Rogers Lab Animal Bill Clears Budget Bureau; Staggers is Now Final Step to Hearings

The Rogers bill, H.R. 13168, to regulate and protect animals used in research laboratories, has gained Administration support and has been approved by the Bureau of the Budget.

Congressman Harley O. Staggers, W. Va., Chairman of the House of Representatives Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, is now the only obstacle standing in the way of public hearings on this critically important legislation. H.R. 13168 is currently pending before that committee.

Even though Congress is speeding toward pre-convention recess, the Rogers bill (and its Senate companion, the Javits bill) continues to pick up new support. Rep. James M. Hanley of New York recently introduced an identical companion bill and thus joined the long list of co-sponsors. As expressions of support also continue to come from other Congressmen, the prospect of enactment of legislation along the lines of the Rogers bill remains bright even if reintroduction in the 91st Congress becomes necessary.

The legislation cleared a major hurdle in winning approval of the Bureau of the Budget and acceptance by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Bureau of the Budget approval is important because it means that funding for the administration and enforcement of the law will be available. In voicing recognition of the need for a laboratory animal law, Bureau spokesman Wilfred H. Rommel said that the Bureau had no objection to enactment of legislation along the lines of the Rogers bill.

HEW Secretary Wilbur J. Cohen stated his Department’s acceptance in a letter which voiced agreement with the objectives of the bill. His letter detailed, in part, some of the superior features of the Rogers bill:

“...it would extend, in at least two significant respects, the protection to research laboratory animals now available through the Animal Transportation Act of 1966, P.L. 89-544. Its provisions would apply to all warmblooded vertebrate animals used in research, instead of just the six species covered by P.L. 89-544, and its coverage would apply throughout the stay of these animals in the laboratory, whereas existing legislation excludes the period when they (Continued on page 4)

150,000,000 People Hear About Major Animal Cruelties

Humane education, HSUS style, reached an estimated 150,000,000 people in recent weeks when Society President Mel L. Morse made over 30 radio and television appearances.

Morse appeared on such major programs as Today, Monitor, the Barry Gray Show, Personal Close-up with Mike Wallace, the Ed and Peggeen Fitzgerald Show, and many others. He also taped interviews for the Voice of America and has been asked to appear on the Tonight and the Merv Griffin shows. He has also made a second appearance on Monitor because of the great interest aroused by his initial appearance.

The exhausting but far reaching schedule of appearances, made to promote the book, “Ordeal of the Animals,” gave The HSUS President an unusual opportunity to tell millions about the major cruelties to animals. The exposure is expected to win substantial new support for the humane cause. Already hundreds of telephone calls and letters to radio and television programs illustrate the widespread interest which has been aroused.

“If in the pursuit of the perfect we wreck the best that is possible, the longing for the absolute will be akin to madness.” —Walter Lippmann
Deep neck wound caused by ill-fitting harness and protruding ribs of mule being examined here by veterinarian, with the HSUS. All were given intensive veterinary care.

A second examination was made by McMahon and Mrs. Cooke the following day. Four mules and one horse were in such poor condition that McMahon notified the wagon master they could not be worked under any circumstances. After some discussion, these animals were turned over to The HSUS. They were transported to The National Humane Education Center on Waterford, Virginia, where they received further medical treatment. Unfortunately, one of the mules had such deep sores and rope burns that it did not respond to treatment and had to be put to sleep. The remainder are currently enjoying the lush Virginia pasturage.

Earlier reports of some mules and horses in bad condition turned out to be correct. A number of them had harness sores and rope burns. A few were lame, or nearly so. These unsound animals were given immediate veterinary treatment, and all of the animals were fed, watered, and properly bedded for the night.

After this first inspection, McMahon criticized earlier reports received from some humane societies which had stated the animals were in good shape. He charged that some of the animals were unfit to make the trip even by train to Alexandria. He expressed surprise that local humane societies along the route of march did not file cruelty charges in jurisdictions where the injuries and sores first became apparent.

A GIRL AND HER DOG

Well known humanitarians Mr. and Mrs. Edward S. Voss donated this beautiful, expressive bronze sculpture to the National Humane Education Center. It will be displayed there as part of the humane education materials which will be kept permanently in the library.

BY-LAWS

At the Executive Committee meeting of The HSUS Board of Directors meeting in July, it was proposed that the Society by-laws be amended. The amendments deal mainly with the appointment of Nominating and Elections committees within 60 days after each annual membership meeting, the nomination of candidates for election to the Board of Directors each year, and the appointment of directors to fill the unexpired terms of those who may resign or are otherwise unable to serve. A ballot will be mailed to all HSUS members who have been in good standing for six months. Please watch for this special mailing and return the completed ballots promptly.

Pet Tattoo Protects Only When Registered With National Agency

The tattooing of pets for identification purposes has been gaining in popularity since the successful campaign for enactment of the laboratory animal dealth law in 1954. Many owners of pets have turned to a tattoo as a protection for their pets and a means of recovering them, if they are lost or stolen.

Unfortunately, there is a considerable percentage of owners who do not realize that the mere tattooing of an animal does not, in itself, give the desired protection. It is essential that tattoo markings be registered with a national registry like National Dog Registry, Box 55, Stanton, New Jersey. Failure to follow through with this renders the actual tattooing valueless.

The situation has become confused by the mushroom growth of a large number and variety of tattoo systems and registries which are local or regional; some aspire to be national in scope. They create a problem because few public or private animal shelters across the country are knowledgeable about the various systems and do not have the time, or wish to take the time, to get in touch with so many different possible sources which might know about a particular animal.

The HSUS Service Department has made an extensive study of the most common systems now in effect. It is clear from the results of this study that the problem can be solved best through widespread use of one registry by pet owners.

It is also clear that at this time the National Dog Registry offers by far the best hope for achieving the purpose of tattooing: the recovery of lost or stolen pets.

Want to help stop cruelty to cats and dogs? Write for material on The HSUS crusade against surplus animal breeding.

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HSUS Goes to Pribilofs to Find Way to Stop Cruel Seal Clubbing

A team of HSUS experts—Field Service Director Frank McMahon and New Brunswick SPCA (Canada) Executive Secretary Brian Davies—went to the Pribilof Islands in mid-July to find a humane method of dispatching seals captured in the annual harvest there.

The HSUS team was part of a task force established by the Society and the U.S. Department of the Interior to research new methods of conducting the harvest. The Society and many thousands of humanitarians across the country have been opposed to the clubbing of seals to death and the long distances which the animals are driven before slaughter. The HSUS has also expressed dissatisfaction with the alleged need for the yearly hunt.

The task force has tested carbon dioxide and electricity under actual harvest conditions. Data rate, body temperature, reaction to the humaneess of the method.

The HSUS is equally concerned over the cruel harvesting of seals every year in the Gulf of St. Lawrence in Canada. In spite of more stringent laws, the committee noted that the cruel harvesting of seals every year is important because they would almost surely produce a favorable committee report.

The HSUS has studied them extensively and has chosen service to members, Affiliates, and local humane organizations throughout the state.

Mr. Martin will plan and execute this broad new program while coordinating animal cruelty work.

The National Humane Education Center, the most important facility of its kind ever conceived, cannot reach its full potential except through the continuing generosity of humanitarians.

Branch Appoints New Executive Director:

Plays Broad Program

Herbert N. Martin, of Denver, Colo., has been appointed the new Executive Director of The HSUS California Branch.

A highly experienced and dedicated humane official, Martin brings new leadership and ability to the Branch. Actually, plans are being made to strengthen HSUS educational activities in California and give increased field service to members, Affiliates, and local humane organizations throughout the state.

Mr. Martin will plan and execute this broad new program while coordinating animal cruelty work.

Many humanitarians face a difficult choice in designating specific cruelties against which they want their contributions used. In this News, for example, only a fraction of HSUS anti-cruelty work is touched upon. But even here, there is a great depth and variety of humane endeavor that needs continuing support. Here are some programs which you can help specifically today:

- The helpless seals doomed to a cruel harvest every year in the Pribilof Islands. More funds can help them the small but mercurial benefit of a quick, humane death.
- The magnificent wild mustangs of Montana and other areas can be helped, and perhaps their elimination prevented, with more contributions.
- Interstate shipment of animals destined for medical research will continue, undetected, under cruel and appalling conditions unless we have the means of working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to stop it.
- Public concern for cruelty to research animals and the need for remedial legislation will abate rapidly if we do not maintain this crucial form of public education.
- The National Humane Education Center, the most important facility of its kind ever conceived, cannot reach its full potential except through the continuing generosity of humanitarians.
- Funds are needed to solve the complex problems of humane education—development of a suitable school program, production of effective audio visual aids, organizing a national junior program, production of literature and material for adult education.

The gift coupon below has been left blank so that you can indicate your choices of programs to support. We hope that you will use it today with as generous a gift as you can afford.

Reminder: The book, “Ordeal of the Animals,” regularly priced at $5.95, is available at a special discount rate when ordered in quantity by animal welfare societies.

Rate varies from 33½% to 43½% depending upon quantity ordered.

Write The HSUS for further information.
Abused Mules Taken by HSUS as March Train Reaches Washington

(Continued from page 2)

made to kill or otherwise harm any of the animals.

As rush hour traffic began to build, Metropolitan police escorted the mule train to a quiet, grassy area where they rested until after the peak rush hours. Then the mules were returned to nearby Virginia to the temporary quarters of the U.S. Park Police. They were left by the drivers, and police and humane society representatives again began caring for them.

Upon promise of The HSUS to take the mules and horses if they were impounded, the animals were returned to the Humane Society of Washington, D.C., which resulted in the arrest of 15 marchers who attempted to picnic on a busy street just outside the Capitol grounds. These animals, however, had all been properly shod with hard rubber shoes and only six of the best were used. After the demonstration, they were transported back to Columbia, Md.

As rush hour traffic began to build, notification was received that Reverend SCLC had made in the arrangements between the Helen J. Ritz Animal Shelter, in memory of the founder of the Association whose philanthropy made it possible.

On opening day the society received congratulations and praise from West Virginia Governor Hulet C. Smith and Charleston Mayor Elmer H. Dodson. Frank McMahon, HSUS Director of Field Services, attended the opening ceremonies.

HSUS Affiliate Rescue Suffering Animals from Cruel Kennel Operation

The HSUS-affiliated Animal Charity League of Youngstown, Ohio, has forced the closing of Poplar Ridge Kennels in Bidwell following an investigation of the operation.

Investigators found 160 dogs, nearly 50 cats, and one pony in indescribable filth in and around an old farm house on the property. The animals had insufficient food and were drinking from a polluted and trash-filled water hole. Most of the dogs were in an advanced stage of mange, and many were without hair on their bodies.

The animals were surrendered to the custody of the League and Cuyahoga County Prosecutor John Epling, who worked on the case. On the advice of attending veterinarians, all but the pony had to be put to sleep to prevent further suffering. The pony was placed in a suitable home for rehabilitation.

Pound Seizure Threat Killed in New Jersey

As reported earlier this year, a pound seizure threat loomed in New Jersey when the state Department of Health proposed new rules and regulations, one of which would have allowed animals to be sold, given away, or otherwise transferred to research facilities approved by the Department or registered with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Led by The HSUS New Jersey Branch, this permissive provision was attacked by humanitarians and humane societies throughout the state. At a stormy public meeting in Trenton, Branch spokesmen called for elimination of this regulation, and the attorney for the New Jersey SPCA charged that the Department of Health lacked authority to promulgate such a provision. Hundreds of letters of protest were also received by authorities considering the new regulations.

In the meantime, the objectionable provision was eliminated from the new rules. It was a spectacular victory for the humane movement in New Jersey. Even Dr. Oscar Susman of the Department of Health, a long time opponent of animal seizure, admitted that “the protests certainly were a factor in deleting” the section which would have led impounded animals into research facilities.

HSUS Affiliate Opens Big New Animal Shelter

The Charleston (W. Va.) Humane Association, affiliated with The HSUS, opened its large, new animal shelter on May 26.

The 72-kennel facility on a 30-acre tract of land will readily accommodate conditions now existing at city and county shelters. It will enable the society to offer better service to the community, especially in the fields of animal care, rescue and control work, and humane education. The building is called the Helen J. Ritz Animal Shelter, in memory of the founder of the Association whose philanthropy made it possible.

On opening day the society received congratulations and praise from West Virginia Governor Hulet C. Smith and Charleston Mayor Elmer H. Dodson. Frank McMahon, HSUS Director of Field Services, attended the opening ceremonies.

New animal shelter, located on large wooded acreage, has been carefully designed to provide maximum facilities for animals and efficiency of operation. It has been under construction for one year.

Branch Holds Second Successful Workshop On Humane Education

The HSUS New Jersey Branch held its second successful workshop in humane education within just a few months. The workshop was again held at St. Hubert’s Giralda, a respected humane organization in Madison. Again, the workshop was heavily attended.

Branch Executive Director Don Maxwell opened the proceedings and Mrs. Harry Burchfield of the Somerset County Humane Society delivered an excellent talk on controlling the animal population explosion. The most effective use of films and the importance of setting proper objectives were covered by Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Stevenson of the Plainfield Humane Society. Mrs. Thomas Maxwell, Secretary of The HSUS New Jersey Branch, spoke eloquently and informatively on how suitable booklets and literature can be used to best advantage in humane education.

Do you know someone who would like to participate in animal welfare work? Send the name and address to The HSUS and information on membership and humane programs will be forwarded.

Abused Mules Taken by HSUS as March Train Reaches Washington

The District of Columbia, had arranged with Mrs. Roger Stevens of the Animal Welfare Institute, Mrs. Marilyn Riviere and two other humanitarians to pasture the mules at a horse farm in Columbia, Maryland.

This arrangement was made, apparently, because The HSUS refused to agree to the mules and horses being trucked back and forth from the Center at Waterford, Virginia to the District of Columbia for further demonstrations.

“The animals have been used enough,” HSUS Field Service Director Frank McMahon told Fauntroy. “They have had more than their share of marching and abuse. We will gladly pasture all of them, give them veterinary care, and feed them properly. When all are stored to full health, we will place them with needy Virginia farmers. But do not think they should be used in the humid heat of summer.”

Former Editor Joins National HSUS Board

Mrs. Alice Wagner, highly regarded former editor of Popular Science magazine, was elected to The HSUS Board of Directors at a board meeting held in Washington, D.C., in early May. She was appointed to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Carl O. Marty, Three lakes, Wisc., who is unable to attend meetings.

Mrs. Wagner, of Springfield, N. J., has long been recognized for her outstanding contributions to national humane work. Her writings and speeches reflect a true understanding of the ethical relationship between man and animals. She has been and continues to be an entire army, in herself, in the humane cause.

Her effective work was recognized nationally when The HSUS gave her its highest award, “American Humanitarian of the Year” in 1961.

A month after rescue by The HSUS, animals from the Poor People’s March are shown grazing peacefully at the National Humane Education Center. All are recovering after many weeks of abuse and neglect.
Wild Mustangs in Montana Face Threat of Extermination; BLM Attitude Considered Arbitrary

The threat of diminishing still further the dwindling herd of wild mustangs in the United States has again reared its ugly head as the Bureau of Land Management moved in recent months to reduce a herd in the Pryor Mountains region of Montana. Some 230 animals are involved, a relatively small number whose importance, however, is increased enormously because there are only about 17,000 wild mustangs in the entire country.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is responsible for this new threat which is being fought bitterly by The HSUS and other humane societies and conservation organizations. BLM claims that the range is "worn out" and that the mustangs will eventually starve if the herd is not drastically reduced or eliminated entirely. The Bureau has held public hearings on three proposals, two of which would decimate the herd; the third would eliminate it entirely. A decision is expected to be reached in mid or late August.

The HSUS has protested to the Bureau of Land Management, Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall, Senator Henry M. Jackson of the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, and Senator Frank Church of Idaho, and two graduate students are investigating this case, it became apparent that ELM had capacity. The question of why seeded range was found, the animals could be relocated.

The recommendation was given no real consideration by the Bureau and none of the questions raised were satisfactorily answered. The Society has condemned the BLM attitude as "arbitrary, capricious, and ineffective in attaining the wishes of the public."

The Bureau has made efforts to stem the flow of public protest by picking on technical points and offering them in explanation of its plan. At first the Bureau had quietly gone ahead without any public demand. The attitude of the agency that controls wildlife and forest problems by slaughtering and exterminating wildlife.

"There is reason to believe," he said in Washington, "that BLM is more interested in the welfare of minority groups than public policy. The attitude of the Bureau in these instances indicates that its action may be powerfully influenced by the Montana Fish and Game Commission, the agency that controls wildlife and fish. The agency is clearly interested in the deer herd at the expense of the wild mustangs while the entire range was being exploited in science, business, schools, the entertainment industry, and the U.S. Government. It is published by Prentice-Hall and sells for $5.95 plus 25¢ postage and handling. The HSUS will arrange, upon request, to send a copy to any church or library. Simply mail a check or money order for $6.20 to The HSUS with a note giving the full name and address of the institution."

Three Arrested and Convicted in New Jersey for Cruelty to Dogs Consigned to Research Facility

Excellent cooperation between national, state, and local humane societies and law enforcement officers led to the arrest of three truckers on June 15 for cruelly treating 210 dogs in a truck en route to A.M.E. Associates, a Princeton (N. J.) research laboratory.

Charged with cruelty were two Arkansas men, Martin King and Bobbi Spoon, and an Oklahoma man named Bobby Joe Standridge. The dogs were being shipped from Professional Biologica1 Laboratories of Pocola, Okla.

The shipment was first noticed by a motoring couple who suspected "dog-napping." The ELM police, in turn, called the Mercer County SPCA. The HSUS New Jersey Branch was notified promptly by the Mercer County SPCA and Executive Director Donald Maxfield assisted in the case. Examination of the truck disclosed that the interior was "rancid and filthy." It was divided into seven small compartments and the floor was wet with urine and excreta in which the animals were forced to lie. Two electric fans which would have given some relief were not working. One dog was found dead, its body bloated.

Testimony at the trial revealed that the dogs had not been fed on their nearly two-day trip to New Jersey. It was also revealed that the animal upon removal to the humane society shelter ate more than 300 pounds of food in a four-hour period and drank huge quantities of water.

Judge Edward A. Costigan of East Windsor Township found the three defendants guilty of cruelty to animals. All drew the maximum fine of $250 each. King and Spoon were sentenced to 30 days imprisonment. Standridge was given no jail sentence because he was temporary help, hired in Oklahoma to drive the vehicle on its New Jersey trip.

The defendants appealed their conviction, stating that they would take their case "to the highest court possible." They won a stay of the jail sentence of King and Spoon, pending a hearing of the appeal on August 8. Meanwhile, they were released on $2,000 bail each.

In another aspect of the case, the national HSUS reported the case to the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D. C., and asked for an investigation into the possibility of a federal charge in the instance of the Federal Laboratory Animal Welfare Act.

Word to the wise: If possible, do NOT send contributions to The HSUS in cash. They may become lost or stolen in the mail. Always use checks or money orders.

Books for Libraries Helping to Publicize Ordeals of Animals

Mel L. Morse's eye-opening book, Ordeal of the Animals, is being placed by humanitarians in many public and institutional libraries and churches throughout the United States. The book is considered especially valuable addition to library reference materials on cruelty to animals in this country. "Ordeal of the Animals" is a documentary account of the principal ways in which animals are abused and exploited in science, business, schools, the entertainment industry, and the U.S. Government. It is published by Prentice-Hall and sells for $5.95 plus 25¢ postage and handling.

The HSUS will arrange, upon request, to send a copy to any church or library. Simply mail a check or money order for $6.20 to The HSUS with a note giving the full name and address of the institution.

Humane society personnel begin unloading shipment of dogs stopped in East Windsor Township, N. J. Entire cargo had been neglected by drivers during journey from Oklahoma. All needed food and water badly.
HOW A RODEO FAILED

By Mrs. Horatio A. Spector

(Mrs. Spector is a director of the Charleston Humane Association, Charleston, West Va. The Society is an HSUS affiliate. Her personal account of how a rodeo can be stopped is given here to help other societies faced with this problem. Another HSUS affiliate, the Animal Welfare League of Northwestern Wis.—has also successfully campaigned to stop rodeos scheduled in its community.)

In October of 1967, five performances of a rodeo were scheduled to be held in Charleston, W. Va. The show emanated from Denver, Colo., under the auspices of the Rodeo Cowboys of America, but was sponsored locally, and was the first event of its kind to take place in Charleston. Fortunately, the advance publicity was so extensive that the Charleston Humane Association had time to plan a course of action to deal with the situation.

In the absence of any State Law against rodeos per se, the Charleston Humane Association looked up the law in the State Code governing cruelty to animals and found it to be well-written, broad in scope, and applicable to rodeo practices. To quote, in small part:

“If any person shall cruelly, unnecessarily or needlessly beat, torture, torment, mutilate, kill . . .”

Given this, preliminary work in preparing for the arrival of the rodeo con­ sist of six steps:

(1) Our officers visited the County Prosecutor and called his attention to this law and to the probability that inf­ ractions would occur at the upcoming rodeo. He dictated a sample warrant.

(2) The next went to the local Chief of Police and asked him (a) to have an adequate number of warrants printed; (b) to have officers available at all performances, prepared to serve warrants on any person at the show who is known to be a rodeo promoter or to his representative; and (c) to have the warrants read into evidence when arrested persons could be brought to court.

(3) The police judge was alerted to the situation so that he would be available to hear cases against people arrested. Many police would know his whereabouts at all times during the performances.

(4) A letter was sent to the National Humane Association asking for assistance to explain the situation and requesting their support, if needed. (The reply promptly, offering his cooperation and expressing his interest in en­ forcing the law.)

(5) Three of our staff supervised every performance at the chutes (this is vital with the warrants visible in their pockets).

(6) In an effort to inform the public, we ran an ad in a newspaper describing typical abuses that occurred in other rodeos and challenging local subscri­ ber and ticket-holders to “Watch this one and see.”

The result of this was that no warrants were served. In fact, a number of rodeo enthusiasts complained publically of the to­ meness and lack of thrust at the Charleston rodeo.

The rodeo people, who had been scheduled to give performances at sev­ eral other places in West Virginia, con­ ceded that they had been discouraged.

It is, of course, not possible to assess accurately how large a part of this fail­ ure was due to the threat of prompt and direct action by a local humane associa­ tion backed by the cooperation of local offi­ cials and police. It was, however, a good experience in working with the laws at hand currently.

Any Openings?

Does your society have career open­ ings for humane workers, ex­ perienced or inexperienced? Re­ quests for employment in animal welfare work are received regularly by The HSUS and we have com­ piled a list of potential employees.

We would like to put these indi­ viduals in touch with organizations with vacancies. Please, therefore, write The HSUS if you have an opening to fill, or when you have an opening to fill. Indicate the type of job (clerical, kennel worker, driver, or other) and salary range. It may be the best way to solve your employment problems.

USLSA Drafting Model State Law to Protect Many Kinds of Animals

The first meeting of the Committee on Animal Welfare of the United Live­ stock Sanitary Association (USLSA) was held in Boston, Mass., on July 22, Dr. John F. Quinn, President of USLSA and state veterinarian with the Michi­ gan Department of Agriculture, charged the committee with the responsibility of developing a model state law to protect all warm-blooded vertebrate animals kept in pet shops, pounds, and animal shelters.

Representatives of The HSUS, the American Humane Association, and the Animal Welfare Institute were among the participants.

The meeting was chaired by Dr. F. J. Mulhern, Deputy Administrator, Agri­ cultural Research Service, U.S. Depart­ ment of Agriculture. Dr. Earl Jones, also of Agricultural Research Service, USDA and chief enforcer of the pet­ napping law, Public Law 89-544, gave a report on its present status.

Participants agreed generally that stronger state laws are needed to pro­ tect animals used in biomedical research and for commercial purposes in pounds, pounds, and animal shelters. It was de­ cided to draft legislation which would close loopholes uncovered through experience with P.L. 89-544 and, at the same time, regulate the handling of ani­ mals for commercial purposes to assure their humane treatment.

The model law will also include the so-called “bunchers” who traffic in ani­ mals, intra-state, selling to larger de­alers for research laboratories. Committee members agreed that the stealing of pets for resale is at this level. USDA experience with P.L. 89-544 confirmed this: not a single case of a stolen animal could be proven in the Department’s investigation of 601 complaints.

A proposed model law is expected to be in final form for the next meeting on October 9.

BLOOD AND BRUTALITY IN TEXAS

Tethered coon is tossed from swinging barrel into the jaws of snaring, mapping dog to coon contest, Texas. Dog style. Coons are used continuously until they are killed.

Texas Coon Contests Continue; Officials Look the Other Way

Despite intensive efforts by the Texas Council for Wildlife Protection, The HSUS and other animal welfare orga­ nizations, the bloody and cruel “coon-­ on-a-log” contests and their variations are still going strong in Texas. Protests to state and local authorities, demands for enforcement of the anti-cruelty law which prohibits “catching or causing a fight” between animals, and extensive publicity have so far failed to stir the conscience of a state that seems bogged down in violence and brutality to an­ imals.

The efforts are not succeeding because authorities seem determined to look the other way whenever illegal coon contests are scheduled in a community.

Time after time, the Texas Council for Wildlife Protection and other organiza­ tions have called official attention to scheduled events and no action has been taken. It is as if the authorities are try­ ing to preserve this illegal cruelty as some kind of precious heritage. It is, also of course, impossible for humane officials to obtain arrest warrants with­ out cooperation of the law enforcement agencies.

One of the most recent of these series of events took place in July in Gateville, Texas. When humanitarian efforts to stop it were unsuccessful, the Texas Council for Wildlife Protection arranged for photographs of the events to show how cruel and brutal they are. Some of these pictures are reproduced here, not to shock humanitarians, but as a means of educating an unknowing public to the terrible suffering and fear that is involved. Perhaps, in this way, enough public indignation and protest can be aroused to force Texas law enforcement officials to act.

Gateville, where these events took place, is about 90 miles from Johnson City, home of President Lyndon B. Johnson.

If your society is having difficulty with any problem relating to ani­ mal welfare, seek help from The HSUS. Expert advice is available on all aspects of society and shelter management. Write The HSUS Service Department, Washington, D. C. 20036.

New Jersey May Outlaw Release of Impounded Animals to Research

Before recessing on June 24, the New Jersey Assembly passed a bill, A.B. 693, specifically prohibiting the release of impounded animals to research labora­ tories. Unfortunately, the bill did not reach a vote in the Senate. Senate action is expected, however, when the legisla­ tive recesses in November.

Passage of A.B. 693 is important be­ cause persistent efforts have been made by the state Department of Health to require release of animals to research institutions. The HSUS New Jersey Branch and other humane organizations have consistently, and so far success­ fully, opposed these attempts. The dan­ ger continues to exist, however.

Humanitarians in New Jersey may wish to make their wishes known to their state Senators and Assemblymen and to Assemblyman John F. Brown, Chairman of the Committee on County and Municipal Government. All may be addressed at the State House, Trenton, New Jersey.
Come to the Conference

Have you made your reservation for the 1968 HSUS National Leadership Conference? If not, it is time to do so now. The dates are October 4-6. The place is the Marriott Motor Hotel, Saddle Brook, New Jersey.

All parts of the conference program are planned to be deeply interesting to every humanitarian and to achieve progress in reducing suffering. Problems that mean the most currently to the American humane movement will be the meat of this year's meeting.

What local humane societies can do to protect livestock in their areas will be a prominent subject. Equal attention will be given to the operation of Public Law 89-544, the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act, and how societies can work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture against laboratory suppliers who are violating the law.

An interesting and important seminar on humane education in American classrooms is planned. Valuable recommendations will be made on how societies can work toward the introduction of humane education in schools. Also included will be discussion of a new junior humane education program prepared by The HSUS and the National Humane Education Center.

The progress of laboratory animal legislation will be reported and an analysis made of the steps that remain to be taken to achieve this important objective.

Protection and preservation of wildlife and the role of humane organizations in this area will also be examined in depth.

Saturday night, October 5, will be the big night of the conference. This is the time of the annual awards banquet when outstanding humanitarians are honored for their work.

There is a registration fee of $5 per person for individuals attending any or all daily sessions even if not staying at the hotel. This fee is, however, included in the $15 banquet and registration fee.

Please, therefore, plan to attend this interesting and exciting meeting. Remember that everyone is cordially invited. You need not be a member of The HSUS to attend. But don't delay; use the coupon below today!

The Humane Society of the United States
1145 Nineteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Please reserve for me for the 1968 HSUS National Leadership Conference the type room I have checked below.

I enclose my banquet and registration fee, $15. (NOTE: Send no other money. You pay the hotel for room accommodations and other charges when you check out. The room rates below are given here only for your information.)

SINGLE OCCUPANCY BEDROOM, per day, per person, $16
TWIN OCCUPANCY BEDROOM, per day, per person, $11

(In requesting any of these accommodations, give time of arrival, date, and length of stay.)

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