Humane Livestock Handling

by Temple Grandin

The livestock industry loses $46,000,000 every year due to bruises on the animals, according to the Livestock Conservation Institute. This is one indication of the amount of injuries suffered by cattle, sheep, and pigs in stockyards and meat packing plants, and during transportation to the plants. Aside from injuries, the animals can also suffer an enormous amount of stress from overcrowding and abusive handling.

Poorly designed facilities and stockyards which do not take into account the physical and psychological characteristics of the animals can cause stress and injuries. When animals bALK at moving through the chutes or up the ramps leading to slaughter, handlers may use electric prods to force them to move. The overuse of electric prods is a major cause of cattle becoming bruised because they get riled up, ram fences, and get trampled on. The human factor in this cannot be overlooked, but better equipment which encourages the animals to move along instead of causing them to balk will reduce the need to use prods.

Well designed equipment will help reduce stress on the animals because they will move more easily through the facility with a minimum of excitement. When the animals move easily without balking, they are less likely to be abused by impatient handlers. Knowledge of livestock behavior is essential in order to design equipment which will reduce stress. Natural livestock behaviors can be utilized to facilitate the flow of animals through a chute or alley.

Cow Psychology

Cattle, sheep, and hogs have wide angle vision. Cattle and sheep have a 360° visual field. Cattle and other grazers such as deer are equipped with wide angle vision so they can see a predator coming while they have their heads down grazing. In fact, a cow can see behind her without turning her head.

This is why a cow can be easily spooked by a moving object. Livestock handling facilities such as the single file chute, which leads to the stunning pen, should have high, solid sides. Solid sides prevent the animals from seeing people, cars, and other moving objects outside the chute, which may frighten them and cause them to balk.

With wide angle vision, cattle have very little ability to judge distances. This lack of depth perception is one of the reasons a cow is likely to refuse to cross a shadow. The cow’s reluctance to cross areas of bright and dark contrast is one of the reasons a cattle guard works.

The effect is so strong that the highway departments in Colorado and Oregon merely paint the lines across the highway instead of building real cattle guards. Livestock handling facilities should be designed to eliminate areas of sharp contrasts in light. The lighting should be even and diffuse, and animal areas should be painted one solid, uniform color.

Most livestock have a strong following instinct. In order to take advantage of this, the animals should always be able to see other animals in front of them. If several single file chutes are placed side by side, the animals may refuse to cross the chutes should be constructed from bars. This enables the animals in one chute to see other animals in an adjacent chute. When an animal moves forward, the animals in the adjacent chute will follow. The two outside chute fences should be solid to block outside distractions such as shiny truck bumpers or blowing paper, which might spook the animals.

Experience has shown that curved chutes are more efficient than straight chutes. Cattle will follow a curved path more readily than a straight one. The curved chute enables the animal to circle the handler in a natural manner. In a curved chute with high, solid sides, the animal will only be able to see the animal in front of it disappearing around the bend. The elimination of distractions and the animal’s follow-the-leader instinct will help move it through the lane without harassment from the handlers.

Studies have also shown that the shape of a livestock holding pen at a slaughter plant may be just as important as the number of square feet allotted per animal. A long narrow pen has more perimeter fence in relation to floor area than a square pen. This provides each animal with more fenceline space. Observations indicate that livestock prefer to lie along the fenceline because it gives them a feeling of more space. The long narrow holding pen may help reduce stress.
Equipment Improvements

There are certain instances where an improvement in equipment will drastically reduce bruises and injuries. A trucking company was able to reduce bruises by modifying the doors on the trucks used to haul the cattle to the plant. When the cattle exited from the trucks they would hit their hips on the door frame. This would result in a large bruise on the loin. The slaughter plant owner had the trucker modify the doors so that they would slide at the top and narrow at the bottom. This forced the cattle to walk through the middle of the door and thus avoid striking the hip.

Another example of a modification which prevented bruises was the installation of a truck scale at a slaughter plant for weighing cattle that were hauled to this truck. This eliminated the extra handling and stress of unloading and working the animals across the scale in the stockyards. The truck scale paid for itself in bruise reduction in six months. Bruised meat cannot be used for human consumption. The scale also reduced labor requirements.

Changing and modifying chutes which are used to restrain animals for stunning can often greatly improve the humaneness of the operation and reduce bruises. This is especially true in plants which use a stunning pen where two cattle are placed in a single compartment. When one animal is stunned, the other live animal will often step on it and cause bruises. This type of pen is also very dangerous for the employees. Employees shackle cattle from this stunning pen were suffering an average of two serious injuries, such as broken arms, per year.

Replacement of the double two stunning pen with a conveyor restrainer system, where the animals are conveyed in a continuous line, greatly reduced bruises and practically eliminated injuries to the employees. The conveyor restrainer system is one of the most humane systems for restraining cattle or hogs for stunning. The conveyor restrainer was completely paid for within two years from the savings of reduced bruises.

Rough Handling

The number one cause of bruises is rough handling. The prevention of bruises is mainly a matter of preventing people from using rough, abusive methods of handling. Good equipment will help prevent bruises, but equipment will not solve the problem. The bruise problem has tended to increase during the last five years. People are the cause of over 50% of all bruises. Observations indicated that a few very rough people inflict a high percentage of all the bruises. The worst cruelties are inflicted by people, and it is impossible to build equipment which will prevent a cruel person from being cruel. I have witnessed people doing some really terrible things to animals, such as ramming a stick down a cow's throat. In these instances, the individual person should be severely punished, not the company the person works for. Fining a slaughter plant $2,000 is like giving you a $2.00 parking ticket. A stiff fine to the individual who was cruel would put an end to many of these acts.

Kosher Slaughter

One of the most serious cruelty problems in slaughter plants is the pre-slaughter handling of large (over 1000 lb.) steers in kosher plants. Federal health laws require that no animal fall in the blood of another animal after slaughter. Kosher slaughter requires that an animal be conscious when slaughtered. To meet both requirements, most U.S. kosher plants shackle the animal by a hind leg and hoist it off the ground while it is still conscious, then slaughter it. With large steers, this process results in great pain. At one plant, the bellows of the animals could be heard from the front office. In some instances, the shackling chain can break the animal's leg.

The ASPCA pen used to restrain large steers for kosher slaughter in some plants is an improvement over shackling and hoisting conscious animals, but there have been some problems with it. It is a complex piece of equipment and requires a very skilled operator to operate it humanely. In the hands of a careless operator, it can apply excessive pressure to the backbone and neck and cause more carcass damage and broken legs than shackling and hoisting.

Better restraining equipment is needed. I have been working on designing better equipment for large cattle. The University of Connecticut has developed a prototype restrainer for kosher slaughter of sheep and calves. Connecticut Feeders Supply Company has also worked on this. These projects were funded by the Council for Livestock Protection, of which The HSUS is a member.

Good equipment concepts are available. It is now mainly a matter of finding a plant and installing a complete working system. Plants which slaughter kosher are reluctant to spend money on equipment because the kosher market is so variable. A plant can be in the kosher business one month and out of it the next.

There are a few well established kosher plants which could be good candidates for either a large animal or a small animal system.

Better, more humane equipment would also help reduce employee injuries. In one large kosher plant which shackled and hoisted employees had to wear football helmets to avoid being kicked by terrified cattle.

Humane livestock handling is both morally and economically sensible. Facilities designed with the animal's needs and characteristics in mind can help eliminate stress and injuries. It is most important that the people who handle the animals and run the equipment have a respectful attitude toward the livestock. Strong enforcement of current laws on humane slaughter will be another factor in improving livestock handling. Animals do not suffer before slaughter, and every effort should be made to prevent any cruelty in the process.
NEW ACCREDITATIONS ANNOUNCED

From the left, Anna Fesmire, Chairman of HSUS’ Accreditations Committee, with Terri Lauer and Mickey Dorey, ARK Humane Education Services.

ARK Humane Education Services
ARK Humane Education Service of Warren, Michigan, is the first unsheltered society accredited by the HSUS. ARK devotes all its resources to preventing cruelty to animals through humane education. In the words of its membership brochure, “The organizers of ARK saw many humane societies, all dealing with the result of the surplus pet problem. Very little emphasis was placed on reaching the public on a wide scale.” To fill this gap, ARK was formed.

ARK reaches the public through literature, film, and personal appearances in schools, shopping centers, libraries, churches, and other public places. Newspapers in the area regularly receive ARK press releases on such topics as dog licensing, surplus pets, heartworm, and traveling with pets. In addition, ARK distributes public service messages to television and radio stations in the Detroit area.

In all, during 1977-78, ARK distributed almost 9000 pieces of literature, reached over 20,000 people through film showings and personal appearances, and reached many, many more through newspaper, radio, and television.

ARK stands for Action, Respect, and Kindness for animals. This all-volunteer organization truly lives up to its name.

The Humane Society of St. Joseph County
Training is a large part of the secret of success at the Humane Society of St. Joseph County in Mishawaka, Indiana. The training begins with a 45 page manual for the staff that covers job descriptions, policies and procedures to be followed in dealing with the public and the animals. It continues with monthly staff training sessions held by Executive Director Phil Snyder. The result is a conscientious and skilled staff giving the best of care to the animals that come through the shelter.

In a letter to the St. Joseph society announcing their accreditation, HSUS President John Hoyt said “In every category of our program requirements for accreditation, your society has received exceptionally high marks.”

Two years ago, the St. Joseph shelter was far from being the well-run facility it is today. A series of newspaper articles written by Gayle Zuhler, a local reporter, prompted action. The society’s staff and management were to be congratulated for showing what great strides can be taken in a short time when people really care.

At the Humane Society of Smith County’s shelter is large, clean, and sunny.

The Humane Society of Smith County
One of the best assets a humane society can have is an active, aware Board of Directors. The Humane Society of Smith County, in Tyler, Texas, has such a board. Members of the board can often be seen around the shelter, and frequently participate in special events and fund raising activities of the society. One result of having a board that really cares what happens at the shelter is having excellent care for the animals sheltered there.

The Smith County Humane Society also does an excellent job of educating the public in animal care and animal welfare problems. Throughout the shelter there are displays describing and illustrating these problems, telling individuals what they can do to help solve them. Classes of school children can take scheduled tours of the facility, learning a great deal about cruelty and kindness to animals.

Under Executive Director Mickey Dorey, the shelter staff handles all the animals picked up by animal control in Smith County. The shelter itself is well designed and well maintained to furnish clean, comfortable quarters for the animals. In all aspects of this operation, the Humane Society of Smith County is an excellent example of what The HSUS Accreditation program is all about—people doing the best job possible for the animals and their community.

The cat exercise area at the Humane Society of Smith County’s shelter.

The Pet Overpopulation Problem Can be Solved!

Ending the cruelty and suffering resulting from the pet overpopulation explosion has been a major focus of The HSUS since its beginning. Year after year, millions of unwanted pets are euthanized. In addition, millions of stray dogs die of disease or injury.

According to Phyllis Wright, HSUS Director of Animal Sheltering, the pet overpopulation problem is a people problem. Responsible owners who leash, license, and neuter their pets will be the solution to the pet overpopulation problem. It’s the job of animal control agencies and humane societies to help create such owners.

Some communities with aggressive animal control programs have seen decreases in impounded dogs and cats that must be impounded and destroyed. One of the best documented is that of the Vancouver Regional Branch of the British Columbia SPCA in Canada. Under the direction of C. Jack Holmes, The Vancouver Branch has developed a two-part program to induce and encourage pet owners to be more responsible.

OPERATION TATTOO
The Vancouver Branch operates seven shelters, and is directly involved with animal control in seven other municipalities. Operation Tattoo was instituted because statistics showed that 72% of the dogs entering Vancouver’s jurisdiction had no form of identification.

A policy decision was made in 1974 that all dogs adopted from the Branch’s shelters must be tattooed. Other shelters can be required to tattoo their impounded pets than to the abstract problem of pet overpopulation. With this in mind, the clinic emphasizes the benefits of healthier, more affectionate pets, with less urge to roam and fight. The clinic has been fully booked since it opened in 1976. It was financially viable after two months of operation.

The Vancouver Branch recently issued a summary of animal control statistics for 1976 and 1977. The summary compares statistics from the eight municipalities participating in the low cost spay/neuter clinic with those of two municipalities which do not participate. The summary makes the following observations:

- Impoundments of non-participating municipalities showed an increase of 41% (partly because of the municipalities employed additional staff) while participating municipalities showed a decrease of 15%.
- Non-participating municipalities had 39% of impounded dogs reclaimed, while participating municipalities showed an average of 58% of impounded dogs reclaimed.
- The number of surplus animals euthanized increased by 37% in the non-participating municipalities, while decreasing by 27% in the participating municipalities.

These statistics clearly show that a comprehensive animal control program can have a definite impact in reducing the suffering created by pet overpopulation. Legislation, education, and sterilization are the keys to the creation of a community of responsible pet owners.

The HSUS believes that the pet population problem can be solved by each community initiating a comprehensive animal control plan including spay/neuter programs and other measures designed to encourage pet owner responsibility.

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**Dog Poisoning**

A reprint of the enclosed guest editorial in your magazine will be greatly appreciated. Interested parties should write their letters of protest to: Lio Rodrigo Carazo, Presidente, Republica De Costa Rica, Casa Presidential, San Jose, Costa Rica. Your cooperation in this respect would be of tremendous help to put an end to this massacre.

Dr. Gonzalo Vargas Aguilar
President National Animal Protection Association Costa Rica

Ed. Note: As requested by Dr. Aguilar, the following is an excerpt from a guest editorial in The Tico Times, from San Jose, Costa Rica.

Once again, the Ministry of Health has ordered the poisoning of dogs. Despite the fact that the Ministry’s poisoners receive only enough poison to kill a dog owner to which he has been brought from the United States and were allowed to make comments on its collar.

I know several Ministry of Health inspectors who carry out this task. The only way they can conceive of terminating this operation, as long as it is done by a professional.

The National Animal Protection Association is ready to channel all its efforts toward the construction of a shelter, which will fill a great need in our community and would place our country on a par with the most civilized nations in the world.

Hilda Isabel Duran Umana
National Animal Protection Inspector National Animal Protection Association

**TUNA BOYCOTT TO CONTINUE**

In the Summer issue of The HSUS News, members were asked to give their opinions on continuing the tuna boycott in light of progress made by the tuna industry to save porpoises. Of the 121 responses received, 96% said they would continue the boycott, while 206 felt it was time to discontinue it.

While the total number of responses was low, the trend toward continuing the boycott was very definite. Many of those who voted to continue even underlined their reply to make it more emphatic. Many added comments such as the following:

"I don’t feel that any porpoise should be killed just because they swim over tuna. Until someone comes up with a better way of capturing tuna, I think the boycott should remain."

"I feel that discontinuing the boycott at this point would be premature. While the tuna industry seems to be cooperating in efforts to save the porpoise, the legal quotas of 31,500 and more are still far too high."

"If the boycott is lifted, the tuna industry will relax and we are giving up too much and they will slow their efforts, or maybe quit cooperating altogether. Keep it up!"

"Even if the boycott were ‘officially’ off, I (and probably many others) would want to buy a product that kills dolphins or harasses them in the chase."

"No more of these intelligent, helpful efforts! People who are scared should be murdered horribly in the tuna nets."

Even among those who voted to discontinue the boycott, many included provisos which showed they still desired the number of porpoise being killed per ton of tuna fish caught to be reduced. "I think the tuna boycott should be discontinued because it has served its purpose. The tuna industry has finally realized the seriousness of an animal’s life, and the humanist’s seriousness to protect that. The job is not complete, though, until not one life is wasted, and I think the tuna industry should also realize we haven’t forgotten about them.”

"Discontinue—with the understanding that the boycott will be re instituted if the industry does not continue its efforts to further reduce porpoise kill."

"If they (the tuna industry) are going to make an effort to save the dolphins, we should back them up and give them our support and call off the boycott. If things slide back to the way they were and the dolphin kill goes higher again, I’m ready to go on another boycott no matter how many years it takes.”

Many of the votes to discontinue were influenced by the paradox that a healthy U.S. tuna industry is our best hope for the development of humane fishing techniques that will save more porpoise. If the U.S. tuna industry were to fail, foreign ships would probably increase their tuna fishing to take up the slack. Since foreign ships are generally less regulated and perhaps less motivated to save porpoise, any increase in their activities could mean an increase in porpoise killed.

The HSUS suggests that respondents who voted for a boycott on foreign tuna only. Unfortunately, it is impossible to distinguish between tuna caught by foreign ships and that from U.S. ships. Canning companies buy from all sources, so when tuna gets mixed together. In addition, by law since January, 1978, no foreign tuna has been allowed into the U.S. except from ships which have adopted U.S. porpoise gear and rescue techniques.

The tuna industry does deserve congratulations for its recent efforts toward saving porpoise, and its success in significantly lowering the number of porpoise killed to 13,500 as of November, 1978, as compared to 29,600 last year and 112,000 in 1976.

However, the industry is becoming less efficient and the number of porpoise being killed per ton of tuna fish caught has risen toward the end of the year. No one is sure why this has happened. In addition, the data is not yet available from the special year, million dollar research cruise being conducted by the tuna industry, so we are unsure if any breakthrough has been made which will reduce porpoise mortality even further.

Therefore, The Humane Society of the United States will continue to call for a boycott of tuna products through 1979. During this time, HSUS will continue to monitor the tuna industry’s performance—measured by total porpoise kill and its good faith—measured by its efforts to develop techniques that will save all porpoise from death at the hand of tuna fishermen. We want to be sure the lower porpoise kill is a trend, and not just a one-time event.
Dig and Uncle Bert died while trying to protect their families.

Dig and Uncle Bert were two members of a group of free-ranging mountain gorillas being studied by researcher Dian Fossey, a remarkable woman who has devoted her life to the study and protection of gorillas in the Parc des Volcans of Rwanda and Parc des Virungas of Zaire in Africa.

In the past year, poachers have brutally killed and mutilated several of these gorillas. Digit was speared to death, and his head and hands cut off, apparently to be sold to collectors. Fossey reports that an African dealing in animal goods was offering $20.00 for the head and hands of a silverback gorilla.

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Instead of decapitating Digit, the trainer's decision was to try to protect the remaining gorillas and track down the poachers. With the help of police inspectors and military commandoes, several of the poachers have been apprehended, and at least two were given ten year prison sentences.

Relief Sought for Animal Actors

Fame may be fun for the people who star in movies, but animal actors seldom benefit from their time in the limelight.

Animals in films have been shot, burned, ridden over cliffs, and made to fight to the death with other animals, all to achieve the special effect the director called for.

Since the HSUS Wildlife Director Sue Pressman has investigated how animals are used, and often abused, in the entertainment industry, Pressman found “It is up to the animal trainer to protect his animals from stress or injury. Unfortunately, too many trainers go along with whatever the movie maker wants, figuring if it doesn’t do it, someone else will.”

Pressman wrote the Animal Trainer's Code printed above in an effort to outline standards of humane care for animal performers. Aside from the minimum standards of the Animal Welfare Act, this is the first such code to be written. Pressman will be meeting with a number of trainers this winter, and will solicit their cooperation in adopting this Code for their own operations.

Not all abuses covered in the code are obvious. The use of anesthetics to make animals appear unconscious is one such example. Any time an animal is anesthetized, there is a danger that the drug will kill it. It is not necessary to take this risk to make a movie. By spending more money, an animal model can be made that is so lifelike the viewer can’t tell it from the real thing.

An example of this can be seen in the movie “The Wiz.” At one point in the film, a little dog runs into a field of poppies, becomes very sleepy, then loses consciousness.

The canine actor playing the part was taught to stumble and act sleepy, but it was impossible to teach the dog to simulate unconsciousness while being carried.

Instead of anesthetizing the dog, a stuffed model with fake fur was made and used for the filming. The dog trainer thus was able to protect his animal, and the real animal protected.

Another not-so-obvious problem is that the treatment animals receive at home when not involved in a production. “At home” for many performing dogs and cats means over-crowded, unsanitary cages. Wild animals with special space or nutritional needs often suffer from a lack of both. Some trainers have a high mortality rate among their animals because they don’t furnish veterinary care. This neglect is usually the result of trying to maximize profits by minimizing animal care expenses.

There are trainers who put their animal’s needs first, and suffer for doing so. HSUS hopes the Animal Trainer’s Code will encourage other trainers to look to the welfare of their animals.
Jackrabbit Roping Cancelled
by Mark Vogler

Mark Vogler, a reporter for The Midland Reporter-Telegram, covered the cancellation of the jackrabbit roping contest in Odessa, Texas for his paper. Here, he reports on the event for The HSUS News. Vogler has worked as an investigative reporter for several west Texas newspapers and has also written articles on the jackrabbit controversy for the wire services.

On October 1, 1978, about ten news reporters converged on the Ector County Coliseum grounds in Odessa, Texas, to watch officials of the Permian Basin Fair and Exposition stage the annual World Championship Jackrabbit Roping Contest in defiance of legal threats by The Humane Society of the United States.

Most of the reporters were disappointed. There was no confrontation, no field day for the media. The contest was cancelled.

HSUS investigators Marc Paulhus and Rich McCracken had advised fair and county officials on the eve of the event that The Society planned to file criminal complaints under the state's anti cruelty statutes if the event took place as planned.

Although fair officials attributed the cancellation of the contest to their inability to find enough jack rabbits, Paulhus said, "It seems to me they could have rounded up enough rabbits if they really wanted to go ahead with the event. They could have even purchased the rabbits from one of the local jackrabbit contractors." Paulhus was referring to local merchants who send mass shipments of jackrabbits from the Midland-Odessa area to other states for use as live bait in greyhound coursing.

The present day contest is a revival of a sport last held in 1932. That year, animal protectionists succeeded in urging the Ector County Sheriff to issue an injunction to stop the rabbit roping. However, County Judge Henry E. Webb at the time enabled the show to go on when he decreed that "a jackrabbit is not an animal, but a rodent or a pest." He issued a restraining order against the sheriff.

I saw the event in 1977, and found that some contestants weren't content to rope the rabbits. A few cowboys delighted in jerking the rabbits in the air. One man stretched a rabbit's neck in full view of youngsters. Another rabbit was trampled to death by the hoof of a horse as one contestant tried to lasso a rabbit from the saddle. The rabbits were still quivering an hour after the event. Some were bleeding.

Part of the folklore of the city is the how grown men got their kicks roping jackrabbits while traveling over the desert terrain in jeeps. Out of this grew the annual fair's jackrabbit roping contest. A number of jackrabbits are released in a 40 by 40 foot fenced area, while entrants vie to lasso one in the shortest time. Contestants are supposed to release the rope after loop ing it around the animal's neck.

The HSUS investigation, it was learned that one airline serving Odessa shipped out about 1000 rabbits in approximately one month to several other states.

The issue of cruelty remains a primary concern for The HSUS. Fair officials denied that the roping contest constituted cruelty to animals, but The Humane Society investigators disagreed. "We view this event as a clear violation of Article 13 of the Texas Animal Code," said Paulhus, "and will definitely take action for any animal cruelty acts if the rabbits are tortured, abused, killed, or injured in any way.

While the cancellation of this year's event was viewed as a victory by the investigators, they realize the roping contest may be scheduled again next year. "I can assure you the event will not happen again," said McCracken. "If they try to have it next year, we'll be back. We'll do everything in our power to see that it is stopped."

Meanwhile, The HSUS will continue its efforts to protect the west Texas jackrabbits from capture and shipment for use as live bait in greyhound coursing.
ANIMALS OR PEOPLE?

Those who care for animals are too often accused of loving animals more than people. The unfairness of this charge is deeply felt but sometimes difficult to express.

Lord Houghton of Sowerby, a member of the British Parliament and a long time champion of animal welfare issues, was recently faced with this charge. During a debate in the House of Lords on hare coursing, Lord Houghton disputed the charge. His expression of concern for all living things speaks for many of us.

With your Lordships’ permission, I want to avail myself of the opportunity on this occasion to refute the suggestion which came my way in the course of the debate on the Child Protection Bill Second Reading stage last month: namely, that I care for animals more than I care for children. I am by no means an animal lover. I have no obsessions; I do not equate animals with children, nor do I make them alternatives in my affections, my concern, or my work. They are a different species each with their rights and claims upon the living world. It is not a matter of priorities . . . of “either/or”, it is a matter of the moral standards of human beings, and those to me are all embracing and all pervasive. They are all that justifies the continued existence of mankind. I am not called upon to apo­portion my deepest feelings between children and animals. I care about all living things—and for the weak and helpless most of all.

Moreover, I have no obsessions; I am not a fanatic; I am not crazy. I reject the proposition that fondness for animals implies some lack of concern for human beings. Do I have to prove a love of children by being cruel to animals? Is the person who is cruel to animals likely to love children all the more? Is that the proposition, or is cruelty an evil streak in the nature of some humans which makes selfless love, whether for humans or animals, impossible?

When Queen Victoria was urging the Beardsey Park Zoo Pressman has visited that zoo six times since 1971. After the Oc­
tober inspection, she wrote to the Mayor of Bridgeport commenting “This letter is to register our dis­appointment and concern for this zoo. It appears to have fallen below the 1971 inspection when it was listed as one of the worst zoos in the country. The same problems that brought our condemnation seven years ago still exist.” Pressman re­commends closing the golden eagle and polar bear displays because “The displays teach nothing about the behavior or ecological importance of either species. There is, therefore, no justification for keeping these animals in captivity.”

The city of Springfield agreed to make the changes for Morganetta, and will seek additional expert consultation on changes in other parts of the zoo.

Commenting on the New Eng­
land zoo, Inman said “We hope to effect the changes so desperately needed in the care and use of ani­mals in all the zoos. But where the money and interest to create a really good zoo does not exist, we want to help them go gracefully out of business.”

New England Zoos Under HSUS Scrutiny

“Does the public need this zoo, want this zoo, and can they raise the funds and interest to support it?”

This was a key question for New England Regional Director John Inman and HSUS Director of Wildlife Protection Sue Pressman as they inspected nine New England zoos last October.

The itinerary included several Connecticut zoos: R.W. Commor­ford & Sons at Goshen, the Willing­ton Game Farm, the Children’s Mu­seum at West Hartford, Old McDonald’s Farm in Norwalk, the Beardsley Park Zoo in Bridgeport, and the Moran Nature Center and Zoo at New London. They also in­pected the Science Museum Zoo in Worcester, Massachusetts, the Roger Williams Park Zoo in Prov­idence, Rhode Island, and the Wal­ter Stone Zoo, in Stoneham, Mas­sachusetts.

The pair were particularly con­cerned about the Beardsley Park Zoo. Pressman has visited that zoo six times since 1971. After the Oc­tober inspection, she wrote to the Mayor of Bridgeport commenting “This letter is to register our dis­appointment and concern for this zoo. It appears to have fallen below the 1971 inspection when it was listed as one of the worst zoos in the country. The same problems that brought our condemnation seven years ago still exist.” Pressman rec­ommends closing the golden eagle and polar bear displays because “The displays teach nothing about the behavior or ecological importance of either species. There is, therefore, no justification for keeping these animals in captivity.”

The city of Springfield agreed to make the changes for Morganetta, and will seek additional expert consultation on changes in other parts of the zoo.

Commenting on the New Eng­land zoo, Inman said “We hope to effect the changes so desperately needed in the care and use of ani­mals in all the zoos. But where the money and interest to create a really good zoo does not exist, we want to help them go gracefully out of business.”

HSUS Director Wins State Election

Everrett Smith, Jr., of the HSUS Board of Directors, was elected to the Connecticut General Assembly in November.

Smith, a HSUS Director since 1965, will represent the 149th As­sembly District in the state House of Representatives. The district in­cludes Greenwich, where Smith resides.

Smith holds two important posts on The HSUS Board: Chairman of the Program and Policy Committee and Chairman of the Finance Com­mittee. He formerly served as vice­chairman and treasurer.

He has lived in the area he now represents for 31 years, and has lengthy business and management experience.

His community activities include 18 years as an active leader with the local Boy Scouts and 10 years as director of the Community Chest of Greenwich.

Smith’s concern for the welfare of his constituents goes hand-in-hand with his concern for the welfare of animals. HSUS looks forward to a long association with him as he of­fers his expertise in planning sound and successful animal protection programs for the future.

The lion display at the Walter Stone Zoo in Stoneham, Mass., doesn’t ed­ucate the viewer, and bores both the viewers and the lions by lack of va­riety in the environment.

The Humane Society News - Winter 1979
Changes at Corpus Christi

Phyllis Wright, president of HSUS and the Coastal Bend Humane Society have caused Corpus Christi, Texas officials to reconsider the method of euthanasia used in the city pound.

The pound presently uses injections of succinorcin, a drug that kills by paralyzing the muscles until suffocation occurs.

Regional Director Doug Scott and Phyllis Wright, HSUS Gulf Animal Sheltering and Controlling, attended a public meeting last May at which the Corpus Christi Health Director and the Animal Advisory Board discussed the euthanasia procedures at the pound.

Wright, the officials that studies on succinorcin had prompted the American Veterinary Association to remove their support of it for animal euthanasia.

Sissi Sweeney, President of the Coastal Bend Humane Society, has continued to urge the city officials to stop using this cruel method. As a result of these efforts it appears that the pound will change to a carbon monoxide gas chamber for all euthanasia.

Two law enforcement seminars were recently conducted by HSUS staff members in Nacogdoches and Corpus Christi, Texas.

Frantz Dantzler, chief investigator with HSUS, along with Rolando Bozic was assigned to Nacogdoches by Bernard Weller, former Gulf States Regional Field Representative and Howard Radford, manager of the Nacogdoches shelter. The event was sponsored by the Humane Society of Nacogdoches County.

Several law enforcement officials from several states participated.

Dantzler was working on HSUS's Board of Directors, who have worked together to introduce humane animal control legislation to the public school system in Utah. An integral part of their work was the preparation of a seminar curriculum, which was distributed throughout the metropolitan school districts in cooperation with teachers and the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education.

The seminar was held at the Gulf Animal Sheltering and Controlling.

Investigator Added to Rocky Mountain Staff

The staff of the new Rocky Mountain Regional Office expanded recently with the addition of Philip Steward as Field Investigator.

Steward came from the western states originally, but for the past several years has been working out of HSUS's headquarters office in Washington, D.C., doing cruelty investigations nationally. Before joining HSUS, Steward had worked in law enforcement and in animal control in California.

His new assignment will be to investigate complaints of cruelty, abuse, and neglect in the Rocky Mountain states, and work with the national investigations staff on cruelty cases in the other western states.

Regional Director Donald Cashen went to Salt Lake City in November to participate in Utah's celebration of Humane Education Week.

The public proclamation of this special week was the result of the efforts of Mrs. Carol Browning and Mrs. Riordan Browning, with the assistance of the Ogden Nature Center.

Carol Browning, left, and Donald Cashen, center, visit the Ogden Nature Center during Humane Education Week in Utah.

Great Lakes Regional Office Opens

For almost a year, Sandy Rowland has been HSUS's Great Lakes Regional Representative in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois on a part-time basis. Her effectiveness in the job increased the demands on her time.

Therefore, HSUS decided to increase the position. According to Charlotte Cashen, Rowland was named full time Director of the Great Lakes Regional Office, which opened January 1, 1979. The office is located at the Fairwood Animal Building, 725 Haskins Street, Green, Ohio 44340, telephone 419-352-8845.

Rowland has been involved in several cruelty investigations in the past few months. In Illinois, she has worked on problems with puppy mills where large numbers of animals suffer from close confinement in unsanitary facilities with inadequate diet and veterinary care.

She is currently working with the Illinois State Prosecutor's office to prevent animal cruelty and compel action against such establishments.

In one case, Rowland assisted the Lenawee County Humane Society in Tiffin, Ohio with a cruelty investigation. She also helped in the prosecution of the most recent conviction ever obtained by that society. The case involved a man who kept about 70 dogs on his property. Rowland reports that when she accompanied Humane Agent Steve Rosenberg to the property, she saw "emaciated dogs tied on short chains to dog houses and not receiving any regular veterinary care. Many dogs appeared to have symptoms of mange. Other dogs also appeared to have symptoms of distemper."

The owner was found guilty under Ohio's anti-cruelty laws. He was fined, but the fine was dropped when he agreed to dispose of all but ten dogs, the number that could be housed for the adoptable ones and euthanizing those that were very ill.

Rowland also has been working closely with the Toledo Humane Society, which handles animal control for the city. The society recently announced that it will shortly discontinue use of its decompression chamber, and switch to sodium pentobarbital as an euthanasia method.

New Laws Help California Animals

Several pieces of state legislation that the West Coast Regional Office staff worked hard on became law in California early in 1979. There is now a state law specifying that it is unlawful to kill or injure any animal in the process of making movies. Also passed was a law banning private citizens from keeping wild cat except house cats in the future.

Another law forces animal shelters to warn the public of the presence of animal shelters and providing information. Among the many places requesting help have been the Flor- ida counties of Hillsblour, Citrus, Manatee, Leon, and Orange. In Orange County, a two-day workshop in December was held on effective techniques for animal control.

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Southeast Office Assisting Shelters and Societies

In the past few months the Southeast Regional Office has been actively assisting local humane groups and municipal animal control agencies.

Brooks, mainly from Florida, Georgia, and Alabama, have been keeping Director Donald Coburn and Investigator Joanne Woodeman, of the Southeast Regional Office.

Their efforts have afforded shelters and providing guidance. Among the many places requesting help have been the Flor- ida counties of Hillsblour, Citrus, Manatee, Leon, and Orange. In Orange County, a two-day workshop in December was held on effective techniques for animal control.

In the early part of November, animal welfare and animal control workers from the southern states attended a HSUS sponsored workshop in Montgomery, Alabama.
ANIMAL RIGHTS

The Search for a Legal Definition

For the first time, the 1978 HSUS Annual Conference featured a workshop on the rights of animals. The discussion, titled "Can Animal Rights Be Legally Defined?", was conducted by Mr. Robert Welborn, Vice Chairman of the Board of HSUS and a practicing attorney in Denver, Colorado, and Murdaugh Stuart Madden, General Counsel of HSUS. Their thoughts form a background for the resolution, "Animal Rights and Human Obligations," adopted by the membership at the Conference. Below are excerpts from the remarks of Mr. Welborn, and Mr. Madden.

Remarks by Mr. Welborn:

Over 200 years ago Thomas Jefferson proclaimed the inalienable rights—life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. These, he said, are the endowment of the Creator and represent a station to which men are entitled by the Laws of Nature and Nature's God. Did Jefferson contemplate that only man is or should be under the aegis of the Laws of Nature and Nature's God? Possibly this question did not occur to him, but how ironical it would be if Nature's creatures could not claim the rights that are the endowment of creation.

Laws dealing with the protection of animals and prohibiting certain cruelties to them are premised to a large extent on the concept that cruelty to animals is immoral rather than on the concept of inherent rights of animals.

There is a fundamental difference between an approach to animal welfare in terms of the inherent rights of animals and an approach in terms of humane moral obligations. The difference is spiritual, philosophical, and practical. If an animal by virtue of life itself does have inherent rights, than it is not just bad for man's morals to deny these rights, it is an offense against life itself. Possessing inherent rights, animals have a status, or station as Jefferson called it, which is entitled to respect by virtue of itself and quite apart from man. Finally, as a practical legal matter, rights may be enforced in behalf of the possessor if the possessor is not capable, as in the case of a guardian in behalf of minor children. These rights are not without restriction and limitation, of course, even as applied to man. A man's life may be called upon as in war; liberty is limited in many ways in the interest of others in the society; happiness in the physical sense may not be pursued without inhibition. These concepts, therefore, are more profound than the outward manifestations. They mean an appropriate right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness in relation to the rights of others.

Thus, if we say that animals are endowed by their Creator with these inalienable rights, it does not mean that no animal may be killed, that animals may roam without restriction, and that animals may not be restrained in gratifying their physical appetites. Nature itself brings about limitations on these rights. One animal kills another by instinct; life feeds upon life; the liberty of one animal to roam freely is naturally limited by its fear of other animals.

Since man dominates this earth and all other living things, it may seem academic to distinguish between animal rights and human obligations. It may be said that in either case the animal will receive only such respect and humane treatment as man is willing to give. This may be true in a limited sense, but the declaration of animal rights standing by itself because it reflects the fundamental truth will be an important weapon in the spiritual, philosophical, and legal battle that must be waged. It will give animals standing in our society to claim through a representative their own position and station under the laws of Nature and Nature's God. The recognition of animal rights can dispose of the rationale advanced by some superficial writers that the only reason man should avoid cruelty to animals is because the practice of cruelty is not good for man and that animals have no inherent dignity and no inherent rights.

What greater inherent dignity than in the mother cow with her calf, the community of wolves, the colony of ants building and rebuilding, the chimpanzee free in the jungle, the bird guarding its nest, and the dog mourning its lost friend.

It is an affront to the laws of Nature and a sacrilege under Nature's God to say that only one species of God's creation has inherent dignity and inherent rights.

We need a declaration of independence for animals confirming these inalienable rights of life, liberty, and
As far as protection goes, the Old Testament contains a number of clear provisions for the protection of animals—rest on the Sabbath for cattle as well as man, animals of unequal strength were not to be made to work together, and if a worker was killed, the one whose ox had killed him, was not to be deprived of his food.

For this but it is more important to note that the first time the prohibition of cruelty was expressed in courts in Europe between the 13th and 17th centuries. When they caused injuries to humans or private property, they were subjected in due form to trial, judgment, and sentencing, while we are we have a prog of punishment, pronounced by the Court, was death by burning, hanging, mutilation or maiming, and varied widely depending on the offense committed. All of this may seem almost impossible to believe today, but it went further, and in many cases, elaborate, exacting pleadings or court papers were filed and counsel was appointed to defend the alleged wrongdoer now, ox, or pack of rats.

Where physically possible, the offending animal was cited, summoned into court, jailed pending trial, tried, and, as noted above, often executed. In my research, I saw no or few cases of acquittals, but there are several reported trials that reflect more lenient sentences when the animal was more docile during the judicial proceedings.

Accordingly, I say so, much for the movement to have animals treated exactly like humans before the law.

The next phase in history had animals treated like "property"—like cabbages and carriages. We tend to say "incredible, terrible," but I must say that there are worse things under the law, and one of them is and was to have animals treated as though they were not even property. The property concept ties into a human involvement, and it was long before a crime to damage or injure the property of another, or in the case of wildlife, the property of the Crown. Therefore, being "property" of someone gave a measure of protection, but there was no protection from cruelty and brutality by third persons. However, it did not protect the animal from the owner's own mistreatment and neglect, and, of course, if it were a stray or a wild animal, it could be taken, treated, starved, or abandoned with impunity. This created a very serious problem historically within the animal movement in the United States, because the so-called "non productive" dogs and cats were not treated like property as were horses, cows, sheep, swine, etc., and this left these pets out completely as far as protection and prohibited conduct toward them was concerned.

Today there are literally thousands of animal related laws—state laws, and local laws, and both legal rights and obligations. They were both protected—and punished—in the same manner as human beings.

ANIMAL RIGHTS AND HUMAN OBLIGATIONS

Members and constituents of The Humane Society of the United States were present in Annual Conference in Dearborn, Michigan, on this 14th day of October, 1978, to do hereby proclaim, by resolution, with reference to animal rights and human obligations, that animals possess certain inalienable and legally protected rights and his government and his government...
Animal Rights & Human Ethics

A Review of the 1978 Annual Conference

Humanitarians from around the country gathered at the Regency Hyatt Hotel in Dearborn, Michigan last October to attend the 1978 HSUS Annual Conference. A full schedule of general sessions, workshops, and special events kept conference busy learning and talking about animal issues during the three-day conference.

The highlight of the conference was the Annual Awards Banquet. Richard Knowles Morris received the Joseph Wood Krutch Medal. His most recent service to animal welfare was co-editing, with Dr. Michael Fox, the book "On The Fifth Day," a compilation of essays on man's views of animals and animal rights.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Robert McBride, General Manager of WJBR-TV in Detroit, and to the TV station itself for its outstanding coverage of animal issues.

Two more Certificates of Appreciation were given to Charles Thompson and Geraldo Rivera of ABC-TV. Thompson produced and Rivera reported a segment of the news program "20/20" on the cruelties of greyhound coursing which was partly responsible for the recent banning of public courting by the National Greyhound Association.

For those who could not attend the conference, we are reprinting on the next few pages excerpts from the President's Report given by John A. Hoyt, and from Dr. Amy Freeman Lee's Keynote Address. The full text of the resolutions passed at the annual membership meeting is given on pp. 24-26.

Sensitivity—The Quality of Caring

An excerpt from The President's Report given by John A. Hoyt at the 1978 Conference.

A final quality I wish to mention which is basic to an animal welfare organization's effectiveness and vitality is that of sensitivity, or caring concern. It is, I believe, that quality which distinguishes between superficiality and genuine leadership.

I am hopeful that every organization involved in animal welfare work understands the importance of this dimension. I am proud that The HSUS gives it a place of prominence. For unless we really care, and are genuinely sensitive to the reality of pain and suffering being experienced by animals in so many ways, we shall find it all too easy to compromise our objectives and give in to the pressures of our adversaries.

Hardly a one of us would object to the progress made in the area of scientific inquiry and research, especially in those areas where the objective and results are clearly in the interest of human or animal welfare. But when such progress involves extensive and repeated cruelty to animals, it is both appropriate and right to challenge the process if not the objective itself.

We do not object to biomedical research per se, and clearly understand the importance of protecting both humans and animals from dangerous drugs and other chemical products. But when millions upon millions of animals are used in these processes annually, a high percentage of which are subjected to pain and suffering, it is not at all certain that the end justifies the means. The price of progress is then too high. So what if we cure the world's physical illnesses if we lose our soul, or moral and spiritual integrity, in the process. This is not progress at all, but an illusion of the highest magnitude. We must care, and care enough to challenge and change even the most sacred reality of the industry itself. For the utilization of animals for food will most likely always be one of the major uses of animals, and it helps us to pain and suffering, it is not at all justifiable in any way.

But most important of all, let us surely know that there is much work to be done lest we be guilty of the wrong of complicity.

For those who of conscience have chosen vegetarianism, I say bless you. And for those of us who have not, let us surely know that there is much work to be done lest we be guilty of the wrong of complicity. But most important of all, let us be strong enough to cause the changes that will free animals from the extensive suffering they now experience.
There are many industries and businesses that utilize animals for purposes not so clearly appropriate, and some that are without question ethically and morally wrong. Through our staff investigators, both nationally and regionally, The HSUS is involved in countless efforts to challenge and confront both individuals and corporations.

We have always continued to oppose rodeos, animal coursing, hunting for sport, roadside zoos, cock-fights and dog fighting, bullfights when viewed from a moral-ethical perspective. There comes a point when a people, or an organization of people, must stand up and be counted for what they believe to be right and against that which they believe to be wrong. And because of who you are, who your directors are, and who your staff is, the HSUS has taken the leadership in standing against those who exploit animals for the profit. In the main, there are many industries and businesses that utilize animals for both nationally and regionally, The purposes not so clearly appropriate, and some that are without question fights and dog fighting, bullfights when viewed from a moral-ethical perspective.

In March, 1978, in his book, "The Unexpected Universe," the late, eminent anthropologist, Loren Eiseley wrote: "From Darwin's tangled bank of unceasing struggle, selfishness, and death, has arisen, incomprehensible, the thrower who loved not man, but life, ... there is a hurly-burly of stars, and he walks, because he chooses, always in desolation, but not defeat.

This passage had special significance to me, because once after a heavy storm, I found numerous starfish washed up on the beach near my studio in Ogunquit, Maine. I thought they were dead until, as I held them in my hand, I felt a gentle suction. To save them, I gathered as many as I could and ran out beyond the tide to cast them back into the sea. Though I had always wanted to meet Loren Eiseley, it was then that I knew that I could not bear to see a creature less than human die. I had the feeling that we are all brothers and sisters. You and I, you and I.

What can we do about the ambience we have created out of our macho motivation, varmint activation, and cowboy civilization? Two potentially effective tools are education and legislation. By education, we mean the lifelong self-discipline through which we build character by exercising on the bars of ethical and moral disciplines; learn to think for ourselves by comprehending substantive and significant material, and master the technique of making trouble about what is wrong as well as developing the courage to wage the campaign in a legal, non-violent way. The vehicle of education provides a major means for shaping and developing humane attitudes. Ideally, humane education should become an integral part of the curriculum per se by creating subject content imbued with the essence of humaneness itself, isolated and sporadic classes restricted to instructions on the care of pets, however valid and helpful. For, enough, and, therefore, not effective. The desired status will be reached when education and humaneness are truly synonymous.

An educated and, consequently, concerned citizen in order to fulfill his responsibility must put his beliefs into action, and legislation offers one practical, effective way. In preparation, one must study the status quo thoroughly, evaluate it objectively and summon the courage of his or her own decision. To use the legislative process successfully, one must contact his state and central congressmen not only by letter and phone but also by direct visits and make one's views known. In addition, one should spread the word in every possible way from back-yard conversations with neighbors to letters to newspaper editors. Above all else, never underestimate the importance of yourself and the role you play.

The distinguished British historian, Arnold Toynbee, said that the greatest of all historical forces are the discontents and the ceaseless struggle, selfishness, and death, has arisen, incomprehensible, the thrower who loved not man, but life, ... there is a hurly-burly of stars, and he walks, because he chooses, always in desolation, but not defeat.

In my opinion, there is little hope that the problems must take on the task of solving them. Obviously, everything is a people problem.

In his book, The Unexpected Universe, the late, eminent anthropologist, Loren Eiseley wrote: "From Darwin's tangled bank of unceasing struggle, selfishness, and death, has arisen, incomprehensible, the thrower who loved not man, but life, ... there is a hurly-burly of stars, and he walks, because he chooses, always in desolation, but not defeat.

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1978 Resolutions

Adopted by Membership Meeting, October 1978

Marine Mammals

WHEREAS, the United States has traditionally been the world leader in the conservation and protection of marine mammals;

WHEREAS, that leadership role has been seriously eroded during the current administration in regard to the great whales; and

WHEREAS, the tuna industry has not achieved the goal of near zero mortality of porpoise; and

WHEREAS, the United States continues to club seals on its own Pribilof Islands off Alaska;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States call upon the U.S. Government to do everything it can to end the killing of fur seals.

High School Science Fairs

WHEREAS, the International Science and Engineering Fair continues to establish high school science fair projects at the local, state, and national levels, often without adequate rules governing the use of such animals; and

WHEREAS, it has been shown over the past few years that many such projects entail needless and unjustifiable animal suffering; and

WHEREAS, the HSUS has not only not instituted adequate rules for the welfare of animals used in science projects but has even failed to effectively enforce the weak rules they have promulgated;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States condemn the ISF judging standards until adequate high school science fair regulations are instituted and enforced for the protection of the animals involved; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the ISF itself institute high standards for the protection of the animals involved in such projects, and that the society expand its role to document the extent of animal suffering and abuse in all science fair competitions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States encourage the ISF to consider as a judging criterion the highest standards of animal care with special emphasis on the use of replacement techniques.

Ritual Slaughter

WHEREAS, there is a traditional and widespread belief that the Jews are to sanctify the life of an animal in the course of its sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, the HSUS, together with other humane organizations, undertook in January 1971 to coordinate the Council for Livestock Protection for the purpose of building a pen for ritual slaughter (Exhibit A); and

WHEREAS, the HSUS has contributed thousands of dollars for the construction of such a pen (Exhibit B); and

WHEREAS, the University of Connecticut engineering department, in conjunction with the Council for Livestock Protection, has built such a building; and

WHEREAS, such pen is still not available; and

WHEREAS, the HSUS has made it known that the construction of a slaughter pen in the present at the time is engaged with the Cincinnati Butcher Supply Company in building a pen for ritual slaughter (Exhibit D); and

WHEREAS, the same company has not been able to report any progress; and

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that HSUS seek to establish a dialogue with leaders of the Jewish community to bring about coordination in the field of ritual slaughter.

Predator Control

WHEREAS, in 1972, after many years of indiscriminate poisoning on federal lands without due regard for the environment and for other species of animals, the government was persuaded by the animal welfare movement and the environmental community that these programs were unnecessary, ineffective and unjustifiable; and

WHEREAS, the HSUS, the ISF, and other humane organizations have tried to eliminate the use of poisons for the control of predators on federal lands; and

WHEREAS, since that time the sheep industry, aided and abetted by government employees who dis­ agreed with the poisoning ban, has kept up unremitting pressure to have the ban lifted to permit the operational use of Compound 1080, and vastly increase and expand the control programs; and

WHEREAS, there has been no real attempt on the part of the government to increase the use of alternative non-lethal methods of protecting the livestock;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States and the ISF, along with various other humane organizations, support the endangered species act, and in the interest of the environment and the protection of wildlife, vigorously stand with the executive and legislative branches of the government in increasing the use of poisons, and prepare to institute legal action to ban it, if the aforesaid efforts are unsuccessful.

Walking Horses

WHEREAS, the Horse Protection Act was passed in 1970 and subsequently amended and strengthened and the reformer was able to stop the brutal practice of chemical and mechanical soring of Ten­

nessee Walking Horses to affect their gait for the sole purpose of winning prizes and recognition; and

WHEREAS, in 1978 Tennessee Walking Horse trainers are still able to win with sored horses through the use of more sophisticated and hidden techniques; and

WHEREAS, there is still no effective enforcement of the Horse Protection Act by the USDA;

BE IT RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States, recognizing the need for the professional enforcement of the HPA through its field investigators and reporters from members in order to educate the public and the membership of The Tennessee Walking Horse Industry; and

WHEREAS, the numbers of animals potentially involved is close to four billion annually; and

WHEREAS, the practice of tranquilizing animals or giving them drugs and tranquilizers will have a special illusory effect, such as the simulation of death, is widespread among animal trainers in the motion picture and television industry; and

WHEREAS, the numbers of animals potentially involved in the movie and television industry is on the upswing; and

WHEREAS, many animals are subjected to severe stress by this practice and some are even killed by it; and

WHEREAS, the state of the art is such that live animals can be effectively replaced by inanimate models in scenes requiring special effects; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States urge all animal trainers in the motion picture and television industries to adopt humane controls; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States urge all animal trainers in the motion picture and television industries to use humane controls; and

WHEREAS, the HSUS has requested that the USDA consider giving a certificate of authenticity to animals put under stress in the movie and television industry; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States urge the USDA to issue such a certificate of authenticity to movie and television industry.

Factory Farming

WHEREAS, the stresses of live­ stock transportation are responsible for the severe physical and mental suffering, and frequent loss of life; and

WHEREAS, there is an increasing trend towards intensive, confinement raising of pigs, poultry, beef, and dairy cattle, turkeys, ducks, and calves; and

WHEREAS, such systems are contrary to the best traditions of ethical animal husbandry; and

WHEREAS, the HSUS has the ability to bring about meaningful and humane reforms which are of the utmost urgency and importance;

WHEREAS, the numbers of animals potentially involved is close to four billion annually; and

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BE IT RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States urge all animal trainers in the motion picture and television industry to adopt humane controls; and

WHEREAS, the HSUS has requested that the USDA consider giving a certificate of authenticity to animals put under stress in the movie and television industry; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States urge the USDA to issue such a certificate of authenticity to movie and television industry.

Animals In Entertainment

WHEREAS, the practice of tranquilizing animals or giving them drugs and tranquilizers will have a special illusory effect, such as the simulation of death, is widespread among animal trainers in the motion picture and television industry; and

WHEREAS, the numbers of animals potentially involved is close to four billion annually; and

WHEREAS, the HSUS has requested that the USDA consider giving a certificate of authenticity to animals put under stress in the movie and television industry; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States urge the USDA to issue such a certificate of authenticity to movie and television industry.

Bird Trafficking

WHEREAS, the United States is a major market for international trade and commerce in wild birds intended for sale in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the pet industry is trafficking in wild, migrating birds, in combination with highway and road construction projects, is having a devastating impact upon avian populations; and

WHEREAS, the pet bird trade represents an unjustifiable and cruel exploitation of wild animals; and

WHEREAS, a substantial incidence of suffering and mortality is associated with trade in wild birds as well as with their captive maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the HSUS has the ability to bring about meaningful and humane reforms which are of the utmost urgency and importance;

WHEREAS, the numbers of animals potentially involved is close to four billion annually; and

WHEREAS, the HSUS has the ability to bring about meaningful and humane reforms which are of the utmost urgency and importance;

BE IT RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States urge the adoption of importation and international agreements to prohibit the collection and shipment of wild birds intended for the pet trade.

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such drugs as butazolidin and asix, on track breakdowns. Incidents have been improperly used to mask injuries and ailments that have drastically increased and injuries and ailments have been markedly more severe. Moreover, such use is increasing in the United States.

THEORETICAL, BE IT RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States vigorously urge track establishments to ban the use of these drugs and substances when personnel working on Animal Welfare Act matters be properly trained and highly motivated.

Animal Welfare Act Resolution

WHEREAS, Animal Welfare Act enforcement has been largely ineffective and many violations of the Act have continued unchecked; and

WHEREAS, the current administration has failed to request and provide adequate funding for vigorous and total enforcement of the Act; and

WHEREAS, many USDA employees have failed in their duty to thoroughly investigate all parties regulated by Act;

THEORETICAL, BE IT RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States recommends to the USDA that it take the appropriate internal steps to insure that personnel working on Animal Welfare Act matters be properly trained and highly motivated.

Alternatives In Biomedical Research

WHEREAS, approximately 100,000,000 animals are used every year in biomedical programs, including unnecessary toxicology testing and poorly planned research projects; and

WHEREAS, the use of alternatives to laboratory animals can, in many cases, be a positive action; and, in other cases, reduce the use of laboratory animals;

THEORETICAL, BE IT RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States urge the USDA to immediately promulgate and strictly enforce regulations which will effectively work towards ending current cruelties in handling connected with slaughter; and

THEORETICAL, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that slaughterhouse employees have failed to request and provide adequate funding for vigorous and total enforcement of the Act, and they have failed to request and provide appropriate training for the personnel working on Animal Welfare Act matters.

Livestock Handling In Slaughterhouses

WHEREAS, cruel and abusive handling of livestock in slaughterhouses is widespread and often unchecked; and

WHEREAS, humane handling must begin from the time the livestock comes into the custody of the slaughterhouse up to and including the moment of slaughter; and

WHEREAS, it is possible to design, maintain, and operate livestock facilities not only to be more humane but also to save millions of dollars yearly because of reduction in carcass bruising and other losses.

THEORETICAL, BE IT RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States urge the USDA to immediately promulgate and strictly enforce regulations which will effectively work towards ending current cruelties in handling connected with slaughter; and

THEORETICAL, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that slaughterhouse establishments be encouraged to build facilities which assist rather than hinder the movement of the livestock; and

THEORETICAL, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these establishments take appropriate punitive action against any employee guilty of cruel treatment of the animals.

Cosmetic Testing

WHEREAS, new cosmetic formulations and products are usually tested on animals; and

WHEREAS, these tests can cause extreme pain and suffering, especially since cosmetics and other substances are rarely used; and

WHEREAS, information derived from these tests is of no value except to the manufacturer in connection with the promotion and sale of the cosmetic; and

WHEREAS, the humane public has a real interest in determining which cosmetic products have been developed and tested without such exploitation and use of animals.

THEORETICAL, BE IT RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States should call upon the cosmetic industry to disclose the facts regarding the absence of testing with animals any of its cosmetic products so that the humane public can be selective in its purchase of cosmetics rather than boycott all of them due to the inability to be selective; and

THEORETICAL, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States should promote by all possible means the development of alternative test methods for the cosmetic industry.

Antarctica, Eliot Porter (E.P. Dutton, $29.95)

Through the eyes of the camera, Eliot Porter reveals the awesome beauty of a continent unmarred by the ravage of human exploitation. Porter captures in film visual images of Antarctica’s seals, whales, and penguins. In 82 color plates, Porter demonstrates his unique talent for composition, detail, and color nuances. An informative, thought provoking text further accentuates Porter’s illustrations. Antarctica is that rare book written in celebration of natural beauty which captures the essence of its subject.

The Howell Book House publishes 51 books on particular breeds of dog ranging from the popular Poodle to the uncommon Schipperke. Each breed book contains information on the origin, history, and development of the breed. The books provide instruction on care, training, feeding, grooming, and housing of the particular breeds. Character and temperament of individual breeds is reviewed. Information on show standards is provided for the serious dog fancier. The Howell Book House publishes several titles written especially for the young reader including Dog Training for Kids by Carol Lea Benjamin and Dog Care and Training for Boys and Girls by Blanché Saunders. These volumes are intended to teach children the basics of responsible pet ownership.

The Howell Book House is offering a 25% discount on any dog books ordered by HSUS News readers. To obtain a free copy of their catalog, write to the publisher’s New York City office. When ordering books from the catalog, note on your order that you are responding to the 25% discount offer in The HSUS News.
How To: Organize An Effective Program on the Use of Animals in Research
by Dr. Andrew Rowan, Associate Director, The Institute for the Study of Animal Problems

When talking about the technical subject of alternatives to the use of animals in research, one is frequently asked “what can we do about it?” It is always difficult to give reasonable and practical suggestions because of the complexity of the topic. For those interested, the following steps provide a basic approach for a local animal welfare group with only limited technical expertise to call upon.

Decide what stand you will take on the issue.

There are a wide range of stances you could adopt, some of which are outlined below. They all have their problems, either philosophical or practical, and you should develop an awareness of the implications whatever decision you make.

1. Abolish all laboratory animal use. When taking this approach, you may want to augment it with a policy of vegetarianism. You should also be aware of the dilemma posed by medical research. Most of medicine is based on animal research at some point or another. Abolish the use of laboratory animals in non-medical research and testing. The attraction of this approach is that it avoids the dilemma of opposing medical research with animals. However, it is virtually impossible to draw a clear line between medical and non-medical research. Even the testing of cosmetics can be defined as medical in terms of preventing human injury. This doesn’t mean you cannot draw your own lines, but you should be fairly specific about what you oppose and why you oppose it.

2. Promote alternatives to laboratory animal use. This approach is a basic step in that laboratory animal use is valid given the philosophy of modern society, but only if the researcher has made (and is making) every effort to reduce his use of animals. This is the ‘gradualist’ approach, and it suffers the usual disadvantage of any moderate approach. It does not satisfy either of the vocal groups at the two ends of the spectrum. Further, it usually requires a fair amount of technical information and expertise to discuss the alternatives effectively.

3. Familiarize yourself with the ways animals are used in research, why they are used, and the researcher’s justifications for using animals. You must understand the other person’s point of view before you can promote your own. The subject is complex and very wide-ranging. The Institute for the Study of Animal Problems is producing a pamphlet to help you understand the use of animals in research and alternatives to their use. Notice of the pamphlet’s availability will be given in a future issue of The HSUS News.

If possible, set up an advisory committee on the subject of animal experimentation consisting of people with some biological training drawn from among your own membership.

Start involving yourself in local issues and establishing contacts with local research institutions and science fair organizers. The following suggestions may help you in deciding at what level you wish to work.

- Schools—Develop dialogue with local biology teachers and discuss the use of live animals in schools. Establish contacts with science fair organizers and monitor the entries involving experiments with live animals and the diligence with which science fair rules on the subject are upheld.
- University students—Contact local student groups and try to interest them in the subject and some of the newer ideas which are being discussed and developed.
- Laboratories—Most research institutions will (or should) have supervisory committees responsible for the care and use of laboratory animals. See if they are willing to enter into a dialogue and perhaps accept a member of your scientific panel (step three) on to the Committee.
- Impounded animals—Find out if impounded animals in your area are released to research institutions. The HSUS believes pound animals should not be used for this purpose. Not only does it raise problems in animal control programs, but pound animals are unsatisfactory as research and teaching models. The unknown background of the animal could invalidate research studies, or at the very least produce misleading results.
- When setting a policy on the use of laboratory animals, you should appreciate that it is a complex subject with few easy answers. However, there are simplified texts available. Real progress is possible and there is no doubt that you can help to reduce the level of laboratory animal use (from around a hundred thousand a year) and at the same time improve the quality of biomedical research and the effectiveness of each research dollar.

For those who want to study the topic further, the following books may be of some use:
- Alternatives to Laboratory Animals, by D. M. Smyth, (Southwest Book Service, 4951 Top Line Drive, Dallas, TX, 75247, $9.95 paper, $11.95 hardbound.) This is a useful book, although it is too pessimistic about the real potential for alternatives.
- Painful Experiments on Animals, by Dallas Pratt, (Argus Archves, 228 E. 40th St., New York, NY, 10017, $2.95.) This is useful for background on the use of animals in research, although there is only one chapter on alternatives.
- The Future of Animals, Cells, Models and Systems in Research, Development, Education and Testing, (Office of Publications, National Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington, D.C. 20418, $9.25.) This is the most technical of the three publications, but well worth reading for the articles on biostatistics and cell culture prospects.
Humane Slaughter Act Becomes Law

On October 10, 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed into law the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act of 1978. This is a major victory for humanitarians and for the food animals that still suffer in slaughterhouses.

The new law requires that all state and federally inspected slaughterhouses must be humane slaughterhouses. In addition, all meat imported into this country must be certified as humane slaughtered. The new law, a culmination of several years’ effort by HSUS, Humane Information Services, and other humanitarian groups, will take effect in one year, allowing time for companies to come into compliance. Some additional time may be granted to states which find it necessary to enact new state laws.

Besides the actual stunning and killing of food animals, HSUS marked diligently the humane handling throughout the entire journey through the slaughterhouse. As a result, the Senate Agriculture Committee in its report on the new law states that pre-slaughter handling should be interpreted to begin at the time the livestock come into the confines of the slaughterhouse, up to and including the handling of the dead body. The U.S. Department of Agriculture will be issuing new regulations reflecting that interpretation and HSUS will work closely with them to ensure the best humane handling possible.

The Endangered Species Act

In 1973, the U.S. Congress passed the Endangered Species Act, a landmark in legislative efforts to protect the diminishing wildlife on our planet. It was one of the most noble and well-intentioned bills ever enacted. Now, even though species of wildlife and plants are disappearing at the rate of two per day and the quality and availability of habitat have worsened in the last five years; the 95th Congress has seen fit to weaken protection.

The Act was under attack for political and economic reasons. As more and more species became officially endangered, more and more conflicts arose with development projects in the few remaining areas where these species still live. This had some serious short term effects on jobs in certain congressional districts. Pressure from the potentially unemployed and from corporations and groups wishing to use the land for development caused many congressmen to abandon their lofty ideals for regional interests and to refuse to extend the Endangered Species Act out into the cold.

Section 7 of the original law said that if the survival of an endangered species would be threatened by its presence in a particular habitat, then no Federal development project could be allowed to go forward in that area. Difficulties with this strict rule came to a head in a confrontation between the Tellico Dam project and the endangered Snail Darter—a tiny, very rare fish. 231 out of 393 congressmen voted to send the Snail Darter possibly to its doom by altering Section 7 to require that economic factors be considered when critical habitats are designated. That could mean the same doom for the whooping crane, the wolf, the peregrine falcon, the cougar, and other endangered animals.

As a result, the new law allows, to a certain limited degree, for plans to be made to bring endangered species back to a point from which they can be re-established in the wild, or at least to assure their survival in captivity.

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The Wild Free Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971 gave the Department of Interior and its Bureau of Land Management (BLM) several choices in dealing with so-called “excess” horses and burros on public lands. Those choices included euthanasia, adoption, and relocation. The burden of the decision between alternatives was on BLM, which hesitated to use the euthanasia option for fear of public disapproval.

In the final weeks before the 1978 elections, Congress took this burden onto its own shoulders by voicing of the law so the killing of “excess” horses is mandated rather than just allowed. The mandate specifies that old, lame, and sick animals be killed. Only horses can be adopted out, but those for which “an adoption demand by qualified individuals does not exist” must be killed.

While this may appear reasonable, the HSUS fears that the mandate will result in a loose interpretation by BLM to mean they can immediately kill horses on the range, or anyone else, make a bono fide effort to find homes for them.

Many fears that even less effort will be put into determining just what is the true “excess” number of horses and burros, and which individuals will be allowed to adopt. Those who do not realize the mandate that only do so if BLM truly checks to make sure the adoption demand by qualified individuals does not exist must be killed.

Within a year after adoption an individual will actually own the horses and burros on the range and make a bono fide effort to find homes for them.

On the other hand, one change in the law may help solve more problems from needless suffering and from being illegally slaughtered for pet food. Currently, the law only requires BLM to address what HSUS considers one of the biggest blows to the bankroll of the pet food industry and the economic attitudes. When asked to kill these animals, the Endangered Species Act must be saved at the expense of commercial activity. 67% of the Americans polled said yes. There is a wide disparity between the voice of the majority of the constituents and the voice of the representatives. HSUS is working hard to get the voice of the states to whom congress is listening?

Congress Mandates Death to Wild Horses

Thus, trying to salvage some protection for the horses from this Congress, HSUS fought hard to get a provision into the law which allows an individual to adopt only four animals per year. Unfortunately, that section of the new law goes on to say: “unless the Secretary of Interior determines in writing that such individual is capable of humanely caring for more than four animals.” That “unless” could be a real death knell to horse lovers who do not have enough room to keep a large truckload of horses through.

We also won a hard fight to get a scientific study to determine the true number of wild horses and their interrelationship with the ecosystem. Since HSUS does not believe there are huge numbers of excess horses, it also mandated a full study be done. Even using BLM’s own estimate of 50,000 in the wild, HSUS was still worried a few animals on only 1/4 of all BLM land can cause so much damage to that land compared to the four million or more sheep and cattle that graze on it. Therefore, the biggest blows to the original law was an amendment to allow transfer of ownership after one year. Before this, the U.S. government retained actual ownership of adopted horses and burros. This law would allow those individuals who received free horses and then sold them for profit. Unfortunately, due to the one year stipulation in the study, HSUS was forced to make a bono fide effort to find homes for them.

The study revealed that more and more horses, didn’t actually own the horses and burros. This is mandated that where there are hundreds of these animals, or where adoption demand by qualified individuals does not exist, the horses must be killed.
Meaningful Reform is Possible

It has long been recognized that one of the major cruelties still existing in the United States is the preslaughter shackling and hoisting of conscious animals destined for kosher slaughter. To a major extent this condition was eliminated with the development of the ASPCA large-animal restraining pen in the 1960s. However, no similar device currently exists for small animals such as sheep and calves. Determined to solve this dilemma, The Council for Livestock Protection, Inc., formed in 1971 consisting of several national animal welfare organizations, including The HSUS, and concerned individuals. As a result of a study at the University of Connecticut commissioned by The CLP, a small-animal restraining device has been developed but not yet proven in actual operation. This delay is due in part to a lack of purposeful and meaningful cooperation between USDA, the Department of Agriculture, and the heat conducting and insulating properties of materials used in the construction of crates. Although plans exist to study these factors, the USDA has not yet instituted an effective scheme to monitor the issuance of the certificates, the potential for abuse is considerable. HSUS is concerned that the certificates will be executed mechanically, without a bonafide examination of the individual animal. HSUS will continue its careful monitoring of shipper's and airline's compliance with the regulations.

I was particularly pleased to note the continuing positive relationship between our groups in light of the deep religious strain within Judaism calling for the highest level of humane treatment of all animals. That concern further explains the desire and willingness on the part of the JAC to find common purpose with The HSUS, the Council and the many Americans who support your efforts. I look forward to further positive developments in the near future.

Sincerely,

Joel Ollander
National Coordinator

Through the kind of cooperation pledged in this letter and a continued determination on the part of humanitarians, I am confident the cruelties experienced by the animals destined for kosher slaughter can and will be resolved. Not only would this achievement eliminate the suffering of millions of animals, it would demonstrate in a most significant manner the potential that exists for meaningful reform when people of goodwill are willing to unite in a common endeavor.

John A. Hoyt
National Coordinator

Wild Horse Suit

On October 15, 1978, the United States District Court for the District of Nevada ruled against HSUS in the suit brought by The HSUS in conjunction with the American Horse Protection Association to prevent the round up and removal of over 5,000 wild horses from public lands in Nevada under the control of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). (See Summer, 1978 HSUS News.)

The judgment, handed down after a two-day trial, upheld BLM's authority to remove horses. However, BLM's broad authority to remove horses from the Nevada ranges, even in the face of what HSUS feels is inadequate information about the horse population, forage resources in the area, and so forth—was upheld by the court.

HSUS believes that the District Court's decision is based on an erroneous legal standard, has appealed the ruling to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. In the meantime, the advent of the winter season in Nevada has prevented any further roundups.

Transport Temperatures

Based on the negative comments received from The HSUS and other animal welfare activists, the U.S. Department of Agriculture decided in December not to allow the subjection of many animals, including puppies, to near-freezing temperatures.

In October the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the Division of the USDA responsible for administering the Animal Welfare Act, proposed to lower the minimum air temperature at which animals can be held in airport facilities from 45° to 35°. The proposal had been instigated by some commercial animal dealers who had experienced difficulties shipping animals in cold months, thereby disrupting their lucrative Christmas business.

Problems occurred because the airlines could not guarantee that the air temperatures within the cargo and terminal facilities would meet USDA standards. The proposed decrease in minimum air temperature would have applied to all breeds of dogs, cats, hamsters, and wild animals regulated under the Animal Welfare Act except for non-human primates.

Particular concern arose for young shorthaired dog breeds which might have difficulty adjusting to lower temperatures. If this proposal had been made final, the results could have been disastrous. Animals can wait at airports for long hours.

The development of acceptable transportation standards for animals has been hindered by the lack of data regarding the effects of various independent factors including humidity, temperature, ventilation, and the heat conduction and insulating properties of materials used in the construction of crates.

It is the opinion of The HSUS, through Animal Welfare Act Coordinator Margaret Morris, that the USDA did not have any scientific evidence to support the proposal. The Department had not cited any study or data on the effects of lower temperatures on animals under transport conditions.

Furthermore, although requested by The HSUS and required by law, the Department has been unable to date to produce all of the evidence it stated it had used as a basis for the proposal.

On October 9, 1978, at the fourth annual meeting of the Animal Air Transport Association, a Resolution was passed calling upon the USDA to leave the temperature regulations for animal transport as they stand until more studies have been done and additional data is made available. In the preface of the newly proposed regulations, USDA announced that it would initiate action to gather more information.

Nevertheless, a serious danger remains for animals transported during cold weather. In May, USDA issued a regulation which allows USDA licensed dealers to ship animals at lower temperatures than those specified in the regulations if the shipper provides a certificate, signed by a veterinarian, stating that the individual animal has been acclimated to lower temperatures.

However, since at present USDA has not instituted an effective scheme to monitor the issuance of the certificates, the potential for abuse is considerable. HSUS is concerned that the certificates will be executed mechanically, without a bonafide examination of the individual animal. HSUS will continue its careful monitoring of shipper's and airline's compliance with the regulations.

Compiled by Murdach Stuart Madden, HSUS General Counsel, and Roger Kindler, Associate Counsel

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