

# Dr. Michael Fox Joins HSUS

## Nationally Known Animal Behavioral Psychologist To Direct New Institute



Fox With Fox

In announcing the appointment of Dr. Fox as Director of The Institute for the Study of Animal Problems, John Hoyt, President of The HSUS said, "The HSUS is indeed most fortunate to engage as the director of its Institute a person who has so uniquely combined the disciplines of science and the broad dimensions of humanitarian concerns." ISAP will be unique in the field of animal welfare. Under the direction of Dr. Fox, the Institute plans to seek "definitive solutions" to several of the major problems occurring when man and the other animals meet.

Born in Bolton, England, Dr. Fox is well known for his regular column in *McCall's* magazine, his nationally syndicated newspaper column *Ask Your Vet*, and his many appearances on TV and radio talk shows. The March, 1976 issue of *People* magazine devoted 2 pages to an interview with Fox on the subject of neurotic pets.

Michael Fox graduated from the Royal Veterinary College and London University. His most recent position was Associate Professor of Psychology at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

When asked how he became so interested in animals Dr. Fox related, "my parents did not infect me with fears and suspicions about animals." He spent many happy childhood days playing with and observing the animals that lived in and around a local pond.

In speaking about the Institute, Dr. Fox pointed out that he hopes to work with any and all groups that are involved with animals. "We don't want the Institute to reflect one organization's opinions and goals," he said. "We want ISAP to be a catalyst for all groups so

there will be a free flow of information and ideas which will be studied in order to find real solutions to the many problems man has caused for the other animals."

In pursuit of this objective, ISAP will focus its work in the following areas:

- 1. Euthanasia Techniques and Practices** will be studied to determine how best to perform this task.
- 2. Laboratory Practices** will be studied with the goal of reducing the numbers of animals used and the substitution of other methods not requiring the use of living creatures, especially use of animals in biomedical education.
- 3. Public Attitudes and Humane Educational Methods.** A sociological analysis of public attitudes and values vis a vis animal rights, humane values and conservation, and of present methods employed in the humane movement to change public attitudes.
- 4. Dog and Cat Population Control**, with particular emphasis upon the development of a method or methods of non-surgical sterilization.
- 5. Animal Transportation** will also be investigated with an eye toward the development of safe, injury free systems and vehicles.
- 6. Slaughter Techniques and Practices.** While laws do exist concerning slaughter, ISAP plans to seek out new techniques with emphasis on the humane aspects of slaughter.

In addition, trapping, predator control, animals in entertainment such as rodeos and zoos, livestock handling practices, wildlife management, and other problem areas will also be studied.