Nationwide publicity on the case included television, radio, and newspaper coverage. It was a classic example of the lack of responsibility of the Government in enforcing the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act passed in 1971. And, because it is a good example, The HSUS is joining with the American Horse Protection Association in court action against BLM and the Department of the Interior.

We will keep you informed of further developments.

**ACLU HELPING HSUS (NJ) BRANCH**

The American Civil Liberties Union has joined with The HSUS New Jersey Branch and the Sierra Club in a suit in Superior Court in Passaic County, New Jersey attacking as unconstitutional the state Fish and Game Council's member-selection policy.

The complaint charges that the Council excludes persons interested in the protection of the environment, thus violating the right to "equal protection". The eleven member Council (an independent agency of the Department of Environmental Protection) consists by statute of three farmers, six sportsmen, and two commercial fishermen. The six sportsmen are members of the New Jersey Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs.

The Council's primary interest is promoting hunting, trapping, and fishing. This, of course, is an abuse of public trust since wildlife and public lands belong to all the people of the State of New Jersey who, in fact, are not represented. Further, the method of financing is a conflict of interest since wildlife management funds are raised primarily by the sale of hunting and fishing licenses.

Domination of Fish and Game Commissions by pro-hunting interests is prevalent across the country. Success of the suit in New Jersey, with the help of the American Civil Liberties Union, would mean that similar court action could be taken in other states with good prospects of success.

**U.S. POSTAL SERVICE REGULATIONS**

As you doubtless know, considerable consternation was caused among humane societies late last year when the U.S. Postal Service indicated a possible change in regulations that would deny animal welfare organizations special third-class mail rates.

In case you are still receiving inquiries, you now should know this proposed change was not made. Not only has The HSUS qualified as an educational-philanthropic organization entitled to the lower mail rates, but local humane societies can also qualify (if their special third-class permit has been rescinded) by reapplying at the local post office where mailings will be deposited. Any local humane societies needing information on this question should also be told that the modification of the philanthropic category of the postal regulations so as not to exclude organizations like animal welfare societies appears in the Federal Register, Vol. 38, No. 9, Paragraph 4, of January 15, 1973.