do not directly influence the course of our progress. Examples of

these include the struggles against racial bigotry, class and racial oppression, male chauvinism, antisemitism, drug abuse, prostitution, organized crime, alcoholism, etc. "Organic" struggles, on the other hand, do possess the distinct ability to influence very heavily on the issues we care about. The global struggles against ecological degradation, human overpopulation, and social injustice, fit into this category rather well. (Some, I'm sure, will be puzzled by the inclusion of a category so "vague" and controversial as "social injustice" in this group, but political scientists have documented for decades that social injustice is a vast breeding ground for poverty, social unrest, backwardness, human overpopulation—as people substitute large families for a lack of security in old age—and war. And modern war, as the devastation of the Indochina peninsula proves, is also an unmitigated ecological disaster.)

The dividing lines are not airtight, however, and the overlaps may be substantial. Civil rights, economic democracy, and women's rights, for instance, are all subsets of the great human tide opposing social injustice. The only difference is one of degree: they tackle injustice at a much more specific level.

The preceding criteria may suffice to do a preliminary sorting, but there's plenty of room for finetuning. How do we do it? We might apply a concept borrowed from economics, a person's "marginal political utility." Marginal political utility is not as abstruse as it sounds. Essentially, it's an attempt to gauge a person's potential contribution to a given cause. The reasoning is simple: When a particular cause is supported by many people—say, a large percentage of the population at all socioeconomic levels—an additional individual's participation isn't likely to prove crucial to the outcome of the effort. On the other hand, when a cause is worthy and urgent, but precious few individuals are involved, even a handful of newcomers can make a big difference. Thus, in the first case it may be assumed that an activist's "marginal utility" is relatively low; in the second, relatively high.

Now, when we apply these admittedly rough standards to the list of contemporary struggles—urgency, organic relationship with our own goals, and relative value of an individual's participation—a choice becomes immediately apparent: environmental defense. For no other cause surpasses political ecology in its affinity with animal liberation, and the potential value of our participation in the ecological debate is substantial.

Of course, that doesn't mean we should abandon all interest in other struggles. Educating ourselves politically so as not to injure other deserving causes through our ignorance or political indifference remains an imperative. For

while some of us may in the near future choose to participate directly in the environmentalist movement, perhaps injecting a sorely missing animal liberation angle into that important debate, many more will probably choose to participate indirectly in other struggles just by becoming more sophisticated in the manner they cast their votes in regular elections.

The immediate causes of the present environmental crunch are well known: an industrial system indifferent or inimical to ecological considerations, and an ever-expanding human population likely to overrun the planet before the next century is out. The signs of impending catastrophe—reported both in the mainstream media and in these pages—are all around us. Water and air pollution have finally reached global proportions, and even the great oceans, once thought to be invulnerable to human assault, are now showing the adverse effects of massive toxic dumping.

And the list doesn't stop there. Associated problems are cropping up everywhere. Acid rain, a comparatively new scourge, is now busily liquidating rivers and lakes from North America to Scandinavia; urban and industrial sprawl continues to gobble up virginal animal habitats at a dizzying pace; and the thoughtless cutting down of rainforests for the purpose of short-lived agriculture and timber extraction is depriving the biosphere—not to mention countless animals—of a crucial self-replenishing resource. But the ultimate blow to the biosphere may be our irresponsible unleashing of sharp climate changes on a global scale, chiefly through ozone depletion and the "greenhouse effect." Indeed, by conservative estimate—and without factoring in the ravages derived from a larger human population dedicated to hunting, trapping, and fishing—a full fifth of all species on Earth will be gone in 20 years.

How did we come to such a sorry pass? How did we manage to compile such a dismal record of stewardship in what is scarcely more than a split-second on the geologic timetable? Our uncanny ability to tame nature, manufacture environments, and pass accumulated knowledge from generation to generation—what we proudly call "culture"—made us the undisputed Lords of Creation. This power, however, was never balanced by wisdom or compassion. The gods must have been crazy when they stacked the deck so heavily in our favor.

Joining the ecological crusade: where do we fit in?

The decision to throw some of our support behind strictly environmentalist goals requires that we now briefly examine some

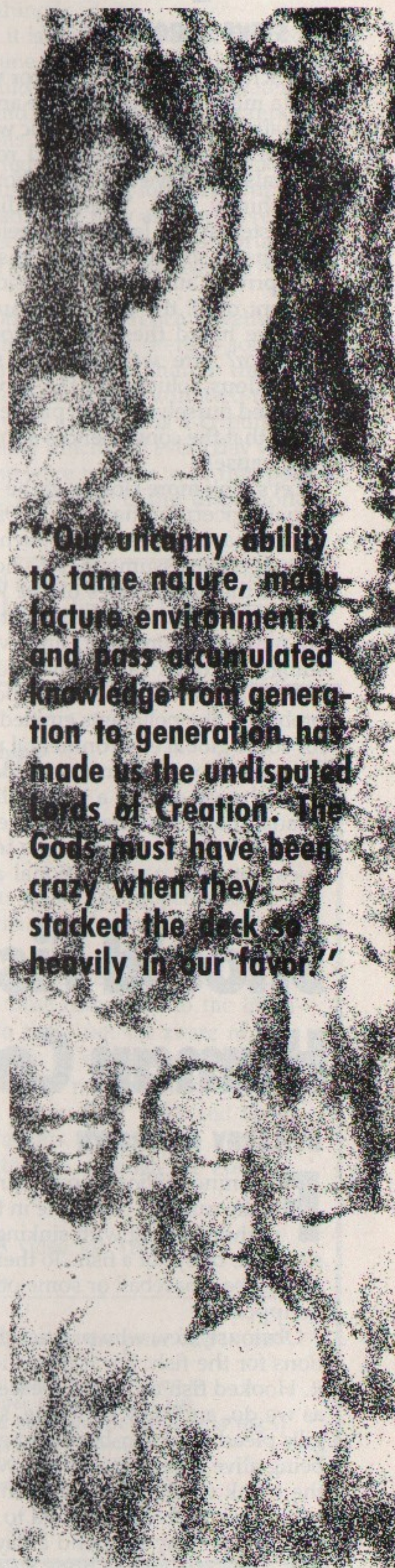
of the specific choices and priorities present in that movement. For just as the animal defense community may look baffling and bewildering to many would-be supporters seeking an activist home, the environmentalists, too, with their rich assortment of groups, tendencies, and personalities (many of them at loggerheads with one another) are a hard field to choose from.

The current period—beginning in the late 1960s—has witnessed a lot of shifts, splits, and profound restructuring among environmentalists, and of late a new wing has sprung up representing a radical rejection of the operational style and theoretical assumptions still held by the more conventional groups. The upshot is that the environmentalist movement can now be divided roughly into three major camps: the mainstream organizations, the grassroots and community-oriented groups, and the followers of direct action (i.e., Earth First!, Greenpeace). This line-up is complemented by a fourth critically important component, the zero population growth movement (ZPG), which has hitherto attempted to implement its viewpoint through family planning policy, education, etc.

Presently the entire environmentalist field is in turmoil. While the grassroots groups have gradually put together a very compelling critique of "business-suit environmentalism," left-environmentalists have aimed their fire at some of the direct action groups—especially the Earth First! contingent—for their supposedly blatant misanthropic posturing and even fascistic tendencies. (Some leaders of direct action groups have been quoted as implying that hunger, AIDS, and other scourges are actually welcome signs that Mother Earth is at last ready to discipline an excessively rapacious species.)

Whatever the truth about this controversy—a topic to which we'll return in Part Three of this series—the fact remains that most major environmentalist factions are today agreed that human population is a major problem, if not the problem to lick, and that human numbers have to be stabilized, if not drastically reduced, if the biosphere is to make it. This sounds like inexorable logic to me, but, as is usually the case with social questions, what looks terribly obvious on the surface is much less obvious when one looks at the layers of information underneath. It's probably fitting, therefore, that we should open this analysis of environmentalism and overpopulation with a sceptical mind and ask a very simple question: Is there really a human overpopulation crisis? And if so, what are its actual causes? I'm sure that some of the answers will surprise many readers.

This is the first installment of a three-part series devoted to the environmental option. NEXT: The Overpopulation Riddle.



"Our uncanny ability to tame nature, manufacture environments, and pass accumulated knowledge from generation to generation has made us the undisputed Lords of Creation. The Gods must have been crazy when they stacked the deck so heavily in our favor!"

Why I Won't Own a Car

BY STEVE McROBERTS

Each day in the U.S., motor vehicles run over and kill about a million animals. Those animals able to avoid this fate are affected in other dramatic ways by automobiles. In building ever more parking lots and roads, humans push out many animals and pave over their homes. And in the pursuit of fuel for thirsty cars, humans disrupt terrestrial and marine ecosystems—the latter often being devastated by oil spills. Cars dispense a variety of lethal gasses into the air; it is estimated that private automobile emissions are responsible for 60 to 90 percent of all the pollution caused by humans.

We've heard these facts before. So why don't we alter our behavior? Are we expecting someone to come up with a miraculous solution to the problems cars cause? Or have we resigned ourselves to the problems, comforting ourselves in the belief that the conveniences afforded by cars outweigh the harm they cause?

Let's look more closely at the issue of air pollution, a general social concern in the early 1970s. Though concern is evident in certain parts of the country when pollution is visibly present, many people assume that it's no longer a major problem. Even one of the latest issues of *The Whole Earth Catalog* (once a rich source of pollution-free alternatives) states that cars in America are now a "requirement," and even suggests buying a used pre-smog-controlled car to save money.

Not only is air pollution responsible for many human health problems, the pollutants emitted by cars are partially responsible for some global environmental problems. There is an emerging consensus on the imminent dangers presented to us by the "greenhouse effect," a global climatic warming caused by pollutants that allow the sun's energy into, but not out of the atmosphere. Unfortunately, the severity of the pollution problem does not elicit a proportional amount of concern among the

public. Inevitably, the less concerned we are, the more severe the problem will become.

A couple of years ago, I hit a seagull with my car. That event prompted an action that I had pondered for years: abandoning my driving habit forever. Since then, I've found out that abstinence from driving offers personal benefits as well. Cars come with a long list of payments—including gas, insurance, parking, repairs, monthly payments, oil changes, tune-ups, and license fees. The amounts will vary, but in my own case, not owning a car saves me approximately \$2,000 a year. It costs around 10 to 35 cents a mile to operate a car, while my bicycle costs about .4 cents per mile. When Minnesota winters keep me from using my bicycle, I ride the bus for \$35 a month.

Next, there is the safety factor. Once positioned behind a steering wheel, many otherwise nonpsychotic people turn into thrill-seekers who feel they must take any risk to shave a few seconds off their travel time—and let no one stand in their way! Thanks to these people and those who choose to mix drinking and driving, automobile use exacts an extremely significant human toll. In fact, it's hard to find an adult in America who has not been involved in a car accident of some sort. There is more safety in mass transit: buses and trains sustain more damage with less harm to its passengers than a car, and they are generally involved in fewer accidents.

It really wouldn't be that difficult to eliminate 90 percent of all traffic in this way. It simply requires sacrificing a limited amount of convenience for the greater good. Convenience should not blind us to the fact that motor vehicles are a destructive force on this planet.

The writer is an animal advocate living in St. Paul, Minnesota.



Should Fish Be Exempt From Human Consideration?

BY LARRY M. BROWN

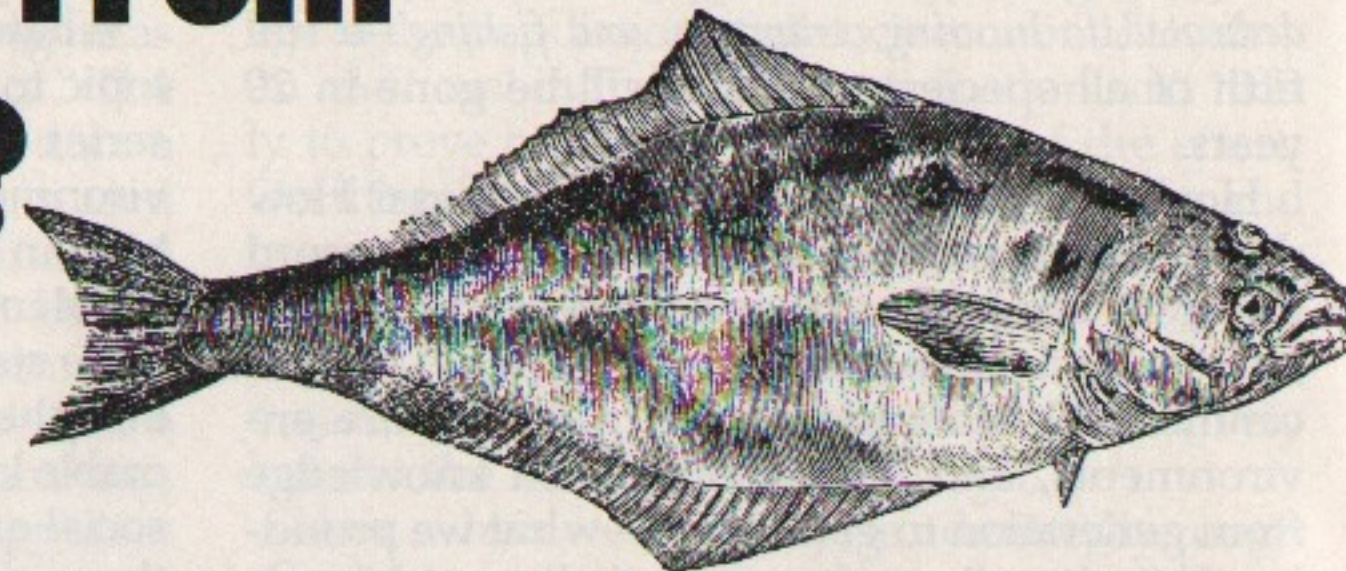
Fifty-nine million people can't be wrong—or can they? This is the number of people in the country who apparently see nothing wrong with sinking a barbed hook into the mouth, stomach, or eye of a fish. To them, a living, breathing fish might as well be a baseball or some other plaything to knock around, I suppose.

Obviously, few who practice this pastime reflect on its implications for the fish. For if they did, I suspect many could not do it. Hooked fish do not go peacefully to their death. They bleed as we do, and they suffocate, slowly and agonizingly, as their gills plead for water-borne oxygen. As a child, I remember fish being alive several hours later when we got home and opened the trunk containing our catch.

We have been conditioned to accept fishing as a wholesome, appropriate way to spend a day. Even those who would never kick a dog still love to hook a fish. Part of the reason is that the

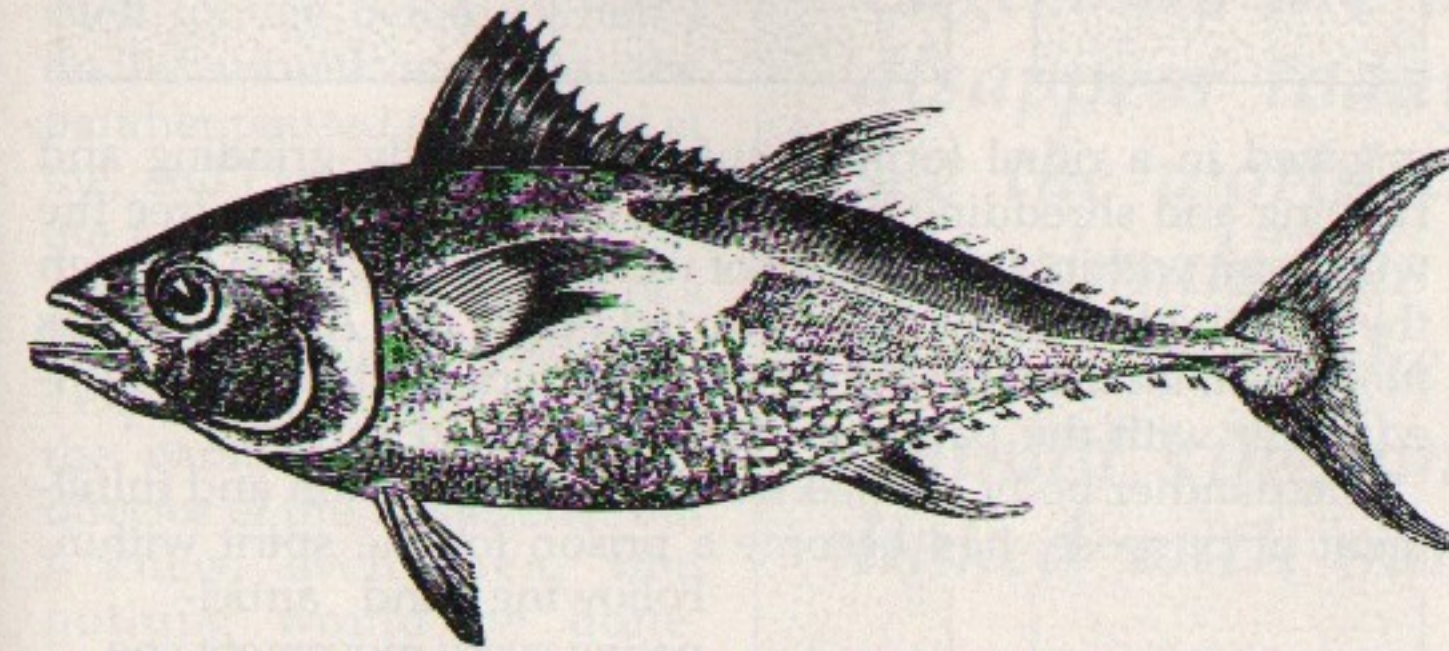
media love to glorify the sport. Quite regularly grinning humans are shown as conquerors holding up their vanquished foes, whose lifeless bodies are distinguished by their hollow eyes and gaping mouths. One outdoor writer even likened the killing of a fish to something mystical.

For the fish on the other end of the line, there is hardly anything mystical about the experience. It is well known that all vertebrates have similar pain-perception centers in their brains. If pain is bad, and most would agree it is, what justification can be given for consciously and willfully producing it in a fish? Is it the unhumanlike appearance or the inability to vocalize their distress that causes us to suppress concern? It



seems to me that those are not relevant criteria for discriminating against fish.

Some have sought to justify the killing of fish and certain other animals by claiming they are necessary for food. Since fish, as well as other animals, are—except in rare instances—in no way necessary to sustain life, but are in many cases detrimental to our health, this argument really has little merit. And for most people who fish, this is a ruse, since they do it solely for recreation, not subsistence. In fact, in most instances, it is cheaper to buy a fish than to catch one—since the costs of boats, motors, gear, and gas add up rather quickly.



Increasingly, the food claim is even being downplayed among those who fish. Many in the world of fishing, including outdoor editorial writers, are advocating throwing the fish back. This way fish stocks aren't depleted and those who fish can hook them over and over like reusable toys.

Throwing them back does not ease my mind and is not the humane gesture some make it out to be. A reader of a fishing

magazine recently reported on the kind of deplorable shape that tournament fish would be in when they are thrown back after being hooked, netted, kept in 70 degree water, banged around in a live well at 50 miles per hour, placed in plastic bags, and drained into weigh-in baskets. Not hooking them in the first place would be the humane thing.

Unfortunately, it seems that it is routine behavior for people to mutilate fish. A student of mine told of punching out the eyes of a fish to see how well it could get around in the water that way. Fish are skinned alive, and acquaintances have reported hearing distressful vocalizations from fish in pain.

The life of a fish is taken so lightly that a local television station in Dayton, Ohio even features a fishing forecast. Our moral horizons are as in need of broadening now as they were when the majority of people accepted slavery as an appropriate and inevitable condition. Recreation or economic interests do not give us a license for callousness.

Romain Rolland, the early 20th-century French novelist, commented, "To a person whose mind is free, there is something more intolerable in the suffering of animals than in the suffering of people. For with the latter, it is at least admitted that suffering is evil and the person who causes it is a criminal. But thousands of animals are uselessly butchered every day without a shadow of remorse. If anyone were to refer to it, that person would be thought ridiculous. And that is the unpardonable crime."

The writer is a teacher and animal rights advocate based in Tipp City, Ohio. He writes a regular column for the Tipp City Herald, from which this comment is adapted.



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The Captive Panther

BY DR. MICHAEL W. FOX

Some experiences can be so painfully intense that they are soon forgotten. Amnesia protects the psyche. Then again, in anticipation of vicarious suffering, some simply tune out certain experiences altogether. Other times, the psyche is not so protected. The imprint of a powerful experience is branded so indelibly on the mind that one can go back and review every detail. I had just such an experience with a panther in a zoo many years ago.

The first time I ever really saw an animal in a cage was in a small zoo at the *jardin des Plantes*, a natural history museum in Paris. Its large, ornate rotunda housed a few animals in small wrought-iron cages, but I can recall seeing only one animal there. At first the animal appeared not to see me, even though I stood beside her cage for what seemed an eternity.

In retrospect, I was probably mesmerized by what appeared at first to be a shiny black serpent in constant motion. Her liquid form brushed across the front of the cage, then insinuated itself around some artificial rocks and a body-polished tree stump toward the back of the enclosure before ricocheting off a ceramic-tiled wall to again brush the front of the cage. Form and motion were so unified, and the pattern of movement within the confines of the cage so repetitive, that at first encounter the creature

was barely recognizable as a panther. Her movements were executed with such precision—even to the point of always touching the tree trunk with her left hip and the same ceramic tile with her right front paw—that she was more like a perpetual motion machine than a sentient being.

But then I saw the blood: a streak of blood down her left thigh, draining from an open sore that would never heal until the cat was freed from the hypnotic lines she traced. Each scraping turn around the tree trunk kept the sore open like a broken heart bleeding for the loss of all that was wild and free.

I wondered if she felt any pain. Her yellow-green eyes were like cold glass, with neither fire nor luster. Perhaps she was

engaged in a ritual form of suicide, gradually grinding and rubbing and shredding her body to pieces in order to free the wild spirit within. I saw a glint of white bone or tendon through the cat's thigh muscles as she turned before me. And there was no pad left on the right front paw that struck the tile wall polished ocher with the patina of dried blood and serum.

The panther body, denied freedom of expression and fulfillment of purpose, had become a prison for the spirit within.

Following and anticipating every movement she made, I began to breathe in rhythm with the cat. I felt part of myself entering her cage, while the rotunda started to revolve faster and faster around that part of my consciousness that remained outside the cage. Then, I seemed to enter her mind. The other people strolling around the rotunda became ephemeral shadow-beings, as though they were part of a dream and the only reality was the measured universe of the tormented panther.

Confined in such limited space, how else could this boundless spirit of the jungle respond? Her rhythmic, trance-like actions were more than thwarted attempts to escape. Was her compulsive animation designed in desperation simply to help her cope with the emptiness of being in a state of non-being—of existing in a body without any purpose for spirit—a kind of

living death? Looking out through her eyes, I saw that the pelucid people, the cage walls and bars were suffused by a warm, pure, white light of illimitable dimension. The panther was abiding in this numinous state, held by the merest thread to the body that paced and turned and paced and turned in the finite dimension of the cage.

A sudden, intense wave of nausea brought me back to where I was leaning against an ornamental palm tree beside her cage. I slowly looked around at the people in the rotunda. They were no longer dream-like, but palpably real, and I felt a deep sense of relief. But then I looked at the panther and saw an emaciated, pathetic creature who filled me with anguish and rage. I was



JENNIFER DONAGOS 1988

outraged that she had been forced to exist under such deplorable conditions, and I was dismayed by the apparent lack of concern on the faces of the people who passed her cage.

Again I felt that ineffable part of myself enter her body, but the transition this time was without the sense of vertigo experienced before. And when I returned to my place by the palm tree, a sensation of surprise rather than nausea swept through me. I felt as though I had double vision, a kind of dual perception that hadn't existed for me before. When I finally turned to leave, the panther paused and looked at me, and I knew she had seen me for the first time.

With the limited French of a 15-year-old English schoolboy, I expressed my concerns over the panther's welfare to the director of the menagerie. But I knew, even then, that nothing would be done. Nothing would ever be done until we could see that the cages of captive animals were bars around our own hearts.

Cage bars are beginning to disappear today as we begin to see the world through the eyes of animals—as we come to realize that the fate of the animal kingdom is inextricably linked with our own fate.

Then we might begin to rage against the dying of the light, and not rationalize—in the name of conservation, research, and public education—that the keeping of animals in zoos is ethically acceptable. The cage may indeed be the last refuge for many endangered species, but it's a sad reflection of how far we have desecrated Nature.

Cage bars are beginning to disappear today as we begin to see the world through the eyes of animals—as we come to realize that the fate of the animal kingdom is inextricably linked with our own fate. The black panther in the cage was a mirror reflecting our own condition. But we are not helpless in the face of it. We can do something about the dying of the light around us—once we feel it and know it as something to be cherished, kindled, and revered. 🐾

Dr. Fox is a vice president of the Humane Society of the United States and director of its Center for Respect of Life and Environment.



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Moving Forward Against Dissection

BY BILL DeROSA

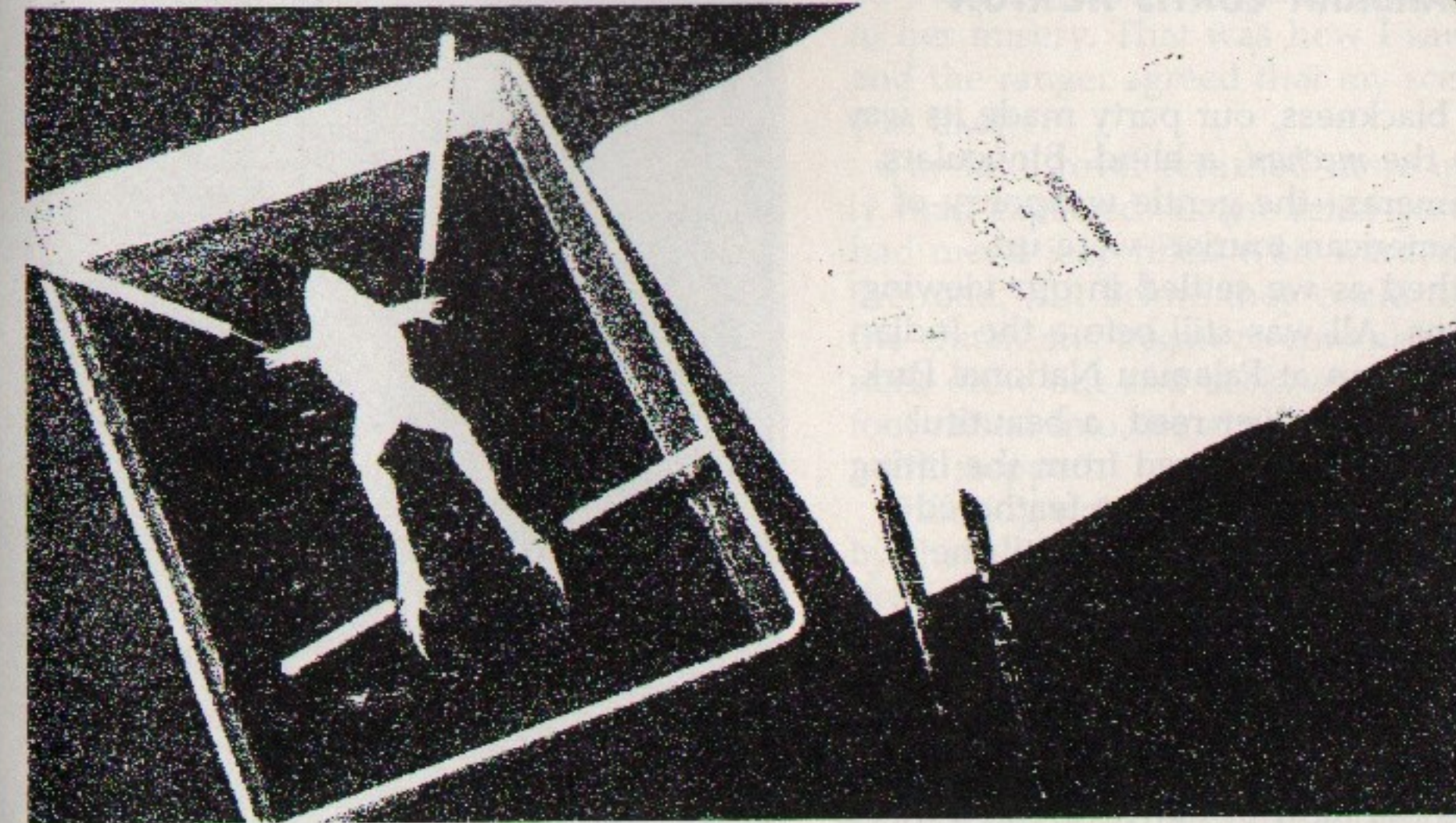
Dissection is an issue on the move. Several recent developments have brought us closer to the goal of eventually eliminating dissection from biology curricula nationwide.

On March 29, 1988, the governor of California approved a bill requiring that elementary and secondary students be allowed to choose whether or not to dissect animals in science classes. Although the bill ultimately leaves the decision to allow an alternative project up to the teacher, it requires that the teacher's decision "not be arbitrary or capricious," and further requires that teachers inform their students of their right to request an alternative. While giving the teacher approval power may weaken the law, the measure is, nevertheless, an important step in the right direction. The bill goes into effect in January of 1989.

Other positive developments have come from within the science education community itself. In April of 1988, Holt, Rhinehart and Winston (publishers of the popular *Modern Biology* textbook series) released a new edition of *Modern Biology: Laboratories*. Except for one frog dissection, which is designated as optional, the book includes no information on harmful activities. In light of the predominance of dissection projects in other high school lab manuals, this represents a major breakthrough. In the teachers' edition, the editors state that "for most students,

behavioral observations foster a greater respect for living organisms." The introductory sections of both the teacher and student editions acknowledge that the practice of dissection is increasingly being called into question, and students and teachers are encouraged to investigate and discuss the controversy.

The science education community took another step forward when Juliana Texley, editor of *The Science Teacher*, a publication of the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), wrote an editorial in the December 1987 issue questioning the educational value of dissection. Texley noted that "the fraction of biology teachers who are rejecting dissection completely is growing each year." One teacher who is part of this trend is Paula Meachen, a 10th-grade biology teacher in Trumbull, Conn. According to Meachen, students are becoming more sensitive to the issue as a result of the recent media coverage it has received—mainly due to the widely-publicized Jenifer Graham case. "Eighty percent of my students had no interest in doing dissections. And



—Photos by John Dommers

when it came time for their individual science projects, no one proposed doing anything invasive involving animals."

To insure that the move away from dissection continues, it's important for animal advocates and humane educators to work with students and teachers to encourage the adoption of alternatives. One key to success is providing them with educationally sound projects that require a minimum of preparation and expense. Some good alternatives are:

- 1) **Build-A-Model.** Using modeling clay or other material, students construct a model of a frog or other animal, detailing both external and internal anatomy.
- 2) **Precision Learning.** Students label anatomical diagrams or drawings, progressing from labeling with a list of choices to labeling with no choices.
- 3) **Anatomical Overlays.** Using projection transparencies, students create and study anatomical overlays that depict, in three-dimensional form, the organization of the body.
- 4) **Build-A-Creature.** Students are assigned a particular kind of habitat and a class of animal. Then, using written description, drawing, or materials such as clay or wood, students design an imaginary creature who would be physically and behaviorally suited to the type of environment assigned.
- 5) **Anatomy Quiz Show.** Using the format of popular television quiz shows, students design questions testing each other's knowledge of anatomical and physiological principles. Questions can evaluate a variety of levels of understanding, including physical structure, function, and comparative anatomy.

6) **Soft Sculpture Teaching Models.** Teaching tools like the "Ribbit," (a soft sculpture frog available from SCIDEAS, 516 W. Ridgeway St., Warrenton, NC 27589) can be used to demonstrate organ structure and physiological functioning to elementary-level students.

For additional information on the dissection issue and alternative projects, contact: The National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education, P.O. Box 362, East Haddam, CT 06423; Student Action Corps for Animals, P.O. Box 15588, Washington, DC 20003-0588; Scientists Center for Animal Welfare, 4805 St. Elmo, Bethesda, MD 20814; and Focus on Animals, P.O. Box 150, Trumbull, CT 06611.

Bill DeRosa is Assistant Director of the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education, a division of the Humane Society of the United States.

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A Step Backwards

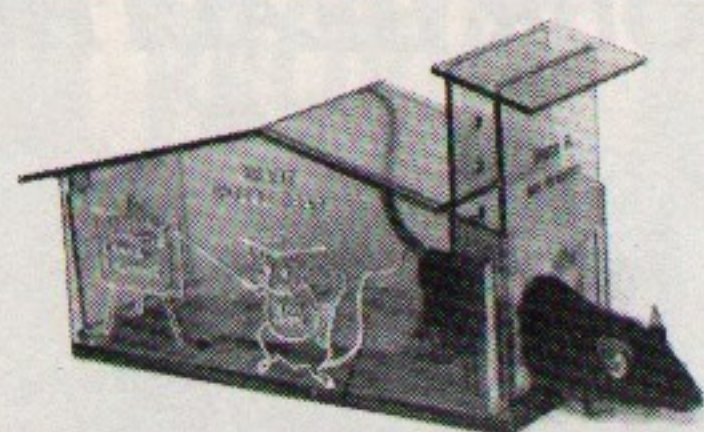
As previously reported, the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), adopted a new code of practice in 1985 for the use of animals in the classroom. The code, which is a relaxed version of the previous NSTA code adopted in 1981, permits surgery on live animals and prohibits only those experimental procedures that cause "unnecessary pain or discomfort." The code also allows, "on rare occasions," an animal to be "sacrificed for educational purposes." To protest, write to: NSTA, 1742 Connecticut Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20009.



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The Chital and the People Who Loved Animals

BY BARBARA CURTIS HORTON

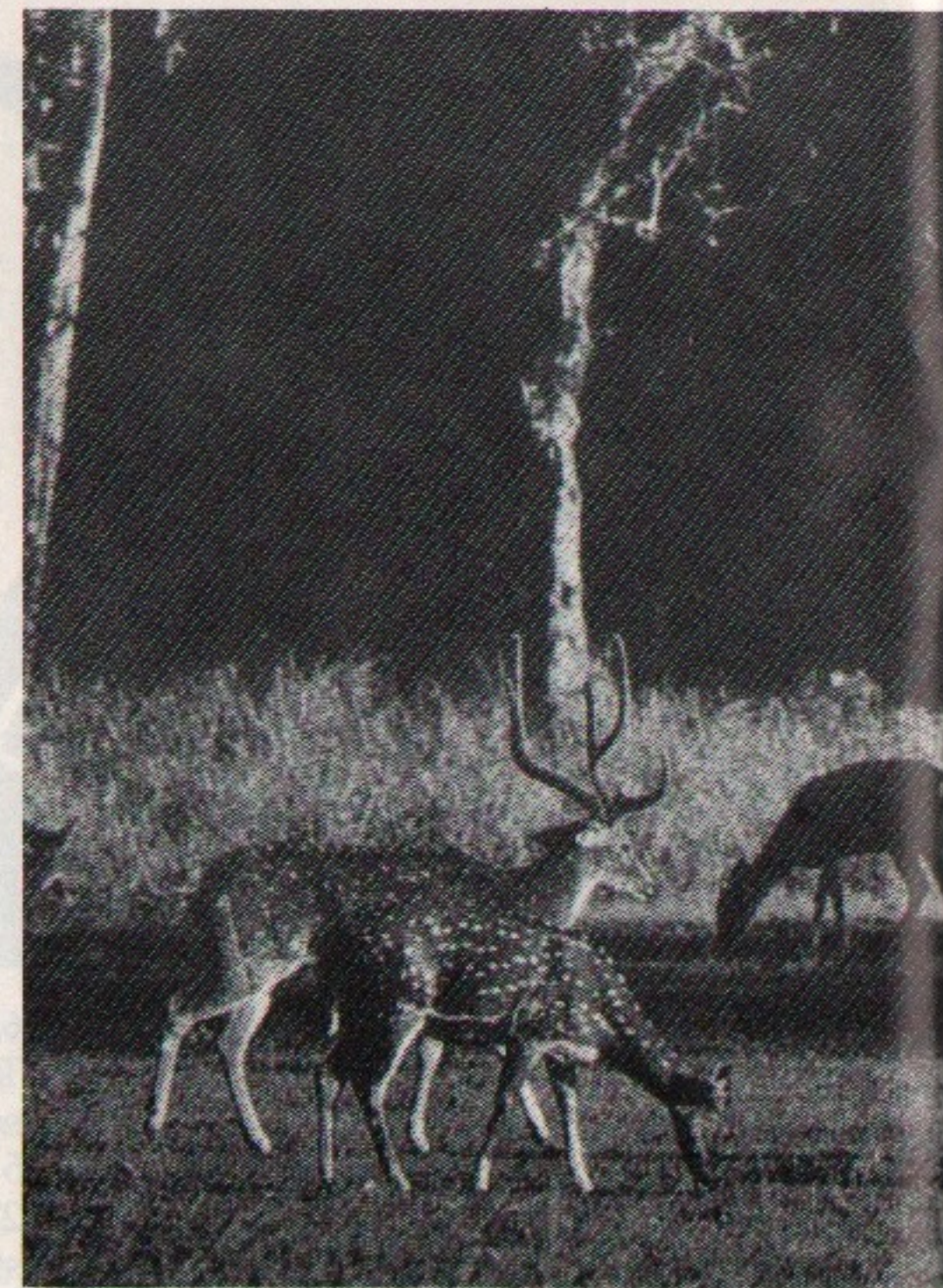
In blackness, our party made its way to the *mechan*, a blind. Binoculars, cameras—the gentle weaponry of the American tourist—were unsheathed as we settled in our viewing stations. All was still before the Indian dawn began at Palamau National Park.

As from a silver reed, a beautiful improvisation emerged from the lifting darkness. It came from a feathered throat. Other voices rose until the *mechan* was surrounded by song. Roosting crows began calling and beating their wings, and small wrens made a rattling sound like a whisk brushing against a drum.

The full light of dawn revealed the elegantly refined shape of a Chital stag, a spotted deer, on the bushy slope above the water hole. With him was a harem of females and several juvenile males. From the *mechan*, we watched them move like dancers in slow motion.

Driving back to the lodge after our field trip was over, something unusual in the grass alongside the road caught my eye. "There's a deer back there—lying down," I told the park ranger, who had the vehicle stopped quickly. Walking slowly back to the spot, he discovered a doe with an injury visible on her hindquarters. The ranger then sent the driver and the other members of the party to obtain help from game wardens. If there seemed to be hope for her, the deer would be taken to the Betla forest station for treatment. If not, her life could be mercifully ended.

With the others gone, the ranger and I stood watch and speculated on what might have happened to the



doe. Since the wound was to the rear of the animal, we thought of a tiger, but dismissed the idea quickly as it is virtually unheard of for a tiger to fail to make a quick kill.

Poachers. It must have been poachers, I reasoned, but the thought was interrupted by the chital. She began thrashing in an agonized effort to rise. Her injured hind legs made the effort futile.

I think of myself as a reasonably gentle person, but started to burn with rage as I thought of the poachers. Just here, at the road's edge, they must have stood, their bullet shattering the doe's leg. An approaching car must have been heard before she could be finished off, and



so the poachers fled, leaving the doe to her misery. That was how I saw it, and the ranger agreed that my scenario was likely.

The land rover returned more quickly than expected, as the relief party had met a jeep filled with wardens on the road. But before they could reach the chital, she began to convulse. Her neck drew out and back, and a hind foot raised into the air before all movement stopped.

Differing opinions were expressed by the people standing around the dead deer. An external examination seemed to indicate a wound in the chest, from which a bullet might have entered, passing through the lower abdomen and shattering the hind leg on exiting the body. It seemed reasonable enough. One warden thought that because of the maggots in the leg she had been in that condition for perhaps as long as three days. Others thought less; because of the warm weather, the maggots might have multiplied quicker

than usual, and surely a predator would have reached her by then had she been down for three days.

The ranger picked up the body and took it to the forest station for autopsy. I went back to camp with the others in a subdued mood. We felt the wind in our faces and smelled the lingering scent of yesterday's rain—yet not with the same intensity as before. We felt lessened in ourselves, all of us, for we all loved animals.

After breakfast, most of us set off to see an orphaned baby elephant who was being raised by an ancient *mahout*, an elephant handler. To reach that area, we passed by the ranger station where the chital had been taken. When we were returning to camp, the ranger came out. "The deer was not shot," he said. Before we could voice our perplexity, he went on, "We cut open her stomach. Inside was a plastic bag." He rounded his hands to show us the size of the ball

Continued on page 53

Help Us Help Farm Animals

"The livestock industry can't stop whining about the Humane Farming Initiative. This is the most comprehensive farm animal bill ever written! I have enormous respect for CEASE."

Brad Miller, Director
Humane Farming Association

"The Humane Farming Referendum in Massachusetts is the most important campaign being waged on behalf of farm animals at this time. CEASE desperately needs and richly deserves the generous support of every animal rights advocate in this struggle."

Alex Hershaft, President
Farm Animal Reform Movement

"This would be the most important achievement to date in establishing basic protections for animals raised for food. It is long overdue and it requires the support of the whole movement."

Jim Mason, Co-Author
Animal Factories

"Compassion and a sustainable agriculture go hand in hand. Support the referendum if you care for farm animals and for the future."

Dr. Michael W. Fox
HSUS

The Humane Farming Initiative in Massachusetts is the most comprehensive legislation to protect farm animals anywhere in America. The Coalition to End Animal Suffering and Exploitation (CEASE) and humane societies throughout the state united to collect over 87,000 certified signatures to put a landmark referendum on this November's ballot. If passed, this law would

- establish humane standards for the treatment of farm animals in housing, surgical procedures, transportation, auction, and slaughter
- create a farm animal welfare advisory board within the state Department of Agriculture
- ban the notorious veal crate
- prohibit inhumane suffocation or grinding of male chicks in hatcheries.

To educate voters on the need for this legislation, funds are needed. Over 35 agribusiness groups from around the country are funding a campaign to defeat this initiative. That's why your help is needed to get our message to the public. Join us in this landmark campaign for farm animals.

Please make checks payable to: Citizens for Humane Farming
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Edited by PETER SINGER



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When Animal Friends Die: Overcoming the Grief

BY M. PATRICIA GALLAGHER

Generally, people do not understand the deep bond that can develop between human and nonhuman, or the traumatic effect the death of a companion animal can have. Statements like "My dog was family to me" and "Losing my cat has been like losing a child" are often met with perplexed silence on the part of close friends—at worst, these confessions of sorrow are met with callous comments to the effect that "it was, after all, *only* an animal." People may grant others a day or so to experience their grief when a "pet" dies, but there's not much patience after that. If people are still distraught after a few days, even their close friends—and sometimes family members—will often ask them why they don't "snap out of it and forget it." It's not unusual for those who are sad over the loss of an animal to be ridiculed. And seldom do they find solace in the words of ministers, some of them eager to make irrational claims concerning differences between human and nonhuman souls. So, without the support of friends or "benefit of clergy," the individual is left with no outlet for his or her sorrow.

Finding support from understanding people is of prime importance for the bereaved. "Talk it out; share your feelings; ventilate; don't let your grief get bottled up inside and cause physical problems" is my constant refrain. The chest, stomach, and back are usually the bodily areas most affected by the stress of emotional suffering. Physical exercise sometimes helps to relieve the stress, as do relaxation or meditation exercises. Tears are often the best therapy for emotional strain—for both sexes and all ages. Weeping is a



—Illustrations by Walt Taylor

natural way to ease anguish and release pain. Laughter, too, can serve as an outlet for discharging pent-up emotions.

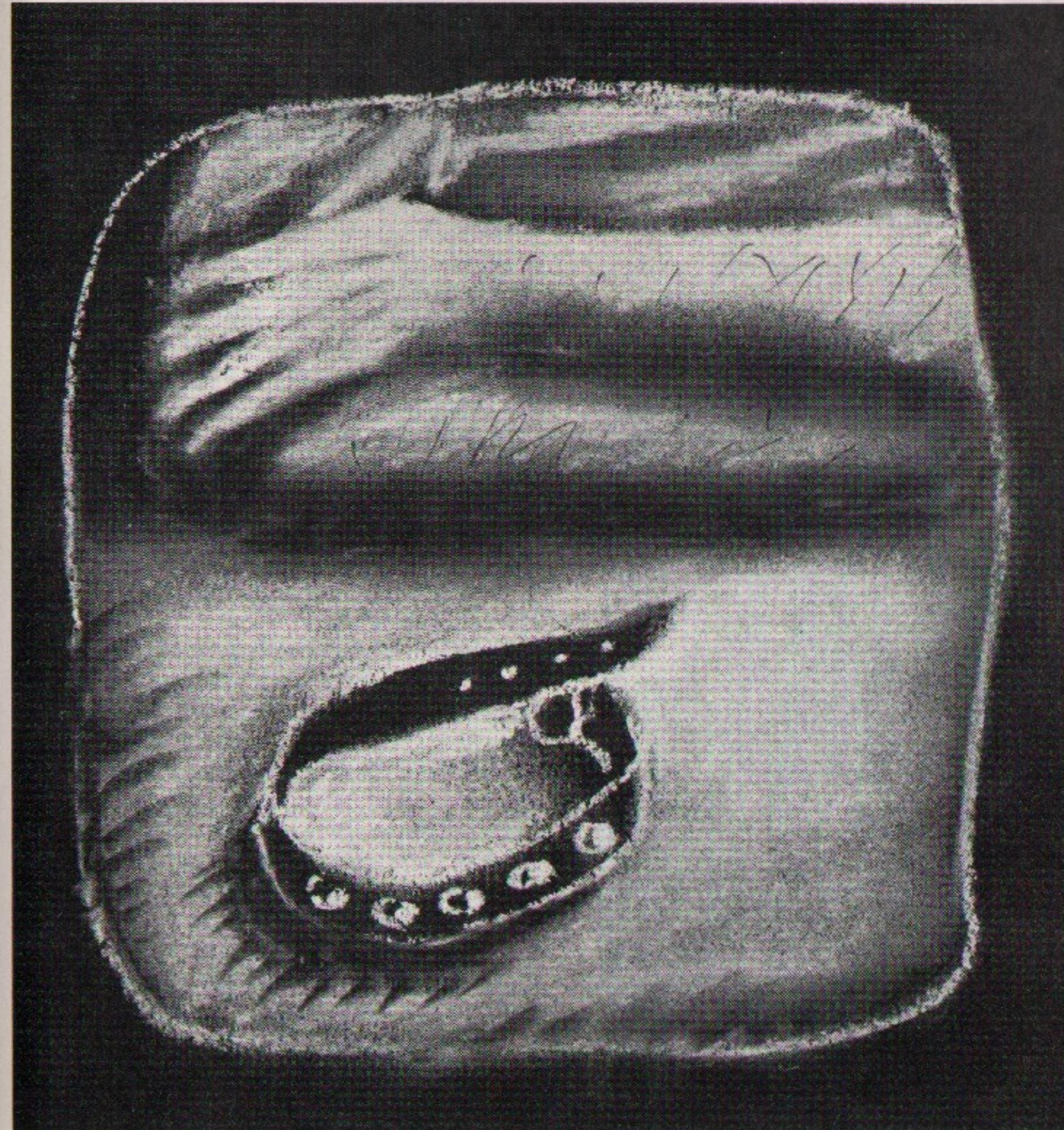
It is important to find an understanding group or individual with whom one can share feelings on a long-term basis. Though the answers to our problems can be found within ourselves, others can help us sort out the confusion and provide the encouragement we need. The dynamics of group interaction are powerful and effective, and the addition of individual counseling—be it with a professional or a friend—hastens the

healing. By surrounding oneself with supportive people, it is easier to ignore comments that seem to hurt rather than help.

In addition to talking about the grief and telling others what is needed from them, writing down experiences in a daily log or journal can be therapeutic. The writing can be free-flowing, or in the form of letters, a narrative, or even poetry. Writing about feelings helps us clarify them. It can help us face the loss directly; avoidance only prolongs the pain. Later, after the trauma has passed, re-reading the words can illustrate our personal growth.

Many people try to keep themselves too busy to think, as a way of avoiding the grief. But the feelings must be dealt with and accepted as part of a normal separation process. There is no "normal" grief span—the process is never the same for any two people.

For children, the loss of a companion animal can be especially devastating, but often they must cope alone after a few perfunctory words of sympathy from adults. Children must be permitted to make their own decisions as to what can help them recover from their grief, be it individual or group support—or a combination of both. Some families are not able to function as their own support group, especially in a culture where parental responsibilities may permit a family support structure only on an occasional basis. Still, the following books may help: *Pet Loss: A Thoughtful Guide for Adults and Children*, by H. Neiburg and A. Fischer; and *Helping Children to Cope with Separation and Loss*, by Claudia Jewett. Librarians may be able to suggest others.



A range of emotions is normal

The process of bereavement almost always involves confusing and frustrating emotions. As we "ventilate" those emotions with others, we begin to understand that the feelings are normal. The most common emotion after the death of a companion animal is that of guilt: "I should have gotten help for her sooner," or "If only I had tied him up so that he hadn't run into the street." It is most important to recognize that using hindsight to judge the situation will not help. New information that might have allowed us to prevent the death—had it only been available at the time—shouldn't be allowed to add to any burden of guilt. Keep in mind that the animal has probably been aware of your love and care *only*, and not your perceived negligence. If you did make a mistake, learn from it. Turn your feelings of regret into creative, positive action to help other animals. Sometimes people feel guilty because they miss the animal more

than they may have missed deceased human friends or family members. The reason the loss may be felt more is because companion animals are perpetual "children" who depend on us, whereas human children eventually become independent and have less and less need of us as they mature.

After experiencing the release of talking, a man who had lost his cat of 21 years acknowledged the relief he felt. Surprised at the variety of emotions he felt after his cat died, he found talking about the guilt and anger as important as expressing the pain. Some of us were taught as children that anger is a "wrong" feeling, and we learn to hold it inside instead of express it. Mental health professionals now recognize that depression is anger turned inward, and they understand that it is essential to find an appropriate way to release anger.


Sometimes grief is so severe that one's own life loses its attraction. At those times, it's important to understand that courage is not the *absence* of

fear and pain, but the ability to go on *in spite of it*. Erroneous thoughts such as "I must hold onto the pain of loss in order to hold on to my friend" will sharpen the suffering. But when those thoughts are expressed and clarified, their power can be dissipated.

Gradually, anguish gives way to pleasant memories of our animal friend. Each of us will know when it's time to adopt another animal. Though one animal can never be replaced with another, shelters and pounds are full of dogs and cats who desperately need loving homes.

Helping a grieving friend

Giving people support when they are experiencing a severe loss makes our society more humane. Yet, many people shy away from those who are grief-stricken. They may unconsciously be afraid to come too close to a grieving person since it reminds us of our limitations and mortality.

Words of wisdom to the bereaved are not required; neither are they necessarily helpful. Rather, reaching out with a card, a phone call, or a personal visit meets the need. Flowers can help convey a message, and a gift of food is practical as well as thoughtful since a person in the throes of grief may not be capable of preparing a meal. It is especially important to reach out to people who are newly-bereaved at holidays, as there is always a tendency at those times to reflect on happier celebrations—making the loss even more evident. Don't forget the power of touch: a warm handshake or a hug can say more than words. Show your concern and sorrow in your own way, but be available to your friend and encourage others to reach out, too. 

Patricia Gallagher has masters degrees in counseling and education, and an undergraduate degree in sociology. For the past five years, she has been working in the area of human bereavement as founder and facilitator of grief support groups called COPES (Community of People Extending Support). In late 1985, with the support of veterinarian Dr. Richard McFarland of Norwalk, Conn., Ms. Gallagher began individual and group counseling with people whose companion animals had died or whose deaths were anticipated. At least two humane societies (the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the Bide-A-Wee Home in New York City) are now sponsoring support groups for those grieving over companion animals.

Vivisection: An International Debate

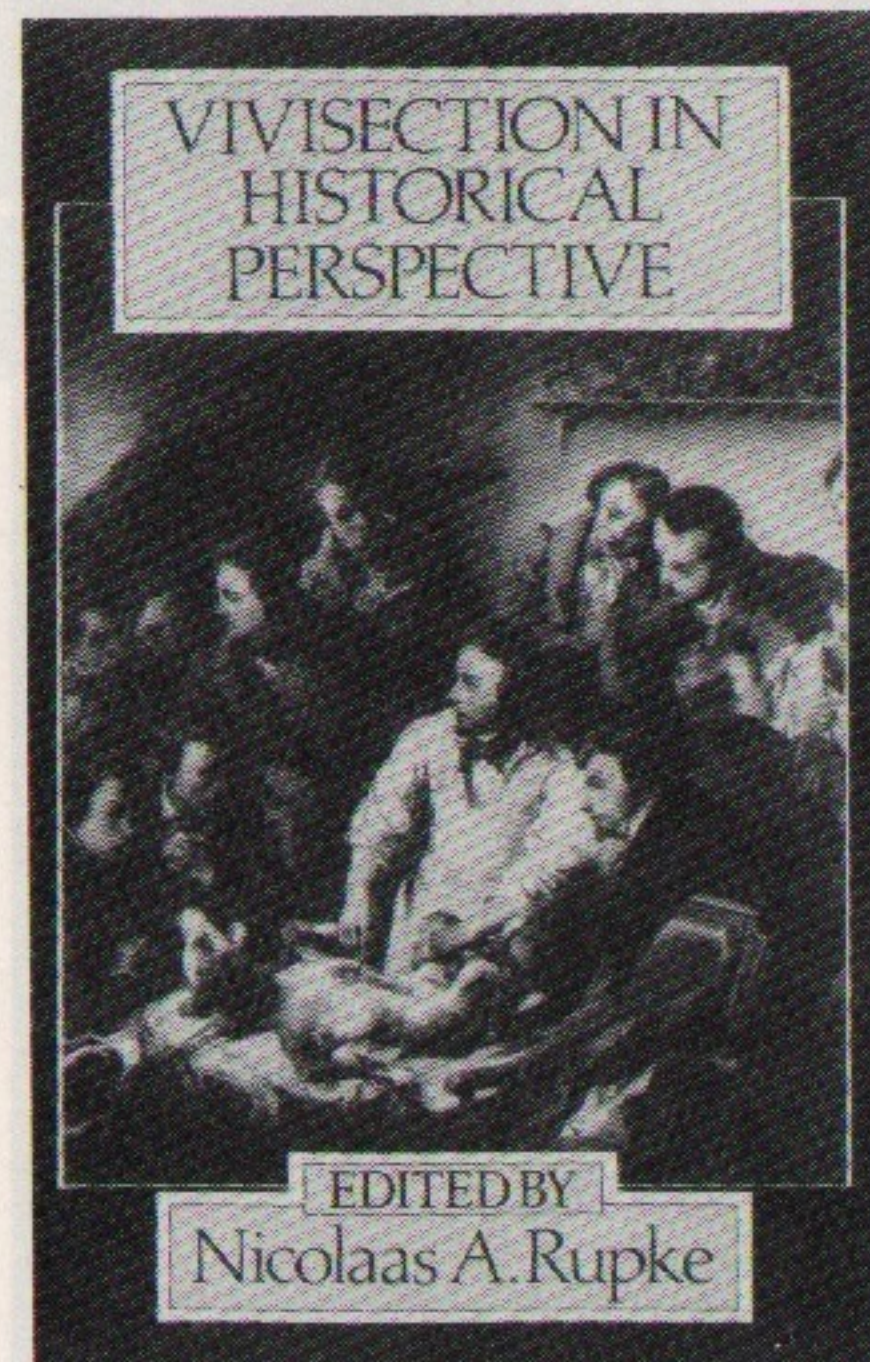
Vivisection in Historical Perspective

By N.A. Rupke, ed., Croom Helm (29 West 35th Street, New York, NY, 10001), 1987 373 pages, hardcover, \$85.00

Human-animal interactions take many forms in modern society, from the billions of animals raised for and consumed as food, to the birds we feed and admire in our gardens, to the millions of animals who share our homes and affections, and to the animals used in laboratories for research and testing. While all uses of animals have evoked some comment and debate, none of the discussions or protests come close to matching the intensity and passion of the controversy over vivisection.

While the animal protection movement arose from the perceived need to prevent abuses to horses and stop such "sports" as bullbaiting, it came of age with the battles over vivisection in the last 35 years of the 19th century. Why vivisection should have aroused such passion then and why it still arouses passion today has never been satisfactorily answered despite the publication of two excellent historical monographs on the issue (R.D. French's *Vivisection and Medical Science in Victorian England*, Princeton Univ. Press, 1975; and J. Turner's *Reckoning with the Beast*, Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, 1980). Both French and Turner helped to shed some light on the controversy, and their analysis of the 19th-century debate is remarkably pertinent to the present conflict over animal research. The same is true of this new volume, edited by Nicolaas Rupke, which enhances our understanding not only of the Victorian debate but also of the modern scene. In brief, Rupke argues that the anti-vivisectionists drew their main support from the aristocracy and the clergy while the experiments relied on the emerging health professions and the professoriate. In Britain, the clergy and the aristocracy retained much of their 18th-century political power. In the rest of Europe, however, the aristocracy had lost much of its power in the aftermath of the French Revolution, and the prestige of the professoriate was much higher. In the final analysis, the European anti-vivisection movement did not have the political clout to pass restrictive laws, but the British movement did.

The volume consists of an introduction by Rupke and 14 high-quality chapters on



various aspects of animal research and the protests against it in 19th-century Europe and Britain. The first section consists of five chapters that concentrate on the development of the experimental method using animals. While many of the founders of modern medicine used animal experimentation to expand their understanding of disease and anatomy, it was not until the early 1800s that animal experimentation became an integral part of experimental physiology. Andreas Maehle and Ulrich Trohler (University of Gottingen) review the use of research animals and attitudes to the practice from antiquity up to 1800. Paul Elliot (Oxford) takes up the story in France in the early 19th century, while Diana Manuel (Durham) covers Marshall Hall's role in England at the same time. Patrizia Guarnieri (Florence) discusses the controversy surrounding Moritz Schiff's animal laboratory in Florence in 1860 and shows that the protest stemmed from foreign expatriates (including Frances Cobbe) rather than from the local Italian community. The final chapter in this sec-

tion is by Stewart Richards (London), who discusses the role of pain and suffering in the physiological method and its impact in the debate.

The second section of the book consists of four chapters, describing the animal research controversy in Germany, Switzerland, England, Sweden, and the U.S. I found this one of the most intriguing sections of a generally interesting volume. The similarities of the arguments in the different countries are striking. In general, only the name of the major players are different, although Ludimar Hermann (experimenter) and Ernst Grysankowski (anti-vivisectionist) are probably the most thoughtful contributors to the debate. On the whole, it is striking how both sides are unable to avoid becoming enmeshed in exaggerated rhetoric defending their own points of view.

The final section of the book consists of a selection of special chapters on the issue. For example, Mary Ann Elston (London) examines the role of women in the anti-vivisection movement and cautions against reading too much into the link between women and the protest against animal research. Women tended to be in the majority in most of the big philanthropic societies of the time, and were perceived by both sexes to have an important role as "civilizers." Christopher Lawrence (London) discusses the image of William Harvey's experiments from a 1928 perspective, while William Schupbach (London) discusses several fascinating paintings that have animal experimentation as their central subject. Judith Hampson's (London) essay is somewhat out of place in that it reviews modern legislative initiatives to regulate animal experiments, but she comes to her subject with a good historical perspective. Her Ph.D. thesis concerns the legislative arguments and developments in Britain from 1876 to 1976. Finally, Sir William Paton (Oxford), author of *Man and Mouse: Animals in Medical Research*, contributes a short epilogue.

Excellent as is the book by Rupke (and the earlier books by French and Turner), they are far from definitive; more questions are left unanswered than are resolved. For example, why is there such a difference in the attitudes of people of northern and southern Europe to animals? The notion that it has something to do with Catholicism is not supported by the fact the Germany has had a powerful animal protection movement and has a large Catholic population. Another question that is potentially important concerns the implication of the term "sacrifice" as used to describe the killing of an

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People are Animals, Too

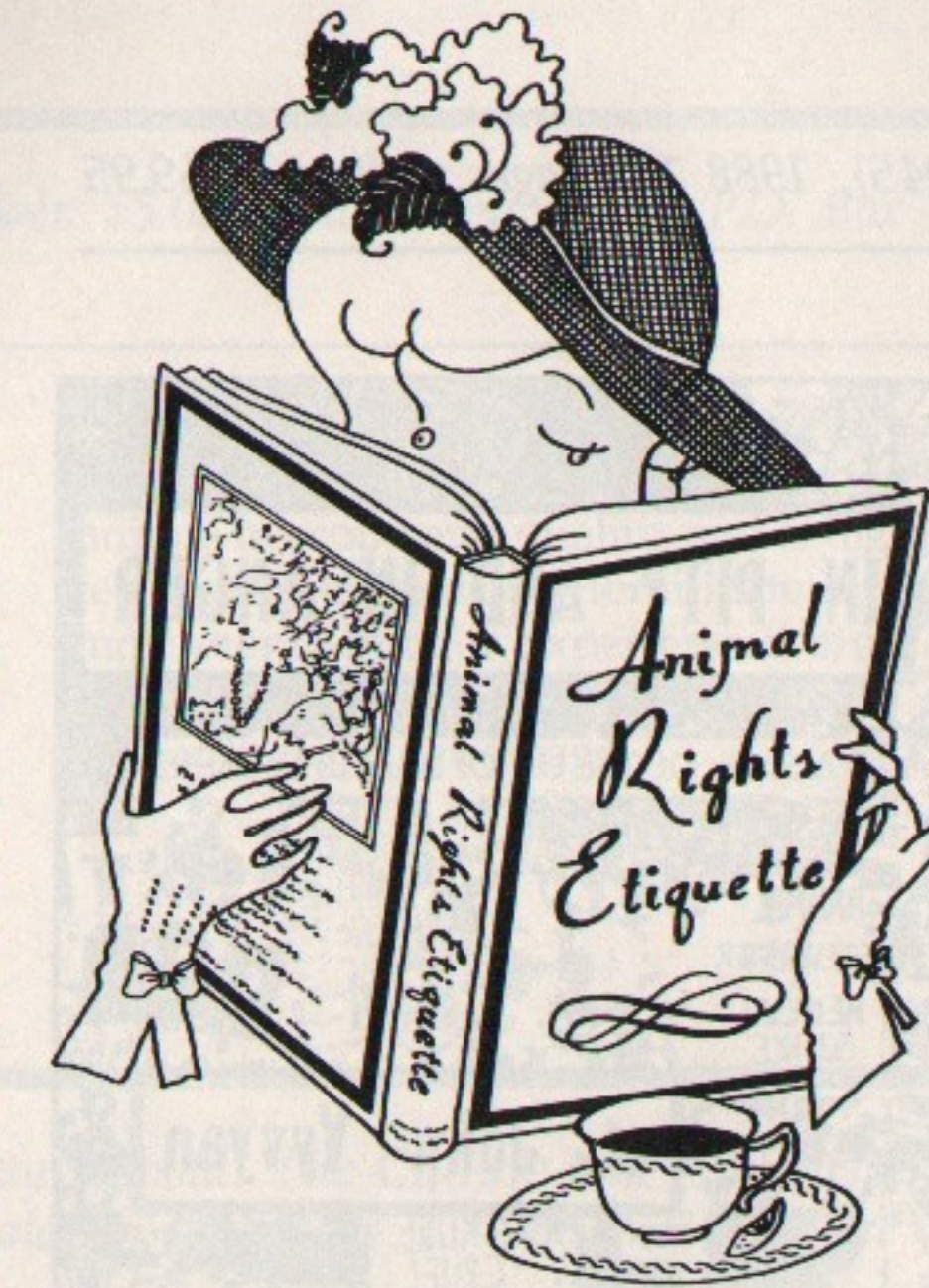
I liked the aphorism "Animals are people, too" the first time I saw it on somebody's t-shirt or some car bumper. The flip side of that, though, is that people are animals, too. It's so difficult sometimes to see what John Robbins, author of *Diet for a New America*, calls "the caring soul within every human heart that is connected to all life, waiting for the right time to emerge."

As a conscientious objector to what most of society believes are legitimate "uses" of animals, I am often impatient with strangers and disappointed in friends. And I'm not alone. A letter recently came in from a reader asking for a column dealing with matters of etiquette that aren't dealt with by Amy Vanderbilt. How do we deal with our fellow humans in a polite way when we deplore their behavior, or when we'd just like to eat our tofu in peace without being grilled about our dietary choices? "I've never changed people by making them uncomfortable or pressuring them or making them think I'm better," says Holly Hazard, executive director of the Doris Day Animal League. "What works seems to be being gracious and sticking to my principles. That way, I can get my point across and still maintain most of my friendships." To get some concrete ideas on how to do this, I asked John, Holly, and some other movement figures to tell me how they would react in social situations like those many of us have experienced.

Sticky Situation No.1 went to Dr. Michael W. Fox of the Humane Society of the United States and the Center for Respect for Life and the Environment: *Someone gives you a gift certificate from Gucci. What do you do with it?*

"My first response would be to thank them—not to respond in any kind of anger, not to be judgemental, but essentially to have compassion for the other person's lack of awareness and use that opportunity to help them understand my concerns. I would send back the gift certificate (because it's primarily their responsibility) with an explanation that the sentiment is accepted although the gift is not."

Sticky Situation No.2 went to John Robbins: *Someone tells you effusively how*



—Laine Roundy

much she loves animals, but you know she has a fur coat and a purebred dog from a pet store.

"I would tell her that I love animals, too, which is the reason I felt so sad recently when I learned what happens to the animals when they're caught in traps. I would say that I hadn't realized how terrible their plight is, and would ask if she did. The idea would be to empathize with her ignorance. My guess would be that she had never looked at the situation, and that she probably really does love animals to the extent she says. It's not up to us to force or coerce. If we're going to be vehicles of love, we need to love the people who don't seem to deserve it. I'm not talking about being 'nice,' but about developing a spaciousness within ourselves to see people who might otherwise be seen as enemies as victims of a holocaust as much as the animals are."

Sticky Situation No.3 was presented to Dr. Michael Klaper, physician and author of *Pregnancy, Children & the Vegan Diet: You're a vegan, and receive a personal invitation from the president of an animal welfare group to attend a wine and cheese buffet benefit.*

"I would send him my donation with a note thanking him for the invitation and complimenting him for the good work he's

doing on behalf of animals. I would also say, 'I wish to point out that if I attend, my food preferences are vegan and I do not eat cheese. Perhaps some fruit could be provided.' I'd come on light the first time if I were an invited guest, but I'd let him know that if he'd like to discuss it, I'd be happy to explore it with him."

Sticky Situation No.4 was given to Holly Hazard: *You take your parents out for what you assume will be a vegetarian meal since the Indian restaurant you've chosen only has two meat dishes. Your mother selects one of them, your father the other.*

"The way I handle parents or a husband is by letting them live their lives as they wish. I wouldn't make a big deal of it in a restaurant, but I would give them the opportunity to taste the vegetarian food I ordered. Now, if somebody comes to my home they have to eat what's available, but there have been some people who haven't been able to fathom the idea of no meat at a barbecue. They asked to bring their own, and I said okay. It boils down to where the line is, where you're manipulating your friends lives versus where they're manipulating yours."

Sticky Situation No.5 was dealt with by Cleveland Amory of the Fund for Animals in a characteristic manner: *Someone shows up at your party wearing a fur coat. How do you respond, or do you?*

"If the person who wore a fur coat is someone who was brought by a friend (most of my friends would know enough not to bring such a person, let alone such a coat), I would say to the person who brought her—not to her—that I was surprised that someone as bright and caring as your friend seems to be would wear such a thing. If the person were someone I had invited but who did not know me well enough not to wear such a thing, I would say essentially the same thing, adding, 'I'd be grateful if you didn't do it again.' As for addressing a stranger with a fur coat, I do not address them. Instead I prefer to say to someone I'm with (but so the person wearing the coat can clearly hear it), 'Isn't that something?—to see an intelligent-looking person like that wearing that coat. And it makes her look so fat, too—doesn't it?'"

You know, if more of us had wit like Cleveland's, situations might be a lot less sticky.



The Growth of Anti-Vivisection

In Pity and in Anger: A Study of the Use of Animals in Science

By John Vyvyan
Micah Publications
(255 Humphrey St., Marblehead, MA, 01945), 1988 167 pages, softcover, \$9.95

The re-issue of John Vyvyan's excellent study of the birth of the anti-vivisection movement is timely and welcome. *In Pity and in Anger* has considerable value as social history and will be of interest to all who are unfamiliar with the origins of anti-vivisection as a cultural and political phenomenon.

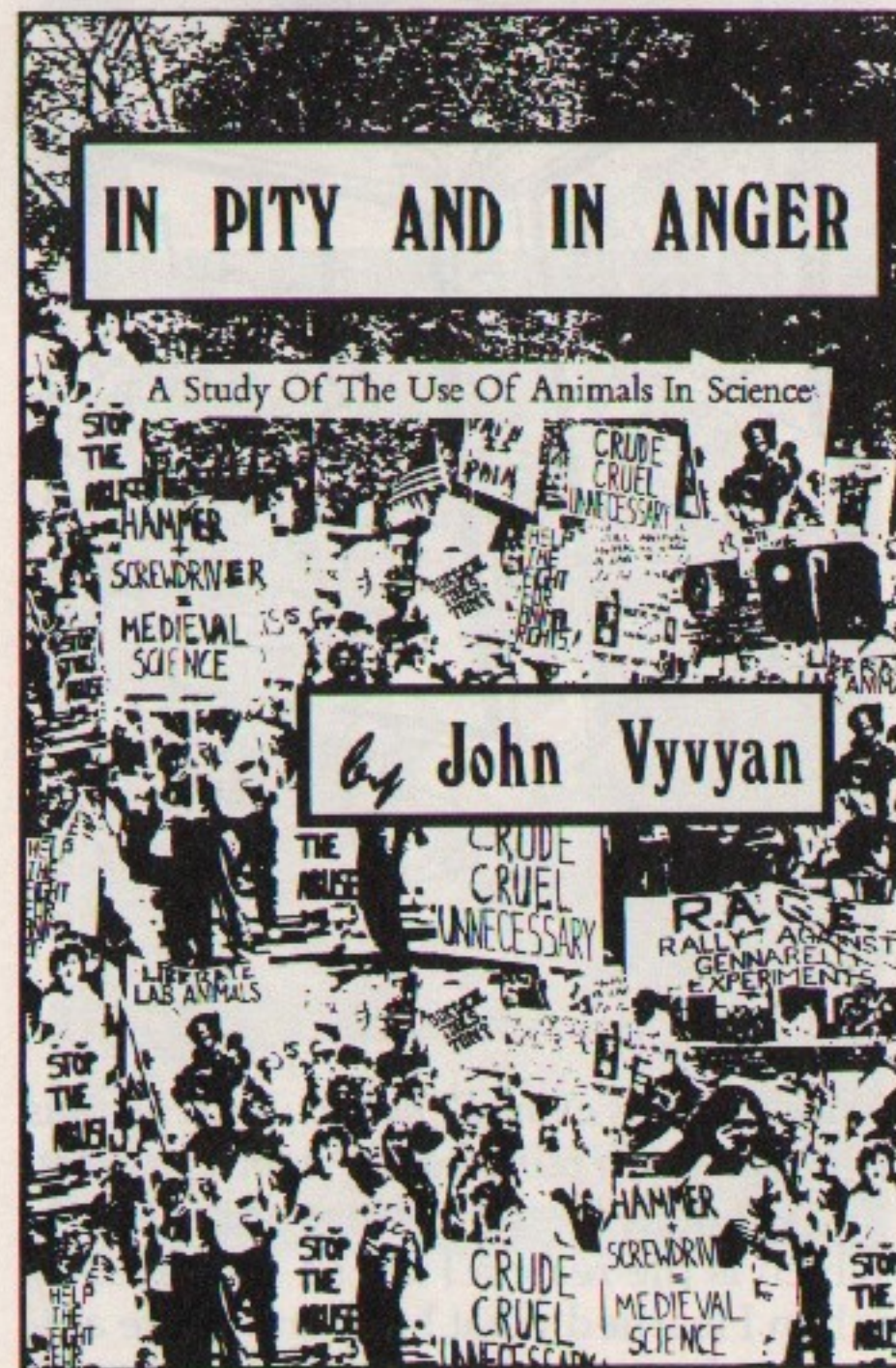
Now that vivisection has established its institutional roots throughout the world, it is hard for us to conceive of a time when just a few hundred animals perished annually in laboratories. The author helps us to fully appreciate the circumstances under which vivisection was performed and protested during the Victorian era, and to realize the intensity of the conflict between its proponents and detractors.

Vivisection at that time was always an excruciating experience for its animal victims, who received no anesthetic relief. It wasn't a catch-all term for any experimentation on animals as it is today; Claude Bernard, the father of experimental physiology, described it thus:

"It is necessary, so to speak, to take an organism to pieces in successive stages, in the same way that one dismantles a machine, in order to recognize and to study its working parts."

Vyvyan's account of the continental origins of vivisection and the developing opposition to its spread is more than just a recitation of the facts and events of those years. He recognized and felt the intense moral energy which fueled the anti-vivisection movement. Vyvyan (1908-1975) was a Shakespearean scholar who took up the cause in later years, convinced that vivisection was just one symptom of a morally degenerate society. *In Pity and in Anger* affirms our reasons for experiencing powerful emotions as our awareness of animal suffering in the name of science grows.

The author also presents an insider's view of the unhappy fragmentation experienced by the movement over the question of abolition versus regulation during the later part of the 19th century. This was probably the principal stumbling block to meaningful progress, as campaigners spent their energies in dis-



pute over appropriate tactics and legislative priorities without taking any practical steps toward their common goal. Eventually, the movement entered a phase of "preaching to the choir" which lasted well past the years of World War II.

The debate over restriction or abolition was contentious because many people felt that it was within their grasp to have

vivisection outlawed in one glorious legislative sweep. Indeed, this might have occurred, so the story goes, had not Lord Carnarvon, who controlled the fate of an anti-vivisection bill, been called away due to the illness and subsequent death of his wife. At that very juncture, opponents of the proposed legislation—which would have outlawed vivisection on dogs, cats, and horses, and guaranteed anesthesia to any other animals used—launched a successful campaign to transform the bill. The result of their efforts was the Cruelty to Animals Act of 1876, which legitimized vivisection and did little to check or curb the use of animals in Great Britain. It was this law which regulated vivisection in that nation until 1986, when the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act became law.

Frances Power Cobbe, the founder of two British anti-vivisection societies, regarded the 1876 Act as her greatest personal and professional failure. Lord Shaftesbury, the leading parliamentary proponent of animal protection, accepted the defeat more optimistically. Animal experimentation, he observed, had at least been established as a social question open to public and political debate, rather than a purely scientific matter.

It is to be hoped that the distribution and popularity of *In Pity and in Anger* will lead to another edition of *The Dark Face of Science*, Vyvyan's second book on the subject. These two books have enabled thousands of people to become familiar with the historical antecedents of our movement and such noble antecessors as Cobbe, Anna Kingsford, Stephen Cole-ridge, and Louisa Lind-af-Hageby. The indignation and emotion which drive us on and the moral strength which enables us to continue, we have in common with those early reformers.

—Bernard Unti

The reviewer is a staff member of the American Anti-Vivisection Society.

Vivisection in Historical Perspective

Continued from page 48

experimental animal. Why did it come into widespread use and what is its significance? What role does the pet animal play in research facilities? Despite rules against the practice, there are always some animals that are not used in research but that are kept by the animal care staff or researchers as pets.

Although there are still many such

questions relating to the sociology, anthropology, and history of the animal research issue, this book is an excellent place to start exploring the problems and difficulties surrounding animal experimentation.

—Dr. Andrew Rowan

The reviewer is director of the Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy.

SHORT TAKES

Becoming an Activist: PETA's (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) Guide to Animal Rights Organizing

Produced by Sue Brebner with Debbi Baer. \$5.00. Order from PETA, P.O. Box 42516, Washington, D.C. 20015.

This primer is a storehouse of information that should transform neophyte animal rights activists into effective grassroots campaigners and organizers for animals. Besides how-to chapters on topics such as lobbying, fund-raising, researching the facts, and working with the media, this guide contains

fact sheets on 40 animal rights issues. Well written and illustrated, this publication is unique in scope and quality, and is highly recommended not only for initiates to the movement, but for experienced animal advocates seeking new methods of spreading their message.

Voices I Have Heard

A video by Tom Regan. Produced by Kay Reibold. The Culture and Animals Foundation (3509 Eden Croft Drive, Raleigh, NC, 27612), 1988. VHS format \$75.00. 59 minutes.

Philosopher Tom Regan is perhaps best known for his writing and speaking abilities. But adding this film to his prior one (*We Are All Noah*), Regan has demonstrated his abilities as a fine creator of animal rights films. Awarded the Gold Medal for Education at the Tenth Annual Houston International Film Festival—out of a field of more than 85 other entries—*Voices I Have Heard*

profiles the outstanding work done for animals by older people. Though it should inspire activists of any age, the film will be a source of empowerment for senior activists, who have much to contribute and much to gain from the animal rights movement. Activists are encouraged to offer showings at local nursing homes and retirement communities.

DISINFORMATION DEPARTMENT

Pork as Cause and Cure?

Eating pork may lead to heart disease, but pig-to-human heart transplants are being touted as a cure for it. In November 1987, cardiologist Michael DeBakey was quoted by Reuters News Service as saying:

Someday there may not be a need for human donors for heart transplants. Plastic hearts or those from pigs may do a better job... I don't see any problem in saving a human life by using the heart of a hog that's going to be butchered. Man has been using animals for food and fiber for centuries. This would seem to be another good way to make use of animals.

In addition to performing more than 100 heart transplants a year (and more than 40,000 heart bypass operations since 1964), DeBakey finds time to act as spokesperson for the Foundation for Biomedical Research (FBR), a "charitable" organization funded heavily by lab animal breeders and equipment manufacturers. FBR and its lobbying arm, the National Association for Biomedical Research (NABR), represent the views of the most fanatical segment of the biomedical research community.

—KB

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LETTERS

Continued from page 6

continues to grow. Feral cats may be sterilized and released back if the site affords shelter and a food supply is maintained; some may be tamed and placed, and unplaceable animals euthanized. We use humane box traps available both for single or multi-animal rescue, as with mother and litter (one must never separate a nursing mother from her infants). Traps are covered with cloth immediately after capture, calming the animal and preventing injury.

A major culprit in the number of strays in this country are shelters that turn away unwanted animals for lack of space; these turned-away animals often become abandoned animals. The statistics are readily available, but they do not describe the degree of terror—the true pain of slow death from starvation, disease, extreme temperatures, and abuse—suffered by strays. If only animal rights ideologues could see and touch what I do almost daily—feel the dry fur over bony bodies, see the eyes at once filled with pain and imploring, see babies nursing from starving mothers—they would never forget. I have found them frozen in ice—huddled together—and weanlings unable to make it on their own starved in cellars of abandoned buildings. I've seen victims of poison, foam at their mouths, and animals deliberately set fire to. Just because euthanasia, a regrettable part of the picture for now, is painful to those of us who value animals' lives, we cannot run and hide. There are few perfect answers in this war we wage.

—Dorothy D. McLean
Animal Welfare Associates
P.O. Box 10752
Stamford, CT 06904

I agree with Leslie Pardue's *Comment*, "Euthanasia is a Euphemism." I work with homeless children. They have serious problems and are frequently addicted, cold, and hungry, yet no matter how dire their plight in life, I would never condone killing them as a proper solution to their situation. Killing shelters are the Ronald Reagans of the animal rights scene. They say one thing but do another. They talk of aiding and protecting those in their care, yet kill them by the millions. Absolute power corrupts, and killing shelters have absolute power over the animals in their care. How many totally dependent animals die because of unrealistic adoption procedures? Killing shelters conveniently eliminate the animals and thus shield the public from having to see and deal with the horrendous situation that is created. If the animal rights

community is willing to accept quiet annihilation as a solution, the problem will never be resolved in a humane way. One goal of the animal rights community is vegetarianism, but it would not accomplish anything if the world were to become vegetarian, only to have activists take over the slaughterhouses and continue the killing in order to keep down the number of farm animals. Killing shelters take huge amounts of money and many good people that could be used to accomplish more legitimate animal rights work. This problem can be solved, but it won't be until we get out of the killing business and set a humane example for the general public to follow.

—Jerry Esterly
Seattle, WA

Many people take an animal they will no longer keep to the local pound or shelter, only to be told that the shelter will not accept the animal. What becomes of that animal? Although most shelters do a valiant job with an unenviable task, some fall far short of what should be expected. Too many towns, cities, and counties permit shelter operation and policy to be determined by the personal bent of the sometimes salaried, sometimes volunteer shelter director. If the director is of the "no-kill" persuasion, the shelter quickly becomes overcrowded. Animals may be kept for years. I know of cats kept in carrying cases for want of space; dogs tied on short ropes in all weather. I have seen dogs banging themselves neurotically off cage walls, and others walking endlessly in tight circles. There are empty stares, pitiful cries, withdrawal—the gamut. In response to overcrowded conditions, occasionally a community will build a bigger building with more cages. But bigger is not always better, and additional cages do not mean additional homes will become available. Soon the enlarged shelter is also overcrowded. In addition to the "passive cruelty" of long-term caging with almost never a happy-ending-

Continued on page 55

The ANIMALS' AGENDA welcomes letters from readers, and regrets that they cannot all be published or answered personally due to the large volume of mail. Succinct, typed messages of no more than 250 words are preferred. We reserve the right to edit all letters chosen for publication. Address them to: LETTERS, The ANIMALS' AGENDA, P.O. Box 5234, Westport, CT 06881.



The Chital

Continued from page 45

formed by the bag, which had caused fatal peritonitis.

"But the leg!" some exclaimed, the vision of poachers dying hard.

"Not a bullet. An accident somehow during her weakened state."

"Where did the bag come from? Villagers?" was the almost hopeful question. Villagers were to be met along the park roadways seeking a lost

cow or harvesting bamboo. But there were no plastic bags in their world. What they carried with them was contained in a clay pot or a reed basket. Their biodegradable objects fit into the ways of the earth.

No, there was only one way a plastic bag would find its way to the roadside of an Indian national park: in the hands of some tourist who had

traveled halfway around the world to view the animals of India. Each of us knew that in our own luggage was more than one of those bags. Some held things to eat: candy, cookies, fruit. One such package had been dropped beside the road, and had smelled so good to the little chital that she had not bothered to unwrap it before eating.

We walked home quietly, heads bowed under the hot sun. I recalled that several people had taken pictures of the dead chital, believing that they might be made part of an anti-poaching campaign. How would the photographs be used now? The doe was dead, but the situation had changed. She had been killed not by vicious poachers, but by people who, like ourselves, loved animals.

Barbara Curtis Horton is a conservationist who writes about nature and its impact on human lives.

Note: All plastics have the potential to kill animals, both on the land and in the sea. The plastic rings that hold together aluminum beverage cans have strangled countless birds, and the ingestion of plastic floatables—including balloons—kills at least 10,000 marine mammals yearly and probably many more fish, turtles, and birds living in marine areas.

Action Alert:

Nonprofit Vet Clinics Under Attack by AVMA

If the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and its state affiliates have their way, the U.S. Congress will soon be changing current nonprofit tax laws so that clinics owned by humane societies will have to pay "Unrelated Business Income Tax" on fees earned through providing "routine" medical care to animals. This proposal, if passed, will have very serious and negative consequences for both animals and humane societies. For more information, or to learn what you can do to stop this legislation, contact: E. Liska, Director of Research and Legislation, The Michigan Humane Society, 7401 Chrysler Dr., Detroit, MI 48211; (313) 872-3400.

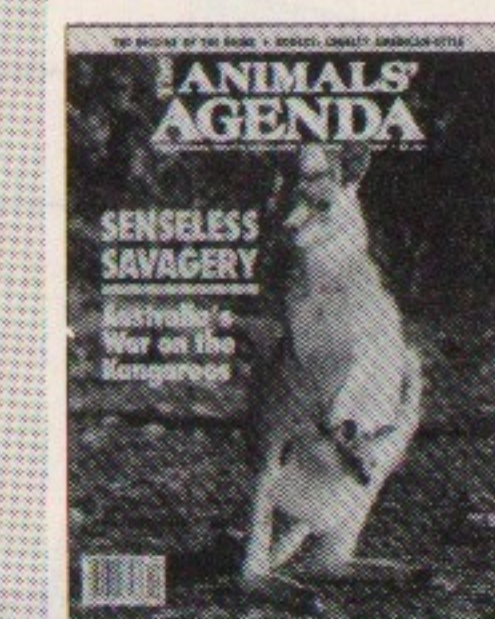
If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has his foot on the tail of a mouse and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality.

—Bishop Desmond Tutu

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Part of my job is to follow the major political movements of our time. To keep abreast of animal rights, I rely on *The ANIMALS' AGENDA*. —Mark Dowse, Investigative Editor, *WOMEN'S JOURNAL*

Part of my job is to follow the major political movements of our time. To keep abreast of animal rights, I rely on *The ANIMALS' AGENDA*. —Colman McCarthy, syndicated columnist

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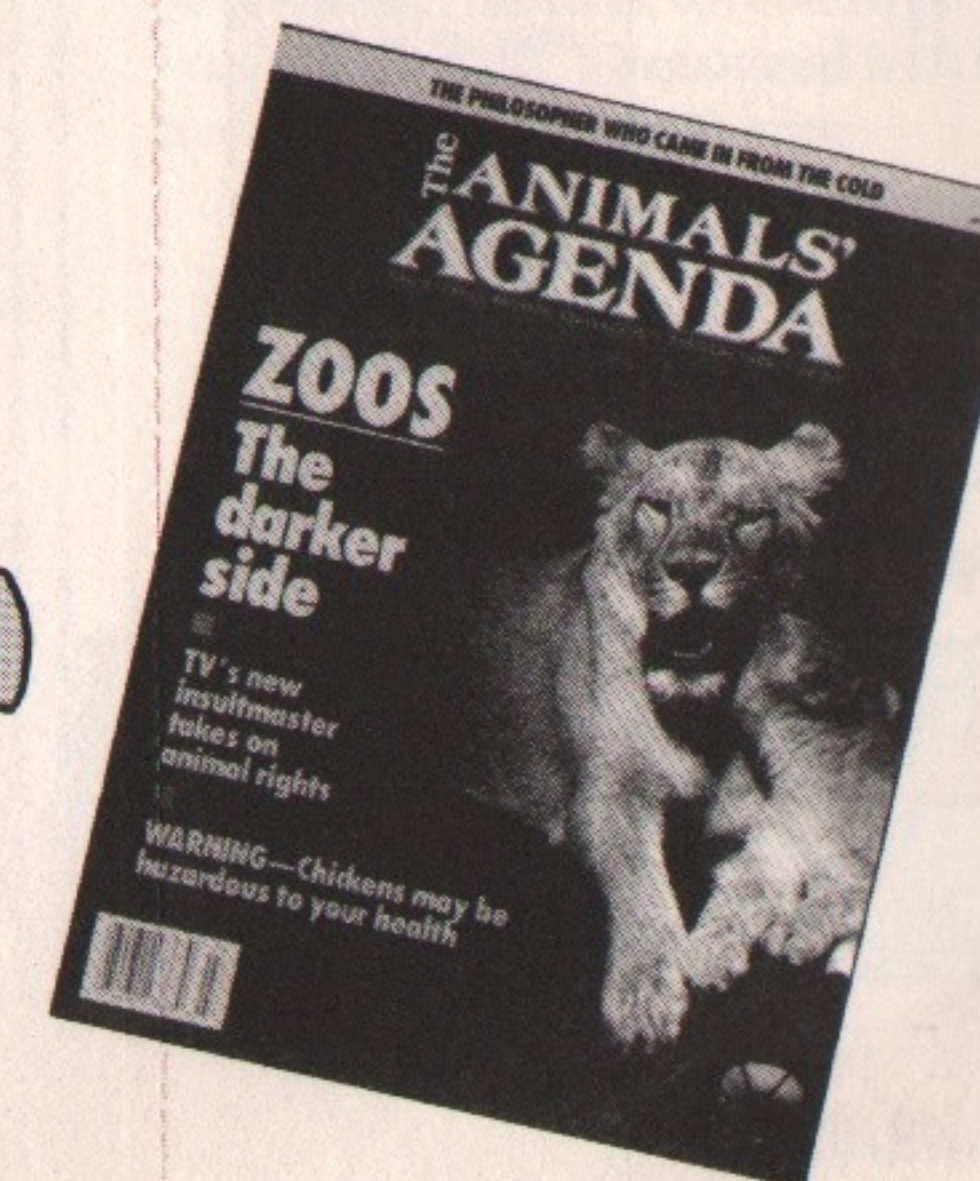
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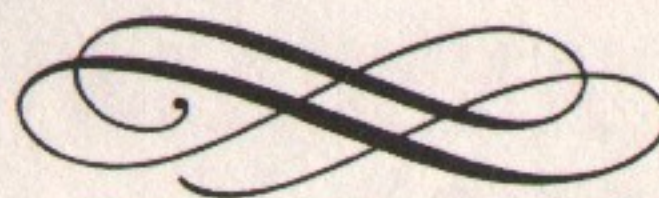
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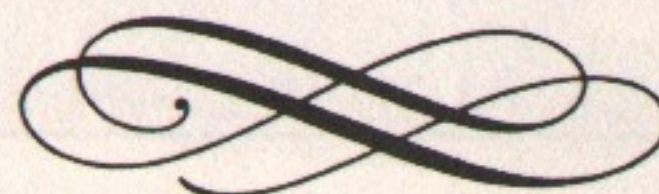


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OVER
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Continued from page 52

to-be, a no-kill shelter is guilty of selective acceptance of unwanted cats and dogs—and those turned away may be destined for abandonment and slow death. Shelter personnel must be caring, not misguided. There is nothing humane about sentencing one group of animals to death by abandonment, while turning others into neurotic vegetables.

—Cathy A. Medina
Croton, NY

Thank you for the excellent articles on dog and cat overpopulation, shelters, and euthanasia in the May 1988 issue. It would seem that accidental backyard breeding, irresponsible "owners," puppy mills, and pet shops have rightly been targeted; however, we seem to neglect the "reputable" private dog and cat breeders who observe fastidious breeding and health care practices and show real concern for the quality of buyers for their animals, yet regularly produce litter after litter without acknowledging their responsibility. Along with the American Kennel Club and comparable cat registries, they are a part of the problem instead of the solution.

—C.S.P.
Rochester, MI

The item "Early Neutering Begun by Some Shelters" in the May 1988 issue referred to an article by Dr. Leo Lieberman in the Sept. 1, 1987 issue of the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*. The anesthetic used in the studies reported on by Dr. Lieberman does not provide any analgesia (pain relief) for an animal undergoing major surgery. Unfortunately, much low-cost neutering is done without the use of a good analgesic agent such as gas or narcotics, because the cost of these agents is too high. The young animal's response to these analgesics is much more unpredictable than the response of an older, metabolically stable animal.

As a veterinarian, I would welcome more neutering at an early age if the procedure could be done with safety as well as with pain relief.

—Joan Poster, V.M.D.
Westport, CT

I would like to offer an idea for a print advertisement designed to further sensitize the public to the need to spay and neuter dogs and cats. A "portrait gallery" of individual animals destroyed in a shel-

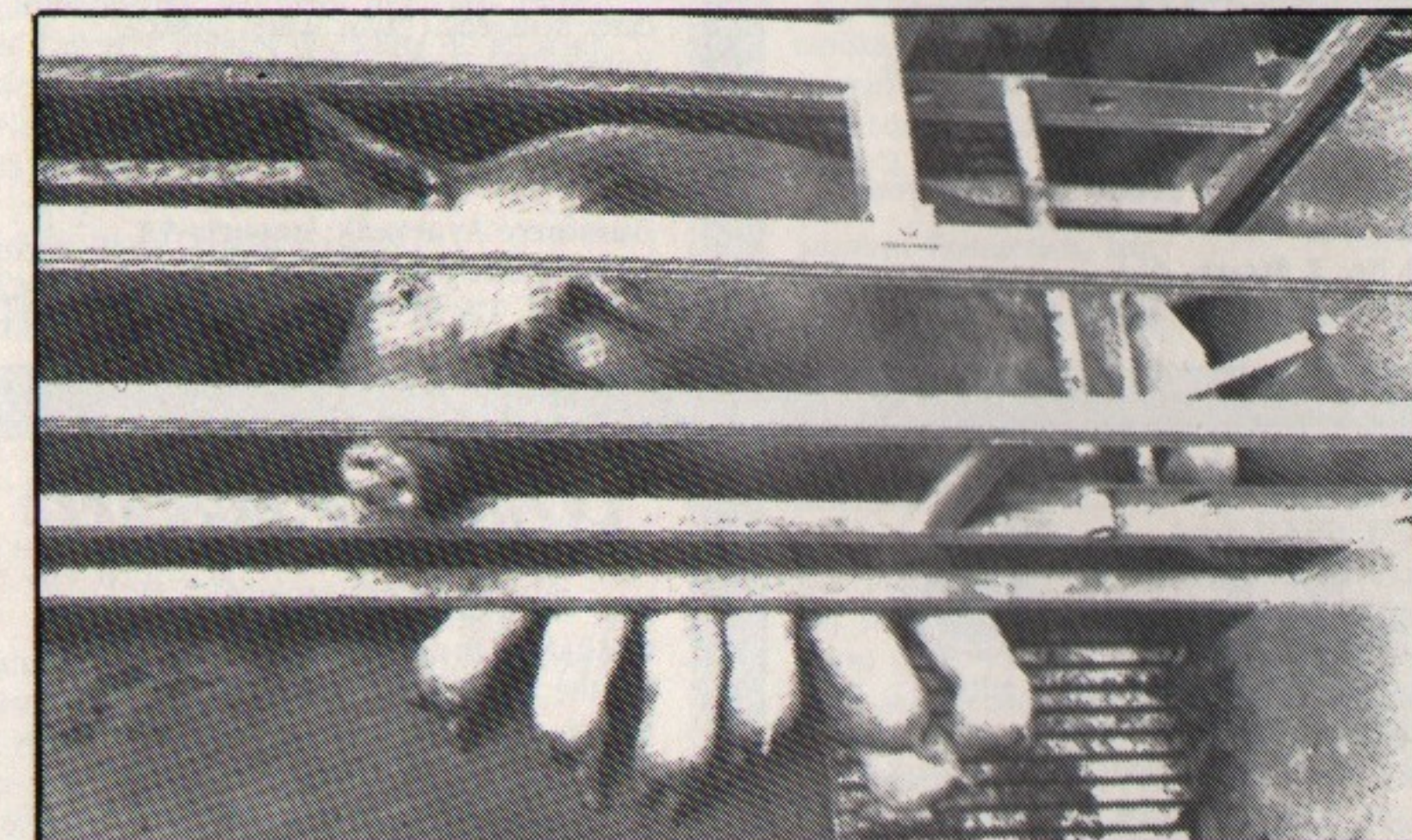
ter during a particular month would convey, in an emotionally persuasive way, the massive and largely preventable suffering and death of animals occurring regularly everywhere. Small individual photographs taken just before euthanasia,

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presented school yearbook-style, might induce more people to have their pets altered, along with any stray animals they might be feeding at home or work. Such an ad might encourage some adoptions, too. I have a couple of additional ideas which refine this suggestion; organizations can contact me if they're interested in them.

—Gregory Wright
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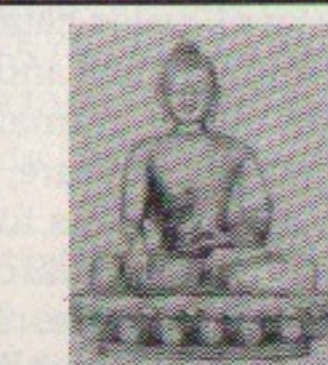
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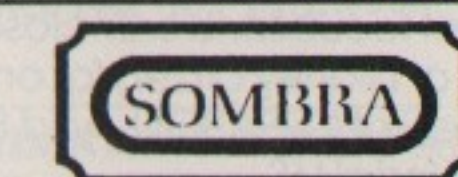
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