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Rocky Mountain Regional News

HSUS Opposes Predator Killing

The Rocky Mountain Regional Office was the only group to testify against predator control programs before a recent hearing conducted by Rep. Gunn McKay (D-Utah).

The hearing was conducted in response to mounting pressure from livestock producers to once again allow the use of chemical poisons on public lands.

Many sheep and cattle ranchers are maintaining that they will be out of business unless they can revert to the use of poisons to control coyotes. President Nixon last February banned the use of all poisons on public lands, largely as a result of pressure from The Humane Society of the United States and other conservation and ecological groups.

HSUS Regional Director F. L. Dantzler said at the hearing that the poison program had been a failure since its inception in 1931, as evidenced by the steady increase in the amount of poisons
(Continued on next page)

Regional Office to Provide Expertise to Area Groups

The Humane Society of the United States established the Rocky Mountain Regional Office on July 1 to provide better service to Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, and Idaho.

Frantz L. Dantzler, executive director of the HSUS Utah Branch, was

Predator Authority Joins Region Staff

HSUS's authority on predators and the government's predator control programs has been named field service representative for the HSUS Rocky Mountain Regional Office.

Hal Perry served as HSUS wildlife representative, working out of Phoenix, Ariz., for 1½ years before joining the Rocky Mountain Regional Office last July. The facts that he collected were a key part of the HSUS suit against the U. S. Department of the Interior, which HSUS believes was instrumental in

(Continued on next page)

appointed director of the new regional office. (Most of the activities conducted by the Utah Branch will be carried out by the new Humane Society of Utah.)

Dantzler has had extensive experience in the humane movement, having begun his work with the Boulder County (Colo.) Humane Society 10 years ago.

In appointing Dantzler to the regional position, HSUS President John A. Hoyt said the Rocky Mountain area is perhaps the most challenging area in the nation because of "Wild West" attitudes that too often fail to take the welfare of animals into consideration.

Dantzler said that his experience in Utah had convinced him that animal welfare problems in the West are as diverse as the land itself and that animal cruelty is completely unchecked in many areas, particularly those where no organized humane group exists.

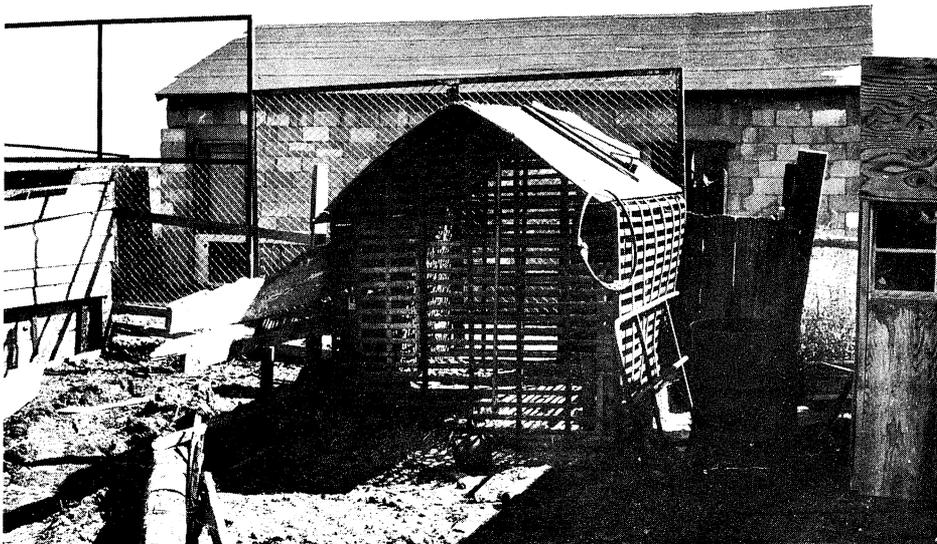
Through the Rocky Mountain Regional Office, HSUS plans to provide counsel and assistance to organized humane groups working on a state or local level and to assist in the formation of new groups.

Dantzler said he is encouraged to learn that municipal officials in many communities are becoming increasingly concerned with the need for good animal control programs. He and his staff have already met with officials in several communities to offer their assistance in planning and implementing such programs.

Although office activities will be directed at the entire range of animal
(Continued on next page)



Dantzler



An old jail house first used in the late 1800's, and currently being used as a dog pound by the city of Tooele, Utah, was the subject of investigation recently by the Rocky Mountain Regional Office and the Humane Society of Utah. After several meetings with city and county officials, the old "pound" is to be replaced with a new facility. The unfiltered carbon monoxide chamber used for the destruction of pets has been destroyed and humane methods have been initiated. Officials are confident new construction will begin soon in an effort to complete the structure before winter.

DANTZLER Continued

problems, Dantzler said his first four months on the job had already convinced him that the greatest need in the region is to improve and establish satisfactory animal shelters and pounds.

The preservation of wild animals is particularly important in the Rocky Mountain Region, however, Dantzler said. The importance of working in this area of concern was emphasized in September when the regional office was the only organization to testify against the killing of coyotes at a public hearing.

The office will also work to prosecute any persons or group of persons within the region who flagrantly violate anti-cruelty laws. "Because we realize that enforcement of anti-cruelty laws is a stop-gap measure," Dantzler said, "we plan to establish educational programs in as many communities as possible to teach kindness to children."

Dantzler said he is confident that the HSUS Rocky Mountain Regional Office will be able to make the region a better place to live, for both man and animals alike.

"We need the help of all concerned, caring residents," Dantzler said. "I urge anyone with an interest in the welfare of animals and the practice of kindness by man to join with us in this undertaking."

The regional office is located at 455 E. 4th St. S., Suite 212A, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111 (801-364-3332).

PERRY Continued

forcing the President last February to ban the use of all poisons on public lands.

Perry has campaigned against the predator control programs for more than 20 years, having given up a successful general engineering business in recent years to devote full time to his objective of protecting coyotes from needless

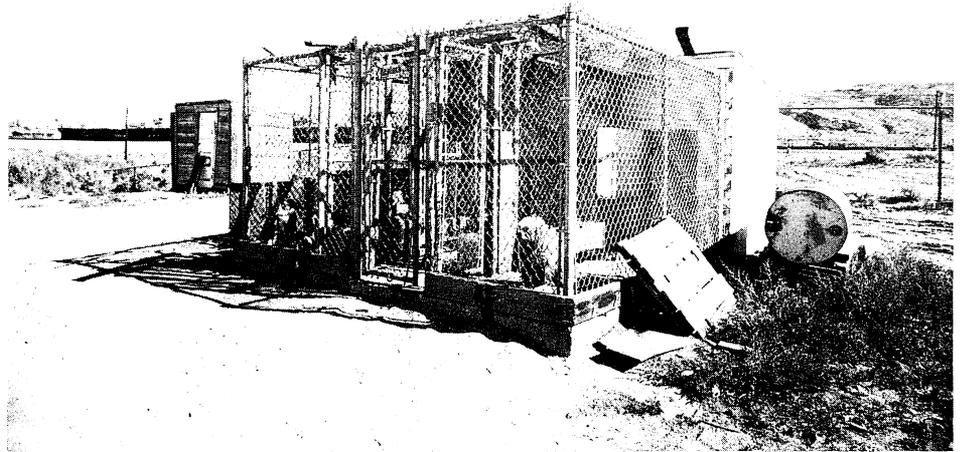


Perry

and inhumane destruction.

Perry's work will be broader than wildlife concerns, however. He will assist state and local humane societies in the prosecution of cruelty cases involving both domestic and wild animals.

HSUS, Town Officials Cooperate in Wyoming



The Rocky Mountain Regional Office has been working with city officials of Rock Springs, Wyo., to help them reorganize the municipal animal control program and build a new animal shelter.

HSUS initiated contact with the officials in September after receiving a report of inhumane conditions and practices at the city pound (above). During its investigation, HSUS discovered the city was disposing of surplus animals by shooting them.

"Municipal officials have been receptive to our suggestions for a sweeping reform program," said Regional Director F. L. Dantzler. "They are considering the adoption of a new animal control ordinance, they have instituted a humane method of euthanasia for unwanted animals, and they are drafting plans for a new shelter."

Such progress is exactly what we hope to achieve in every community we deal with, Dantzler said.

PREDATORS Continued

used and the increase in demands by ranchers for protection.

Now, Dantzler said, the sheepmen have launched a major campaign to get poisons reintroduced. But he charged that the statistics of sheep losses to predators that ranchers cite to justify the need are questionable. He quoted from a questionnaire on predator losses that appeared in a sheep industry publication stating that

all questionnaires would be destroyed after tabulation to avoid release of information listed on them.

Dantzler said The Humane Society not only opposes poisoning but many of the alternative methods now being used, as well.

"Many of the methods, particularly the steel jaw traps, produce indescribable pain and suffering to its victims, and, like poison, are almost completely indiscriminate in choosing its prey," he said.

HSUS Rocky Mountain Regional Office
455 East-4th South, Suite 212A, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

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