Animals—It’s Their World, Too

The theme of the 1980 Annual Conference is a message The HSUS shall pronounce far and wide in the coming year. It is a declaration which embodies the very essence of why we are doing what we are doing on behalf of animals, day in and day out. It is the rationale which justifies our actions; it is the purpose which motivates our efforts; it is the symbol which speaks our goal. Yet it is a hope rather than a reality; a mission rather than an assumption; a challenge rather than a conclusion.

It is painfully evident when one considers the plight and condition of animals in today’s world that it is not really their world—certainly not on their terms. Indeed, it is less their world today than in ages past, for the reason that the human species has become increasingly adept at devising ways in which to utilize animals.

The HSUS does not deny the necessity of having to accept a world that is something short of perfect. And we have no illusions that we, or anyone else, can put matters right for all animals in all situations. Like most others, we are frustrated, impatient and sometimes angry. We are tired of waiting for Congress to enact meaningful animal welfare legislation, angry that government agencies ignore the role and function that is theirs for animal protection, frustration that individuals refuse to accept responsibility for the very animals they own.

We are appalled at the ignorance, and sometimes callousness, of those who seek to enhance their own beauty at the expense of animals caught in traps or beaten with clubs. We observe in various scenarios of cruelty, torture, and torment. And we are impatient with those who continue to use animals as subjects for medical experiments and drug testing when alternatives could be used instead in numerous instances.

During the next several months, The HSUS will be promoting this theme nationwide by means of a thirty-second television public service message, pamphlets, bumper stickers, etc. But it is more than a theme we seek to promote. It is, rather, a conviction and a commitment that government agencies ignore the role and function that is theirs for animal protection, frustrating that individuals refuse to accept responsibility for the very animals they own.

Through informed and aggressive actions we shall challenge those who do violence to animals in the name of sport and recreation. We shall oppose those who justify their destruction for frivolity and whim. We shall debate with those who for purposeful cause destroy and main animals unnecessarily. We shall importune those who legislate either for them or against them, seeking finally the enactment of laws which insure their rights. And we shall teach those who have yet to learn that this world belongs to animals as well as humans, and that they, like ourselves, have a rightful place in a creation we did not fashion, but one given to both human beings and animals for our common existence.
Factory Farming: And Now The Good News

• Recognizing that the animal welfare movement is not going to get out of the barnyard until something is done to relieve the suffering of millions of farm animals, Feedstuffs, the “Weekly Newspaper for Agribusiness,” featured an article on animal welfare in its September 7, 1980 issue.

Their coverage featured three viewpoints, that of a proponent, a scientist, and an opponent. Dr. Michael Fox, Director of the Institute for the Study of Animal Problems, furnished the pro-animal-welfare article in which he took aim at the prejudices many farmers hold toward the animal rights movement.

• A very positive step toward more humane care of livestock was taken last fall at the annual meeting of the U.S. Animal Health Association when their Committee on Animal Welfare voted unanimously to establish an interdisciplined committee on farm animal welfare. The committee will be composed of representatives from humane, animal sciene, veterinary, and agricultural organizations, and will evaluate current information on farm animal welfare, set priorities and seek funds for applied research on selected welfare issues.

• Quantock Veal, producer of a great percentage of the veal in the United Kingdom, has abandoned the rearing of calves in crates or stalls, which has been the focus of so much criticism in recent years (See pages 4-9 of the Spring 1980 HSUS News). As reported in the Veterinary Record (May 31, 1980) Quantock has switched to a system where the calves live in groups of thirty in straw-filled pens with natural light and ventilation and where they have room to move, ruminate, and groom themselves. “It is reported further that “the calves are contented and healthier, the culling rate has halved. The system is less costly for the farmer; less capital need be tied up in buildings which need not have been expensive built for a controlled environment.”

With this system tried and proven, there is no longer any excuse for imprisoning calves in stalls so narrow and barren that the animals are deprived of even the simple pleasure of moving about. We hope American farmers will take note and imitate Quantock’s sane and humane move.

Now the knowledge gained from years of medical and physiological research on human athletic conditioning is being used on the thoroughbred racehorse. In an article in the November 1980 Horseman’s Journal, trainer Tom Ivers compares human athletic processes with that of horses, noting that “Today, racehorses have a hard time breaking records set in 1905, while 15-year-old girls are bettering every record Johnny Weismuller set in 1905.”

To remedy this situation, he goes on to describe his three-stage system for training racehorses.

The first, or background stage, is designed to develop tougher tendons and ligaments and to strengthen bones and joints rather than develop speed. The program calls for a daily series of long, slow jogs. Stage two aims to build endurance, increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the horse’s oxygen delivery system while building muscle strength by using a number of exercises such as overground runs alternating with one-celled gallops with short periods of walking.

Stage three is the final stage, with the horse practicing sprints and increasing the rate of speed for each exercise. Then, when the racing season begins, a maintenance conditioning program helps keep the horse at its best. The final product, says Ivers, “is a moneymaker and a joy to watch— a sound, enthusiastic, competitive equine athlete.”

Since the article appeared, Ivers has received more than 700 inquiries from horse owners attracted by the logic of his arguments and wishing to try his system. As one letter writer said, “We’ve put a lot of thought into trying to figure out why on earth people believe that the way to train a racehorse is to stand him in a stall all day.”

Perhaps relying on a solid system of training and conditioning rather than a pharmacopoeia of drugs to help reduce the reputation of the racing industry as well as saving the horses pain and injury.

Sports Medicine for the Equine Athlete

Can you imagine an Olympic athlete training for a track event by running a couple of sprints each morning, then lounging around the rest of the day? Not this horse. The logic of his arguments and wishing to try his system is the reason for the system used to train most racehorses today. This may partly explain why so many of the horses running are often drugs to help rescue the reputation of the racing industry as well as saving the horses pain and injury.

Money Talks in Oregon

It took a quarter of a million dollars of “conservationist” (that is, hunting and trapping) money to defeat Oregon’s Ballot Measure No 3 to ban trapping. Oreganians Against Trapping, (OAT), which had gotten the measure placed on the ballot, campaigned long and hard to get the ban passed, but in the end the greater buying power of trapping and furrier interests carried the day. The final vote count showed about 413,000 Oreganians favoring the ban, with a little more than 704,000 voting against it. Although the ban was voted down 2 to 1, the campaign for the ban was outspent by more than 8 to 1. OAT raised about $30,000 mostly from in-state sources, while pro-trapping forces came up with $250,000, mostly from out-of-state sources.

As in the Ohio trapping referendum campaign in 1977, the trapping ban was fought through the mass media, with commercials claiming that crops, poultry, livestock, trees, thousands of jobs, homes, and families would be put in dire jeopardy if the leghold trap were outlawed. In answer to these absurdly alarmist myths and distortions, OAT prepared ads pointing out that 95% of the trapping in Oregon is done solely for fur products and not for rabbit, hare, or to protect anything from any animal. They showed that these claims were based on the false premise that “every state referendum on trapping in the past few years has been the same kind of David and Goliath battle that was seen in Oregon.”

But no matter how clearly and forthrightly the facts were presented, a majority of Oregonians voted for the ban trapping. Pro-trappers were capable of placing eight ads for every one placed by OAT. The reason pro-trappers groups are much better funded than humane organizations is that they profit from the trap, and are willing to spend whatever it takes to keep the trap and keep their profits coming. For instance, the Wildlife Legislative Fund of America, headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, contributed more than $90,000 to fight the ban in Oregon. On its board are David B. Meltzer, president and chairman of the board of Evans, Inc., the world’s largest furrier; Dale L. Haney, president of the Victor Division of Wildlife Conservation, principal manufacturer of the steel leghold trap; and Abe Feinglass, director of the Meatcheaters Division of the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union which represents some of the workers in the fur industry.

Every state referendum on trapping in the past few years has been the same kind of David and Goliath confrontation that was seen in Oregon. As the biblical story shows, it is impossible for David to win—but along with having virtue on his side, David doesn’t have to have a slingshot. It appears that any attempt to put trapping to a public vote must be preceded by two to five years of intense planning, fund raising, and permutation, public education in order to succeed. Such typical trapping myths as the prediction that rabbits will rage over the land if trapping is not allowed must be anticipated and answered thoroughly with a strong clear and direct logical presentation. For a cheest of at least a quarter million dollars should be raised for the campaign.

To remedy this situation, the Oregon Humane Society News put a few ads in the paper for the ban trapping. Though disappointed at the defeat, OAT is not giving up the war on the steel jaw trap, but will now regroup and assess the various factors in this unsuccessful campaign and plan the most profitable future course of action to rid their state of commercial trapping.
by Susan Bury Stauffer

Adoption rates are raised by making the animals and shelter as attractive as possible for potential adopters. This cuts down the number of animals that must be euthanized.

animals are involved, the communities that are reducing the pet population are clearly reducing animal suffering.

There are fewer puppies and kittens to be killed or given to uncaring homes. few pets abandoned and abused, fewer homeless animals to undergo the stress that comes with being impounded in even the very best shelters. And there are fewer animals to be housed temporarily only to be destroyed, all at public expense.

But as C. Jack Homes of Vancouver puts it, “While we can be proud of the fact that we have reduced the destruction of 59,000, we are still concerned about the fact that we have to destroy 21,000 animals each year.

The quality of animal care and control varies widely throughout the country. While some communities have complete programs of public education, enforcement of leashes and licensed laws and pet sterilization, others have only an open pen for a “shelter.” Some have no pet licensing requirements at all—others have sophisticated computerized systems.

HSUS West Coast Regional Director Charlene Drennon is encouraged by the fact that many more municipalities governments are asking HSUS’s advice on animal control, the city of Spokane, Washington being a recent example. She says, “They wouldn’t be asking about our program if it didn’t work.”

Drennon reports that the animal control departments in both Los Angeles City and Los Angeles County have reduced the numbers of animals coming through the shelters with total programs of law enforcement, public education, and pet sterilization. Los Angeles County operates five spay/neuter clinics offering low fees for all pets and even lower rates for animals adopted from the county.

The City of Los Angeles opened the first of four clinics in 1971 and sheltered 56,000 fewer animals in 1979-78 than in 1970-71. The percent of licensed dogs that are altered has risen from 10.9 to 54.2.

Drennon’s office serves California, Idaho, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington. The offices currently serve public and private animal shelters in California, and of 78 responses, 58 reported using some kind of spay program, either a clinic or a program with cooperating veterinarians. California state law does require all adopted cats to be sterilized.

Connecticut became the first state to open a spay/neuter clinic, with starting money from the Society for Animal Rights, Inc. and additional help from other Connecticut humanitarians. The clinic opened in mid December, and has already received an average of three to four calls per week for appointments.

HSUS’s New England office, directed by John Inman, Jr., serves Connecticut, along with Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island, Vermont, and New Hampshire. The New Hampshire SPCA has had a substantial decline in the number of animals requiring shelter since the group began an aggressive follow-up program on sterilization of adopted animals, with a 96% success rate. Other agencies and humane organizations in New England are seriously considering the establishment of low cost spay/neuter clinics and programs.

In Texas, a new state rabies control law has brought about such developments as the cities of Houston and San Antonio hiring new animal administrators for their animal control programs. William Meade, Gulf States Regional Director for HSUS, says municipal governments are recognizing that hap hazard operations will not be tolerated by the public, and that animal control is benefiting from the resulting improvement efforts with new shelters, better ordinances, and more training for employees.

Among private societies, the Laredo Humane Society and the Amarillo-Panhandle Humane Society have opened spay/neuter clinics and begun other programs. The other states Meade serves, Texas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma, show increasing interest in humane society and programs.

Many cities have low-cost spay/neuter programs, and some provide special aid for the elderly to help make it possible for them to own pets.

Humane education programs teach owners how to care for their pets. The good effects of this training can be judged by the reduced number of animals that must be sterilized.

Several shelters around the country are now reporting that the day may be in sight.

Wright is director of animal sheltering and control for HSUS, and a big part of her job is encouraging shelters to provide pet sterilization, enforce leash and license laws, and promote responsible pet ownership.

Some agencies and organizations that have put these programs into effect are reporting fewer animals coming through their shelters.

Although the following examples are not by any means the only success stories, they demonstrate what can be accomplished through a complete animal program:

The Humane Society of Huron Valley, an HSUS accredited society in Ann Arbor, Michigan, handled 18,575 animals in 1975, and reduced that number to 11,991 in 1979. The number of animals euthanized annually was cut almost in half, dropping from 12,573 to 6,988. The society reports that four surrounding counties had increases in both categories in the same period.

The difference is that HSHV started programs in public education and law enforcement and opened a spay/neuter clinic. The clinic opened in 1976 and has been self-supporting for more than two years, performing 4,200 surgeries in 1979.

The Tarrant County Humane Society in Ft. Worth, Texas, opened a spay clinic in a low-income neighborhood in October, 1978 and has sterilized more than 8,000 animals there. Although the only advertising is word-of-mouth, the schedule is always full. The numbers of puppies and kittens coming into the shelter have been reduced by 50%.

At the HSUS accredited Peninsular Humane Society in San Mateo, California, the number of dogs handled dropped from 21,370 in 1974 to 12,111 in 1979, the number of cats decreased from 15,273 to 9,269. The society attributes this trend to a total program of public education and law enforcement and to its self-supporting spay/neuter clinic, where 20,000 pets were sterilized between 1973 and 1979.

The Vancouver Regional Branch of the British Columbia SPCA euthanized 21,000 animals in 1979 compared to 80,000 in 1976. Again, a program of sterilization and education seems to have made the difference, since nearby municipalities without such a program reported an increase in animals euthanized in the same time period.

The number of animals sheltered annually by the Western Pennsylvania Humane Society in Pittsburgh decreased by 2,268 dogs and 4,234 cats between 1970-71 and 1978-79. The society credits the decrease to more adoptions, better education programs, improved shelter facilities and a neutering program through which 21,000 animals have been sterilized since 1986.

In these communities, there are at least 88,000 fewer homeless animals annually, plus the litters those animals would have produced. These shelters have also been responsible for sterilizing about 31,000 pets annually. If each of 31,000 pets had just one litter of five, there would be an additional 155,000 animals to be absorbed into our five example communities. If that new generation of litters had then continued to breed, the numbers would soon have climbed into the millions.

Although we can count the number of animals being sterilized, there is no such measurement as a “unit of suffering.” One cruelty cannot be judged as causing more units of suffering than another. But pet overpopulation itself is a problem of numbers. Because millions of cats and dogs are homeless, there are no measures as a “unit of animal suffering.”

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about humane care. Meade says much of the public is still unaware of the pet overpopulation problem. Meade says aggressive animal control programs are demonstrating that an investment in humane animal control can reduce suffering and control costs.

From her national perspective, Phyllis Wright comments, “The whole community benefits from responsible animal care and control. Pets and their owners and their next-door neighbors can live in harmony. “Communities that have not taken a firm stand should be strengthened and prodded by residents. Concerned people must raise their voices in support of humane control programs for animals, because public officials can be persuaded.”

The agencies that have been following up on aggressive programs are now reducing the number of animals in the shelter, because public officials can be persuaded. "The agencies that have been following up on aggressive programs are now reducing the number of animals in the shelter, because public officials can be persuaded."

Better enforcement of animal control programs have demonstrated that an investment in humane animal control can reduce suffering and control costs. From her national perspective, Phyllis Wright comments, “The whole community benefits from responsible animal care and control. Pets and their owners and their next-door neighbors can live in harmony. “Communities that have not taken a firm stand should be strengthened and prodded by residents. Concerned people must raise their voices in support of humane control programs for animals, because public officials can be persuaded.”

Accreditation Update

Three humane societies have joined The Humane Society of the United States and other organizations, having met or exceeded our standards for facilities, operations, and personnel. This makes a total of 19 groups currently accredited.

Each accreditation applicant is inspected by one of three HSUS staff members—Phyllis Wright, director of the Animal Sheltering and Control Department; Bill (Hurt) Smith, director of the Animal Control Academy in Tuscaloosa, Alabama; or Dale Hylton, formerly director of KIND, now working exclusively on accreditation in the New York area. The making of these visits by qualified personnel has contributed to the successful outcomes of accredited organizations.

A new and unique aspect of HSUS accreditation is the development of the state association accreditation program for humane societies. This program is designed to help states improve their animal welfare laws and develop programs that are consistent with national standards. The program has been successful and has helped states improve their animal welfare laws and develop programs that are consistent with national standards.

The Humane Society of Williams county and the Progressive Animal Welfare Society have been awarded accreditation by the HSUS. The Humane Society of Williams county has been accredited by the HSUS for five years and is the only humane society in the country to receive this distinction. The Progressive Animal Welfare Society has been accredited by the HSUS for three years and is the only organization in the country to receive this distinction.
Animals... it's their world too!

The main speakers at the conference were (from the left) Dr. Steven Kellert of Yale University, who gave the results of his study of American's attitudes toward animals; Dr. Michael Fox, director of ISAP, who gave the keynote speech on the place of humaneness in the world today; Dr. Thomas Regan of North Carolina State University and Dr. Amy Freeman Lee, artist and a member of HSUS' board, who shared the podium to discuss the philosophy of humaneness.

NAAHE's joint conference with the Western Humane Educators Association was held in San Francisco the day before HSUS' Conference. It featured displays of educational materials and a chance to share new ideas with other humane educators.

Also held the day before the conference was ISAP's symposium on nonhuman primates in biomedical programs. Experts discussed scientific and philosophical issues in breeding, husbandry and experimental use of these animals.

A special visitor to the conference was Super Dog, a representative of the Oregon Humane Society's humane education program. At the other end of the leash is Phyllis Wright.

To give conferees insight into the way cruelty cases should be handled in the courtroom, HSUS staff organized a mock trial of an accused dogfighter which elicited a "guilty" verdict from the jury, which was drawn from the audience. The proceedings were videotaped by a San Francisco television station.

Our 1980 Annual Conference in San Francisco drew a large number of let's-get-down-to-work humanitarians—packing workshop rooms and generating the excitement of new ideas combined with renewed energy. We can only touch a few of the highlights in these pages—a memory book for those who attended, and for those that didn't make it, we hope it is an enticement to join us next year in St. Louis for the 1981 Conference.

Certificates of appreciation were given to three members of the Lou Grant staff for their work on a segment on dogfighting. Producer Seth Freeman and Robert Walden, who plays "Rossi" on the show, are shown below accepting the framed certificates from HSUS President John Hoyt. To the right is Jack Bannon, "Donovan" on the show, who accepted the certificate for Lou Grant star Ed Asner, who was unable to attend the Conference banquet.

Music from the Paul Winter Consort's new Callings album based on the mythic journey of a seal like the one shown here with Winter was featured at two benefit performances given by the Consort for HSUS in San Francisco's Grace Cathedral. The beautiful music in such a magnificent setting was a special experience for the standing-room-only crowd.

HEAR FOR YOURSELF
Cassette tapes of some of the speeches from the 1980 Annual conference are available for $5.00 each.

The Fox/Hoyt tape includes:
Side 1, Dr. Michael Fox, Humaneness—It's Place in the World Today.
Side 2, John Hoyt, Animals, It's Their World Too!

The Regan/Lee tape includes:
Side 1, Dr. Thomas Regan, The Language of Animal Rights.
Side 2, Dr. Amy Freeman Lee, The Language of Animal Rights.

Specify which tape(s) you want to receive, and mail a check or money order along with your name and address to HSUS, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20037.
Excerpts from Margaret Owings’s Response to the Award

In accepting the Joseph Wood Krutch Medal, with its meaning, I do so with a deep appreciation! But I cannot accept it for myself alone. Indeed, I represent millions of people who carry an inner sense of personal responsibility, trying to weave a life line, a sustaining pattern for survival for our remaining wildlife.

The smallest sea mammal was once thought to have become extinct. But apparently, small isolated rafts of otters remained hidden along the shores of Alaska and California. To these we are grateful, for they are the forebears of our present sea otter population!

But because the otter competes with the market hunters for abalone and the clammers for reproductive pleasures, his return was not greeted with great pleasure. There wasn’t room for him along the coast, in the minds of many. The Friends of the Sea Otter was a spontaneous response to the otter’s troubles!

A group of citizens grew in number from 10 to 4,200 and for twelve years they have worked to keep alive a continuing surveillance and protection for the otter and its marine habitat.

In speaking up for the sea otter’s jeopardy, Monterey Bay residents also helped to preserve the quality of their own environment!

Thus, in speaking for the sea otter’s jeopardy, Monterey Bay residents also helped to preserve the quality of their own environment!

The inner sense of responsibility. How does it begin? Lauren Van der Post wrote a line I have long treasured. It reads: The tiny seed of the small change in the troubled individual heart can grow, and take action, and the rest will follow.

Isn’t this where the initiative begins?

October 14-16

The center of activities for HSUS’ 1981 Conference is the Chase Park Plaza Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri. In addition to a full program of workshops and special speakers, there will be time to explore the Gateway City, from the impressive steel arch and the Laclede’s Landing area to the Riverboat restaurants on the mighty Mississippi. Look for more information in upcoming issues of The News, but mark your calendar now for October 14-16 and plan to attend our 1981 Annual Conference.

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS

What happens when a 26 year old American starts out in pursuit of a verifiable 166 year old English cousin? One might expect the usual dose of politeness and reserve on both sides, laced with a bit of mutual affectionate tolerance for the differences in attitude and priorities that mark the great generational divide. Such was the scenario envisioned for the first formal meeting of The Humane Society of the United States and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals this September in Horsham, England. But visions can be wrong, and sometimes even the greatest expectations are exceeded by the actual experience. A good part of the three-day symposium, in which staff members of both societies exchanged information about the inner workings of their respective departments, consisted of murmurs of pleased surprise and extemporaneous speeches about the high degree of similarity between the policies, programs and aims of these two major national animal welfare organizations.

John Hoyt and Julian Hopkins for a photo to commemorate this historic meeting of minds.

HSUS and the RSPCA

Share Ideas on Animal Welfare

The differences in historical development, structure, age and national priorities of The HSUS and the RSPCA, though considerable in their impact on past accomplishments of each society, seem to be shrinking in importance, perhaps because the problems of exploited animals are urgent and universal. In many ways, the comparative strengths of The HSUS has contributed directly to its present level of sophistication in dealing with issues such as factory farming, animal experimentation, and the treatment of captive wild animals. The last few years have seen major shifts in the way people think about animals, and The HSUS, which began small and is now becoming increasingly more professional and centralized, has been able not only to respond to these shifts but to take the lead in turning the attention and problems of the HSUS to animal welfare organizations. Thus the younger has something to teach its elders as well as a lot to learn from them.

In his closing remarks at the meeting, President Hoyt spoke of a dream he had when he first joined The HSUS in 1970. The fact that the first HSUS/RSPCA symposium turned out to be a meeting of equals with much to share and learn from each other is an encouraging sign that people with very different local and national concerns can unite in a cause when different, yet complementary, elements of life are at stake in the quality of life for humans as well as for other animals all over the world.
Game Animals:

Animated Targets for Hunters

BY GUY R. HODGE

South Carolina—With the strength and symmetry of a discus thrower, the burly red-faced man whirls his body twice around, and grunting loudly, hurl the object clutched in his right hand high into the sky. Which is a little odd, since the object in his right hand is a pigeon. A live, squawking pigeon minus a tail and wing feathers, which the burly red-faced man has plucked out. For the pigeon that's just the start of hard times. For, once he loses his tail and gets flung into the air, someone starts shooting at him with a .12-gauge shotgun. If he gets shot and plummet to the ground, ladies applaud and men cheer and pay off their $50 bets. The pigeon may be dead or wounded. Either way, he is left on the ground until the shooting of other pigeons is done with.

Then, either way, he is stuffed in a large garbage can and carted off to the city dump. This is called sport. Throughout the South and Southwest it is a very popular one, especially with wealthy people who gamble lots of money on whether the talk-less pigeons hurtling through the air will get blown apart.

The Wall Street Journal
November 29, 1972
Preserve animals are accustomed to the presence of humans. They are often contented to accept handouts and may unsuspiciously walk up to hunters, thinking they are about to be offered food.

under their wings, leaving them diz­

zy and disoriented. Some preserve operators go so far as to tether target animals or to allow hunters to shoot at animals confined in cages. One preserve hunter, after having killed a 300-pound boar, walked away mut­

ttering, "It's almost like shooting them in a zoo." The hunter's state­

ment was unwittingly accurate since several of the big game animals hunt­

ed on preserves were acquired from zoological parks and many more are docile animals raised on preserves.

Media Exposes the Game

The visual evidence from preserve hunts has been devastating. Whenever the news media has penetrated into the realm of the hunting preserves, their cameras have recorded scenes of bloodletting which ridicule the contention that such hunting should be called a "sport." In November, 1970, CBS Evening News telecast film footage of a hunt at San­

ta Barbara Island, located off the coast of California. An elderly hunter, per­

ched atop a hill, repeatedly fired down on a mouffon ram. The animal, with no opportunity to escape, lay there dying until the camera proved that its life was finally extinguished.

In another instance, a 1971 edition of the New­

York Times, in an article that commented on the "humanitarian clut­

ch," reported, "The Guns of Autumn, a docu­

mentary on hunting containing a dramatic exposure of current hunting practices, the program in­

cuded vivid scenes from a deer hunt at Louie's Big Game Hunt Club and Mead­

ows’ Wild Life Preserve in Los Angeles. The show was dangled before the canine, and the ducks waddle eagerly back to the pen for supper. For the Meadowows Wild Life Preserve, this easily manipulated, instinctive behavior is a potential gold mine.

The idea is to sell gun club memberships at $1,000 apiece. When the ducks learn to fly the 900 feet from the pen to the pond, hunters will be waiting along the way. Each club member is guaranteed 100 ducks for his thousand dollars over a three-month period. If he doesn’t shoot that many, the club will kill the balance, and send them along anyway, all cleaned and dressed.... If it works, they'll build bigger and better clubs for pheasants, partridge and quail. In the meantime, the ducks will be marching up the ramp to the tower and winging off one by one toward the pond, with the Meadowows Wild Life Preserve guaranteeing that they'll never make it.

Government Issue Game

The preserve is only one manifestation of a "shooting gallery" approach to hunting. In the weeks prior to the opening of the an­

imal hunting season on game birds, state fish and game departments stock the woods with birds which were seduced into coming to ever­

ning Pennsylvania, for example, raises nearly a quarter million pheasants each year, at a cost of $1,820,000, to satisfy license-buying hunters. In fact, one-tenth of the annual budget of the Pennsylvania Game Commis­sion is spent on game propagation farms. Turkey, ducks and quail are also raised in captivity by wildlife management agencies with the in­

tention of improving the hunting expe­

rience for their license-buying con­

stituents. In many instances, the hunting of these animals is an insult to the concept of sportsmanship. When raised in captivity birds may imprint upon (or learn to identify with) humans and never learn to fear people.

In Pennsylvania, a recent motion to abolish its $250,000 a year turkey farm was rejected by the Game Commission because of the lobbying efforts of the 200,000-member state Federation of Sportsmen. The Washington­

ton Post reported that, as a result of this predicament in Pennsylvania, "...the state has purchased 7,000 to 8,000 duck and hopeless lumps of flesh will be planted in the forests as 'game' for the hunting season of one game commission official.''

Short-stopping and Baiting

Not all objectionable forms of hunting involve small preserves or wildlife which is held in captivity. Wildlife managers and hunters can create false conditions in the wild in which creatures such as the white-tail deer are attracted to them. One example of this was the Waterfowl, among the most sought after species of game, are particular­

ly vulnerable to this technique. Ducks and geese can be attracted to a selected location by establishing an artificial waterfowl refuge, which dogs were judged on looks and conformation, plus a treeing contest and a water race. There was something pathetic about the latter event, in which a single caged raccoon was dangled before the canine, and dogs were judged on their ability to yap and bark at the animal. The "cage was hoisted to the top of the pen on a mast in a treeing contest, and dog owners released their hounds one by one into a roped circle. The winner was the dog that barked the most times in 30 sec­

onds, which doesn't seem to prove much.

"Then the caged conon was trans­

ported to a pond for the water race, where it was suspended by a steel cable in front of a cage crowded with four dogs. When the cage opened the conon was hauled along the cable clotheline-style across the pond, dogs in hot pursuit. First dog across took a prize. One dog got too close and left a bloody streak across the raccoon's snout.

Ironically, animals are sometimes guzzled down in the name of charity. A Philadelphia police association and a Kiwanis Club in Wisconsin have used live turkeys as targets in turkey shoots conducted to raise money for humanitarian endeavors. Turkeys, with their heads pro­

truding from the tops of wooden cri­

bets, were bloodied and blinded by rifle shots as hunters competed to fire at the bird that was killed.

Even the federal government has entered the business of conducting tests of a hotly de­

bated hunting technique. A syndi­

cated columnist Jack Anderson re­

ported, "The military brass and the gun lobby want to prove that they have made deer hunting easy. They hold their hunts on the top-secret Army base near Woodbridge, Va., from which dogs were released in the fall as usual..."
The curious forms of hunting practiced by man are limited only by his imagination. A popular technique for hunting bear is to establish a bait station to attract the animal. In Cooper Harbor, Michigan this technique has been refined. On the opening day of the bear hunting season hunters congregate at the town garbage dump where the bears regularly feed. The bears, accustomed to the presence of men, are easy targets for the nimrods who stand in their midst. This technique of "stalking" quarry is an accepted way to hunt bear; however, game laws prohibit the use of bait to attract ducks to hunting blinds. Yet, such game laws have not been a deterrent to many hunters who are determined to fill their quotas. The illegal baiting of waterfowl remains among the most common violations of hunting regulations.

**Preserve Hunting Defended**

Pay-for-slaughter shooting preserves are chosen forms of sport hunting have advocates. Not surprisingly, their ranks include some of the harshest critics of the humane viewpoint, such as the National Rifle Association. Sports Illustrated has published an article in defense of preserves of the shooting big game. Field & Stream Magazine, which regularly editorializes on the virtues of sport hunting, is another hunter's institution which sees no wrong in shooting preserves.

Shooting preserves which stock game birds are defended principally on the basis that birds which escape from hunters help to repopulate the wild. This theory is also used by wildlife managers to justify stocking public land with game birds just prior to the opening of the hunting season. It is ironic that on one hand hunting and conservation laws prohibit that sport hunting is a necessary management technique for reducing excessive populations of wildlife, yet, on the other hand, they also argue that it is necessary to augment natural populations of game animals with captive-reared wildlife because there are too few animals to hunt.

In fact, there were a significant decline to occur in the number of game animals, populations should be reduced by reducing game quotas or closing hunting seasons. Moreover, restocking wildlife populations with captive-reared animals is of questionable value from a biological viewpoint. Many captive-reared birds are not weather conditioned and die with the first frost or succumb during the winter as temperatures decline.

Birds raised in captivity, in the absence of the usual natural selection process, may be genetically inferior to their wild counterparts. By interbreeding with wild birds these animals may cause a physical deterioration in the natural populations, a claim that is too often made of the National Wildlife Disease Laboratory, birds which are raised in captivity. In a study of the National Wildlife Disease Laboratory, birds which are raised in captivity may cause a physical deterioration in the natural populations, a claim that is too often made of the National Wildlife Disease Laboratory, birds which are raised in captivity. In a study of the National Wildlife Disease Laboratory, birds which are raised in captivity may cause a physical deterioration in the natural populations, a claim that is too often made of the National Wildlife Disease Laboratory, birds which are raised in captivity.

**Some Slaughter**

Within their own ranks, hunters admit that the steady erosion of wildlife habitats from human development, in combination with the overhunting of some species is substantially diminishing hunting opportunities. Shooting preserves provide an alternative form of recreation for the gun toting sportsman. With the growing shortage of good places to hunt, preserves are becoming the wave of the future. Hunters attempt to exalt and dignify preserve hunting by arguing that hunting on well-managed facilities nearly duplicates the hunting experience in the wild.

Yet such hunts are neither biologically nor ethically defensible. **Sport or Slaughter?**

The popularity of these forms of hunting suggests there is a cult of hunters which believes the hide of a pheasant or rack of antlers from a deer are the whole object of the hunt, irrespective of the way in which the trophy was obtained. Too many hunters are motivated by the desire to kill something just for the sake of killing it. Many hunters cannot resist the temptation to pursue their quarry where the animals are nearly tame and the hunting is easy

Hunters participating in "shooting gallery" hunts represent every economic and social class in American society. The types of hunting discussed are practiced to one degree or another by millions of hunters. A 1970 survey by the U.S. Department of the Interior showed that the several hundred thousand dollars spent by hunters who frequented commercial shooting preserves that year spent by hunters who frequented commercial shooting preserves that year.

A sense of rightness about hunting is for some hunters equivalent to religion. Yet, for too many hunters, the metallic feel of a gun—a solid extension of personal possession—augment to kill carelessly. Victor B. Scheffer

**A Voice for Wildlife**

Within their own ranks, hunters admit that the steady erosion of wildlife habitats from human development, in combination with the overhunting of some species is substantially diminishing hunting opportunities. Shooting preserves provide an alternative form of recreation for the gun toting sportsman. With the growing shortage of good places to hunt, preserves are becoming the wave of the future. Hunters attempt to exalt and dignify preserve hunting by arguing that hunting on well-managed facilities nearly duplicates the hunting experience in the wild.
In Response to Today's Story

Every day at HSUS we get many letters from members which include clippings from local newspapers that are either praiseworthy or miss the mark. Often we are asked to “please respond” to the story. While we are constantly dealing with the press through staff interviews, news releases, letters to the editor, or working with reporters to develop features or documentaries about animals, we do not have nearly enough staff to write a response to every newspaper story brought to our attention. Furthermore, the thoughts and opinions of their own readers may be more important to newspaper editors than the views of a national organization whose positions are often well known.

So we pass you the feel moved to write a letter to the editor or comment about a television or radio show or even when you run across something about animals that should not be ignored. If you’re uncertain how to proceed, here are some tips on getting your views across:

Writing letters to the editor

Be brief and to the point. Newspapers have limited space for their letters to the editor column. You’ll have a better chance of your letter being printed if it’s succinct and the main point is in the first paragraph.

Don’t waste your space by re-stating the comments which prompted your letter. A brief line referring to the original story is usually adequate. Write when you’re moved to state your views, but select your target with care.

Choose your words with care. A letter which is strident or rude will overshadow your message. Be firm in what you have to say but make sure the tone of the letter is neither demanding nor threatening. Be humane.

If you decide to initiate a letter-writing campaign, keep in mind that a well-worded letter from a community leader will give you considerable clout. And if you arrange your friends to write, make sure their letters are not carbon copies of your own. The facts with your friends, but have them write their own letters.

Sign your letters. Anonymous letters don’t make their way into the newspaper. If you prefer that your name doesn’t appear in print, contact your local paper before writing a letter to see what their policies are on this issue.

Dealing with radio and TV

If you see or hear a program to which you wish to respond, feel free to write the station a letter. If the program is locally produced, ask to network-produced or syndicated address it to the Public Affairs Director of that station. We suggest you call the station to find out the name of the person who should receive the letter.

Letter-writing campaigns may have a positive impact on television or radio stations. They have a legal responsibility to serve their communities and must be sensitive to the local viewing and listening audiences.

There may be other ways to talk back to your radio or TV. For example, if you see or hear an editorial which does not reflect your point of view, contact the station to see if you are eligible to tape a reply to it. If you may know, once a station editorial appears, there’s usually a statement at the end of it indicating “responsible replies are welcome.” When you call, ask for the opportunity to tape a reply to the editorial and give the subject matter and date and time it was aired to identify it.

Other opportunities to air your views present themselves through local talk shows, special segments of news programs, and even documentaries through time and production money make this the likely opportunity for you. It pays to get to know local news directors and talk show hosts in your community. And it practically goes without saying that it pays to keep them up-to-date on issues of community importance.

All-news radio stations are often very responsive to public group issues since they must fill considerable air time. Cable television with its 24-hour programming is another outlet ripe for animal welfare issues. Since opportunities will vary from community to community, it’s best to check with your local stations directly.

I you wish to praise or criticize a network program, you can write the network itself, the producer, the sponsor, or all three. The sponsor can be found at the library (ask the librarian in the reference section) or you may find it written on the product itself if it’s sold in a store near you. You can write the producer in care of the network.

These reprinted articles from past issues of The HSUS News are useful for answering questions about animal issues or introducing friends to animal welfare concerns. All are priced at only 25¢ each.

The Myth and Truth of Owning Wild and Exotic Pets

Don’t Buy Fur
Trapped, clubbed or ranched, all fur coats mean animal suffering.
The Hidden Cost of Factory Farming

How to Travel with Your Pet

Why Must We Euthanize?

To Find a Good Home
The reason for adoption regulations in animal shelters

REPRINTS

The Humane Society News • Winter 1981

HSUS, 2100 L St., N.W., Washington, DC 20037.

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The American Seal Hunt

Men called "pod cutters" use noisemakers to cut the bachelor seals from the rest of the herd and drive them up the rocky coastline onto the grassy, flat tundra. The length of the drives varies from 390 to 2600 feet.

Enraged for years by the brutal slaughter of the harp seal pups off the Newfoundland coast in Canada, Americans are now taking a harder look at the United States' own participation in the slaughter of fur seals.

The Humane Society of the United States first sent a representative to observe this hunt in 1968. Even before then our publications protested the inhumaneness of this yearly slaughter. Because the hunt is performed by native Aleuts (open sea) hunting. Because of the unpredictability of the weather and the inaccessibility of the areas, the investment of the native Aleuts in the hunt is considerable. The photograph shows them taking aim at a moving target at sea. The photographs on these pages are from his in-depth investigation of the hunt.

The Humane Society News

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Racing State
Federal drugging persists. Part of the reason lines, however, it is evident that phenylbutazone (bute) and abused-in many states. issued last April by the National and illegal, at the nation's The bill, which was not acted on in 1980, was swift. Despite adoption of the .bill, which was not acted on in May, eighteen states, according to Paulhus, have adopted new drug rules at that state's two racetracks. The reaction to the prospect of federal action was swift. Since May, seventeen states have either adopted or taken steps to adopt rules banning or restricting the use of drugs at the track. Most followed guidelines issued last April by the National Association of State Racing Commissioners, which prohibit the use of phenylbutazone (bute) and furosemide (Lasix), two drugs which had been permitted—and frequently abused—in many states.

Despite adoption of the guidelines, however, it is evident that drugging persists. Part of the reason it continues, according to HSUS investigator Marc Paulhus, is that the guidelines lack provisions to improve laboratory detection methods. Another problem is that penalties imposed on those who are caught violating the rules are not severe enough to act as a deterrent. Some states, according to Paulhus, have adopted new drug rules—"imply to demonstrate that they are taking some type of action, in hopes of heading off congressional interference.

For instance, in November, Kentucky adopted what appears to be one of the strictest no-drug rules in the nation. Yet racing commissioner Arthur Hancock was quoted in a newspaper saying "I'm personally not against medication, but for the time being I think we should ban it so that our people can go to Washington and tell Congress that racing is cleaning up its act and to lay off. Then, if we want to bring back medication later, we can."

It is clear that racing is not "cleaning up its act." When officials at Keystone Racetrack in Philadelphia announced one Saturday last September that they were about to begin testing for Banamine, a pain-killer four times more potent than bute, nearly one quarter of the day's entries scratched. It was reported that every veterinarian at the track later admitted to having administered the illegal drug that day.

In November, the Governor's Organized Crime Prevention Commission in New Mexico issued a report on investigations conducted at that state's two racetracks. The findings were nothing short of shocking. Investigators personally observed ten incidents of race day druggings, and several others were reliably reported. According to the report, "An intense effort, involving collusion between veterinarians, owners, and trainers, exists for purposes of successfully using drugs which will not be detected in testing procedures."

There is no doubt anymore that the states cannot control the abuse of drugs at the racetrack. Despite state efforts, well meaning or not, federal regulation is still a necessity, according to Paulhus. The corrupt horse racing practices act is expected to be reintroduced in the new congress in January. It needs strong support from Congress. Without it, the prospects for both the horses and the spectating public seem dim.

MODEL DOG AND CAT CONTROL ORDINANCE

A cooperative effort by four national organizations has resulted in a practical tool to help remedy the problems created by unwanted and stray dogs and the irresponsibility of many pet owners. It began in February of 1976 when a National Conference on Dog and Cat Control was convened by The Humane Society of the United States, the American Humane Association, the Pet Food Institute, the American Kennel Club, and the American Veterinary Medical Association.

From the conclusions and recommendations of that meeting, four of the sponsoring organizations (HSUS, AHA, AVMA, and PFI) developed a Model Dog and Cat Control Ordinance. The ordinance outlines the basic elements of an effective dog and cat control program, and is intended as a reference guide rather than an ordinance to be adopted verbatim in every community.

The need for such a guide is great, as noted in the Preamble to the ordinance:

"Thousands of municipalities and counties in the United States continue trying to handle one of the most frustrating problems of local government with archaic laws and inefficient, and often inhumane, dog and cat control measures. The end result is that dog and cat control problems become increasingly more troublesome. Pet owners and others become frustrated and angry, and public officials are forced to allocate more time and money and exhibit more patience in arbitrating disputes between pet owners and their neighbors." With the Model Dog and Cat Control Ordinance, an effective humane program can be formulated which will benefit both human and animal populations.

The ordinance is available for $1.00 a copy from The HSUS or any of the other sponsoring agencies. In addition, The HSUS and The AHA have agreed to provide consultation and other services to any local government or animal welfare organization which requests assistance in implementing a program based on the model ordinance.
Abolition often produces aberrant behavior; therefore, be it

WHEREAS, the housing for these animals, because it is
designed for ease of transport, rarely provides the space and
environment they need; and

WHEREAS, state racing commissions have been
negligent in the enforcement of drug control regulations and laws which
would serve to protect horses from drug abuse; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that The HSUS vigorously support federal legislation which would prohibit the pre-race administration of any such substance and would empower the Drug Enforcement Administration of the Justice Department to oversee the
enforcement of such law.

WHEREAS, the California sea otter, making a valiant comeback
from near extinction, is still in a precarious state of existence; and

WHEREAS, the California sea otter population has evidently
stopped growing for as yet undetermined reasons, and now
numbers fewer than 2000 animals, only 10% of its former
population; and

WHEREAS, the range of the California sea otter is still only
200 miles long, from Santa Cruz south to Pismo Beach—only
10% of its former range; and

WHEREAS, there are major oil tanker ports at both ends of the
oilers’ range in Monterey and Estero Bays; and

WHEREAS, the sea otter is the most vulnerable to oil of all
marine mammals; and

WHEREAS, the California sea otter was designated a
Threatened Species under the Endangered Species Act in 1977, primarily due to its extreme vulnerability to oil spills from offshore tanker traffic; and

WHEREAS, offshore oil exploration, development and pro-
duction in the Santa Maria Basin off the San Luis Obispo County coast would greatly increase the possibility of an oil spill impacting the oilers’ range; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has stated that
we cannot rely on any oil spill contingency plan to protect the oilers; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that The HSUS strongly urge the Governor of California, the Secretaries of the Interior and the Department of the United States to drop the 33 northermmost tracts in the Santa Maria Basin from Outer Continental Shelf Lease Sale #53 in order to protect the fragile California sea otter popula-
tion and its marine environment; and be it

RESOLVED, that The HSUS strongly urge the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish & Game to vigorously protect the existing California sea otter population and to make every effort to insure the recovery of this Threatened Species; and be it

RESOLVED, that The HSUS prepare and dis-
simulate literature to enlist the support of its membership and the public in calling for continued vigilance to insure the survival and recovery of the California sea otter.

WHEREAS, the welfare of animals is within the framework of the movement to clearly establish the rights of animals as an accepted, recognized and enforceable seg-
ment within the traditional concept of rights; and

WHEREAS, there is ample evidence and support for the posi-
tion that such rights naturally evolve from long accepted doc-
trines of justice or fairness or some other dimension of morality; and

WHEREAS, there is no rational basis for maintaining a moral
distinction between the treatment of humans and other animals; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that The HSUS pursue on all fronts—ethical, moral, educational, and, in addition, because the law not only reflects public morality, it often also results in legislative and legal fronts—the clear articulation and establishment of the
rights of animals with the concomitant recognition thereof within the full range of American life and culture.

Whereas, current federal controls are inadequate to insure the
welfare of animals, particularly in the critical area of painful experimentation; and

WHEREAS, Congress has not extended protective legislation to
all species of animals used in biomedical and other types of research and testing; and

WHEREAS, direct support for development and implementa-
tion of and training in alternative methods of research and testing, which either replace the use of laboratory animals, reduces the number of animals required, or refine an existing procedure or technique to minimize the stress endured by the animal, is an appropriate and necessary role for the federal government; and

WHEREAS, there is a lack of cooperation and coordination among agencies involved in animal research and testing; and

WHEREAS, continued reliance on animal experiments delays the development of new alternative procedures; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that The HSUS vigorously urge and vigorously support congressional action to fund and authorize programs which will develop, use and promote alternative techniques in research and testing, improve the treatment of all laboratory animals, and strengthen oversight on research projects and procedures that are likely to involve significant pain and distress; and be it

RESOLVED, that The HSUS vigorously support congres-
sional action to centralize information on alternatives in order to
stop unnecessary testing duplication, and urge federal agencies which regulate animal research and testing to cooperate in encouraging the exchange of data and results and promoting humane scientific innovations.
Crackdown on Dogfighting

by Julie Rovner

A new Ohio law and a large scale investigation which is being handled by state and local law enforcement authorities and The HSUS has resulted in a major crackdown on the brutal “sport” of dogfighting in that state. Thirty-nine confiscated animals are currently in custody and forty indictments have been handed down against twenty people on charges ranging from promoting dogfighting to participating in or watching dogfights.

The new law, which was signed last June, makes it a felony not only to fight dogs or to promote dogfights, but also to be a spectator at a fight, to own or train a fighting dog, and to accept money for admission to a dogfight. The maximum penalty under the new law is five years in jail and a $2,500 fine.

Ohio’s law is one of the best in the nation, according to Franzi Dantzler, HSUS director of field service and investigations. Dantzler, who has spent the past several years trying to end this bloody sport, testified in favor of the bill at a hearing last spring.

The investigation was initiated shortly after the new law took effect and was a joint venture by the state Division of Crime Prevention, and local law enforcement agencies.

Working over a period of months, an undercover investigator managed to penetrate the secretive dogfighting fraternity in the state. According to Dantzler, at first the suit charges that dogfighting is a “most overtly barbaric phenomena in American society.”

Dantzler said he was pleased the new law produced results so quickly. He feels the best tools to end dogfighting are “effective state laws which can be enforced against the people involved due to fear in the way of capture or prosecution.”

In some states, dogfighting is not even explicitly covered, although it is considered illegal under state anti-cruelty statutes. However, the lack of specificity and weak penalties make prosecution quite difficult.

Dantzler said he was pleased the new law produced results so quickly. He feels the best tools to end dogfighting are “good effective state laws which can be enforced against the people involved due to fear in the way of capture or prosecution.”

While dogfighting is a felony in several states, including New York, Massachusetts, Michigan, and California, enforcement varies. Dogfighting may persist because the persons involved are able to fear in the way of capture or prosecution.

In some states, dogfighting is not even explicitly covered, although it is considered illegal under state anti-cruelty statutes. However, the lack of specificity and weak penalties make prosecution quite difficult.

The other side of the “sport” is the “most overtly barbaric phenomena in American society.”

The suit charges that dogfighting is a “most overtly barbaric phenomena in American society.”
West Coast

Humane Education

On October 14, 1980 the first day of the HSUS Annual Conference held in San Francisco, the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education and The Western Humane Educators Association (WHEA) co-hosted a Humane Education Symposium. The West Coast office and NAAHE have worked with WHEA since its formation and were proud to have them share their expertise and programs at the symposium. Over 140 people attended from some 50 states, including Hawaii, Canada and Puerto Rico were also represented.

Equal Rights for Cats

Effective January 1, 1981 stray cats which have been impounded by a public pound, SPCA, or humane shelter may be held 72 hours under legislation introduced by Senator Alan Robbins (D), and passed by the California legislature. Exceptions severely injured, seriously ill, or newborn cats unable to feed themselves. Existing law in California did not expressly provide a minimum time limit for keeping impounded cats as it does for stray dogs. The West Coast regional office has notified California humane societies and animal control agencies of passage of the new law.

Great Lakes

Dogfighting Follow-Up

More than 100 humane workers and law enforcement officers gathered in Columbus, Ohio, for a one-day workshop on enforcing dogfighting laws. The workshop, sponsored jointly by The HSUS and state officials, drew participants from Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan to discuss ways to end the brutal activity. HSUS Director of Field Service and Investigations Frantz Dantelor showed videotapes of dogfights and Ohio officials discussed the investigations (reported on page 26) which resulted in the conviction of 45 fighting dogs and the hanging down of 40 indictments under Ohio’s new dogfighting law.

POW in Minnesota

Protect Our Wildlife (POW) is the name of a new coalition of Minnesotans concerned with wildlife legislation in that state. People on the POW mailing list are contacted when letters to legislators are needed, and they in turn send off their own letters to state officials involved in decision-making on wildlife issues. There is no cost for joining POW, all that is necessary is a willingness to speak out for humane wildlife policies. HSUS members residing in Minnesota who wish to be added to the POW mailing list should write Protect Our Wildlife.

Cruelty Case

Nearly 50 dogs, some chained in mud over a foot deep and forced to feed on rats, were found by Great Lakes Field Investigator Tim Greyhavens at a residence in Napoleon, Ohio. City officials estimated there were nearly 5000 rats on the property at the time Greyhavens examined the dogs. Greyhavens was able to convince the owner of the animals to take action on their behalf, and all the dogs have now been removed from the property and treated by a veterinarian, and most have been placed in other homes.

One of more than fifty dogs found chained and poisoned around a deserted house in Napoleon, Ohio.

Great Lakes

Chemical Capture

In September, the Great Lakes Regional Office sponsored a one-day workshop on chemical capture methods. Leon Nelson, Director of the Wisconsin Humane Society and a recognized authority on the use of tranquilizer guns and chemicals reported to the department set the population levels were reached in 1974 and maintained for four consecutive years. It is imperative that the most cruel and offensive aspects of hunting of black bear, and the state is necessary to extend protection against cruel and inhumane use of wildlife policies. HSUS members in Maine are urged to write their opinions to Commissioner Glenn Manuel, Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, 244 State Street, Augusta, Maine 04333.

Office Move

HSUS’ New England regional office will be moving February 1 from its current headquarters in Hartford, Connecticut, to the Norma Terrace Humane Education and Nature Center in East Haddam, Connecticut. The Norma Terrace center is already headquarters for HSUS’ education branch, the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education. The move should make the region’s operations more economical while not affecting the service available. The new address for the New England Regional Office will be P.O. Box 98, East Haddam, Connecticut 06423.

Gulf States

Prison Complaint

An investigation is underway of a number of complaints of cruelty to animals taking place at the Louisiana State Penitentiary. In a recent letter, HSUS’ Gulf States Regional Director Bill Meade told the prison warders there had been a continuous stream of letters from one inmate complaining of numerous alleged cases of abuse. Some of the complaints were of inmates starving birds by sealing them in walls, cruelly whipping and overdriving mules and horses. In one inmate were confined without adequate shelter.

In answer to an earlier letter from Meade about these complaints, Warden Frank Blackburn said that all animals at the penitentiary receive “the best possible care” and that anyone harming an animal would be severely disciplined.

However, further complaints of cruelty received after this assurance led Meade to ask for the opportunity for HSUS investigator Glenn Weller to visit the prison and discuss the situation. Although it has frequently been shown that the presence of animals can be very therapeutic for people in institutions, it is imperative that the animals be protected from those individuals who might harm them. Both the Governor of Louisiana and the Secretary of Corrections are being kept informed of the progress of handling these cruelty complaints.

Animal Control Workshops

Two HSUS workshops on Solving Animal Problems in Your Community are scheduled for March. The first, cosponsored by St. Hubert’s Giraldia Animal Welfare Education Center and the HSUS New Jersey Branch, will be held March 19, 20, and 21 in the Holiday Inn on Route 10 in Livingston, New Jersey. The second workshop will be held in Austin, Texas, March 26, 27, and 28. It will be sponsored by The Humane Society of Austin and Travis County. For further information and registration forms, write HSUS Animal Control Workshops, 200 L Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20007.

Stray cats in California now have a better chance of being returned home.
Alaska Lands

Despite the many failings of the 96th Congress on environmental and animal welfare issues, it pro-
bably wrote itself into history books with the passage of a massive Alaska Lands bill. The measure
designates more than half million acres of the fiftieth state as national parks or preserves, national wildlife
refuges, wilderness areas, and wild and scenic rivers.

A last minute fight prevented the measure from being as strong as many environmentalists had hoped,
and when President Carter signed the bill into law on December 2, he warned that our need for energy
resources must not be allowed to interfere with the preservation of the environment.

Attending the White House signing of the new law, described by many as the most sweeping conserva-
tionist achievement since the creation of the national parks system at the beginning of the cen-
tury, were representatives of nearly all of the nation’s environmental and animal welfare groups which had
pushed for the passage of a strong bill, including Patricia Forkan, HSUS lobbyist; Sen. Bob Byrd (D-WV)
and communications, and Project Specialist Patricia Clagett.

Tuna/Porpoise

As with most federal rulings on animal welfare issues, the regula-
tions are not new but the under-
covering tuna-porpoise controversy could have been bet-
ter if it also could have been worse.

The regulations, issued by Richard Frank, administrator of the Commerce Department’s National Oceanic and Atmospheric Adminis-
tration, are part of the enforcement procedure of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The act was passed by
Congress in 1972, partially to alleviate the problem of porpoises dying in large numbers after becoming
entangled in the purse seine nets of yellowfin tuna fishermen.

The act allows for a certain amount of such “incidental taking,” which occurs when fishermen sur-
round schools of porpoise to capture the tuna which often swim under-
derneath the porpoise. Despite the fact that fishermen are able to free most of the entangled mammals, some 160,000 porpoises have been killed in the nets of U.S. boats since the first quotas were established in 1976.

The new regulations establish quotas for the years 1981 through 1985. At hearings held earlier this year, a lawyer representing several conservationist groups, including The HSUS, presented evidence that the northern offshore spotted porpoise—the most frequently killed species—was depleted. Under the act, any taking, incidental or other-
wise, of a depleted species is prohib-
ited.

Unfortunately, in his decision Frank found that the species was not depleted, and set a quota of 11,890. The species was not depleted, and set a quota of 11,890 allowed to be killed during each of the next five years. The total
quota for all porpoise is 20,500.

While this number is lower than in recent years, HSUS has called it a “great battle by conservationists to ob-
tain protection for nongame species, while affording a total of only 80 percent of the total quota an-
imals to all North American Wildlife.

Despite their great numbers, a 1974 survey conducted by the Wild-
life Management Institute found that only three of every 100 federal dollars spent on wildlife went for the
direct benefit of nongame species. In addition, 86 percent of the vertebrates killed in nets were not
threatened or are con-
sidered nongame. By 1990 it is estimated that an additional 450 species will be added to the endangered lists and 450
animals may be eligible within the next five years.

The funds will be used to help nongame species in research and conser-
vation, improve the treatment of all lab-
oratory animals, and strengthen oversight on research procedures that are likely to involve significant pain and distress....

The new law, including the provisions which prolonged, would have gone far to achieve that goal were introduced in the 96th Congress. H.R. 4305, introduced by Congressman Fred Richmond (D-
 NY) would establish a National Cen-
ter for Alternative Research to de-
velop and coordinate alternative methods of research and testing which do not involve the use of live ani-
imals, to develop training programs in the use of alternative methods, and to disseminate information on these methods. H.R. 282, introduced by Congressman Robert Drinan (D-
MA), would fund research aimed at developing test methods which would minimize the use of, and pain and suffering to, live animals.

Several of these al-
ready in laboratories, and until more
options are developed, H.R. 6847, introduced by Congresswoman Patricia Schroder, would do-
The new Chairman of the Com-
mittee on Transportation and Com-
merce with upwards of two hundred thousand letters, the 96th Congress completed its work without having held hearings on a bill which would prohibit interstate commerce of any products from animals caught in
leghold traps, virtually eliminating use of the trap in this country.

The bill, H.R. 1267, introduced by Rep. Clarence Long (D-MD), was
originally scheduled for hearings last fall at the request of the subcommittee chairman, Representative Patricia Florio (D-NJ) “felt that certain issues were not being adequately addressed.” Specifically, the Canadian investigator of a new and supposedly humane “snare trap was refusing to testify.

The hearings were rescheduled for late winter and again canceled.

“After that,” the subcommittee aide
reported, “it was simply scheduling problems. The aides refused to com-
ment on the possibility of holding
hearings next year, adding that she was not even sure if the bill would be reexamined at all.

A spokesperson for Congressman Long said he definitely plans to rein-
force the bill during the next ses-
sion.

Laboratory Animals

Another major disappointment
dealt to animal welfare advocates by the 96th Congress was the lack of ac-
tion to improve the lot of the labora-
tory animal. Several bills were intro-
duced, but no hearings were held on any of them.

At The HSUS’ annual conference
in October, the membership passed a resolution “...that The HSUS strongly urge and vigorously sup-
port congressional action and authorize programs which will develop, use, and promote alterna-
tive techniques in research and test-
ing, improve the treatment of all lab-
oratory animals, and strengthen oversight on research procedures that are likely to involve significant pain and distress....

Several of these al-
ready in laboratories, and until more
options are developed, H.R. 6847, introduced by Congresswoman Patricia Schroder, would do-

FEDERAL REPORT

New Congress

Animal welfare advocates will surely feel the effects of the nation-
wide wave of Republicanism which swept Ronald Reagan into office and the Democratic majori-

ity in the Senate. Many good friends in both the House and Senate were defeated but there is hope that new members may prove to be suppor-
tive of animal welfare legislation again.

It is clear that the Senate of the 97th Congress will not subscribe to any notions of “business as usual.” Already, Senator James McClure (R-ID), the incoming Chairman of the important Energy and Natural Resources Committee, has tried to have the predator control program moved from the know-how Department of Agri-
culture, where he assumed there would be less resistance, to be moved to the Interior Department where the animals would be removed from deadly poisons such as 1080 to kill coyotes. Where big business and envir-

nmentalists disagree, the new chairmen is inclined to lean towards businesses.

The news in the Senate is not all bad. The new Chairman of the Agri-
culture Committee, Robert Packwood (R-OR) has long been a strong sup-
porter of marine mammals and legis-
lation to assure their survival and safety. Another friend of the marine mammals, Lowell Weicker (R-CT), is scheduled to head the appro-
priations subcommittee which funds the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which ad-
ministers the Marine Mammal Pro-
tection Act.

With so many new members in both houses, it is hard to tell at this early stage how animal welfare legislation will be treated. It is im-
portant that you let your congress-
man know how you feel, especially if they are new members. Be sure your representa-
atives in Washington are represent-
ing your views.
Turtle Sales Continue Despite Ban

In a past issue of The HSUS News (Fall 1979), we noted that efforts were underway to have the Food and Drug Administration’s ban on the sale of small turtles lifted. The ban had been imposed after studies indicated that the turtles were carriers of Salmonella bacteria, and often transmitted this bacteria to humans, causing severe gastrointestinal illness. In addition, HSUS pointed out to the F.D.A. that most of the thousands of small turtles purchased each year by consumers lead a short and miserable life due to consumer ignorance of the animals’ dietary and other needs. Turtles are reptiles which require very special care and attention in order to live a humane existence in captivity.

As of this writing, the ban is still in effect. However, some recent incidents raise the question of whether the ban is actually effective. Through concerned citizens, HSUS has learned of alleged turtle sales in Florida, Ohio, Alaska, Pennsylvania, and in Washington, D.C. When an HSUS staff member visited a pet shop in the nation’s capital, he observed turtles being sold openly, although at a price far greater than that for which turtles were sold before the ban was enacted.

HSUS continues to favor the ban, for there has been no showing by the turtle industry that turtles can be marketed in a manner which is not disastrous to the reptiles themselves and which will not include health risks for humans. Furthermore, the HSUS General Counsel’s Office has been in contact with the F.D.A., urging that the agency follow its legal responsibility in enforcing the ban.

The F.D.A. has taken some initial steps to deal with some of the reported violations, but HSUS is concerned that illegal sales will continue unless a serious effort is made by the F.D.A. to cut off the wholesale source of the turtles.

When the original ban was sought, it was estimated that over 200,000 cases of salmonellosis in the United States each year were turtle related. (See Federal Register, Vol. 40, No. 101, for Friday, May 23, 1975, page 22543.) The General Counsel’s office intends to continue pressuring the F.D.A. to enforce the ban as written.

Animal Fighting Suit Continues

The suit brought by HSUS against the United States Department of Agriculture and Justice for their failure to enforce the animal fighting provisions of the Animal Welfare Act is in the pre-trial motions stage. In September, 1980, the government asked the court to dismiss the action, contesting, among other matters, HSUS’ legal right to bring the suit on behalf of the animals. The government also argued that any enforcement of the animal fighting statute was a matter solely within the government’s discretion, and not challengeable in a court of law.

HSUS, in reply, argued that it was legally proper for them to bring the suit on behalf of the affected animals, because...

...the Animal Welfare Act creates... legal rights for animals, i.e., the right not to be cruelly treated in fighting ventures, [however] the animals themselves have no ‘forum’ in which to assert their own rights... and it is self-evident that animals have no ability to assert the rights to protection and freedom from abuse that the Act was intended to afford.

HSUS further argued that they were not seeking to interfere with the government’s legitimate prosecutorial discretion, but were simply attempting to force the government into doing its duty as spelled out in the laws which were passed to be enforced, rather than to simply sit unnoticed on the statute books.

A review of the prosecutorial activities of the federal government with respect to animal cases indicates that almost all of the attention, money, and effort is going into cases involving attempts to halt illegal wildlife trade, with almost no effort, money or law (e.g., the HSUS lawsuit, reported above, points out) being spent on the enforcement of the provisions of the Animal Welfare Act. For example, teeth, there have within the past year been more than 100 import-related forfeitures, with numerous major prosecutions focusing on commercial wildlife dealers. Of course we heartily applaud all of this effort.

However, none of this could have been accomplished without the most intensive interagency cooperation in tackling this multi-million dollar illegal wildlife trade, including the formation of a Wildlife Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee, the development of detailed guidelines for inter-agency enforcement efforts, and the establishment of special Task Forces to meet particular problems in particular regions. The result has been the good news that substantial progress has been made in the areas of wildlife law enforcement.

Our law suit, in a nutshell, asks only that the government mobilize its prosecutorial arms of the federal government going into cases involving attempts to halt illegal wildlife trade, with almost no effort, money or law (e.g., the HSUS lawsuit, reported above, points out) being spent on the enforcement of the provisions of the Animal Welfare Act.

Compiled by Murdbaugh Stuart Madjen, HSUS General Counsel, and Roger Kindler, Associate Counsel.

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Psalm of Life

Small creatures of the forest land,
There is no need to hide or flee—
I am no threat; I came to see
Your world, and I make no demand.
I do not covet your soft garments for my own,
Nor wish to shape a fetish from your bone...
I came to see
Your footprints in the snow.

Winged creatures of the sea and sky,
There is no cause for sudden fright;
I came to marvel at your flight
On wings of grace... to wonder why
No violin can sing your song;
In this bright world where you belong
I find delight
In watching fledglings grow.

Great creatures of the peak and plain,
You do not know—nor do you care—
How beautiful you are; I see you there
And it is clear—we must remain
Aware that shadows of the past
Forewarn—our kinds may be the last...
How could I dare
To mark your time to go?

To have dominion I define
As a command to cherish
Life—lest all life perish;
This is, I know, their world... and mine.

by Margaret Holst Hasbargen