with legislation they have sponsored which
flirt with the possibility of imminent
repeal or amendment. This may be due to
the fact that the number of important
humanitarians stands at 1 million
animals is down about
75 percent from previous years. I refer to the
literature and research reports of humane
societies in the past. The reduction in fur
trapping is significant and is due to the
use of simulated furs; (2) research to
reduce the suffering of fur-bearing animals
requires much more intensive, time-consuming,
well-planned work than has been given to this
problem by humane societies in the past.
Cleaning the hands of the fur industry can
change the fur trade, although it is a necessary
prelude to eliminating humanitarians from an effecutive program. And instead of looking at the 35 percent
reduction in fur trapping claimed by the
fur trade, we must keep our eyes on the total of over 65 million wild animals
that are still trapped each year in the United States, and the numbers of imported fur skins used in this
country.

Letters
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asking what they can do to further assistance
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Simulated Furs
Since our last Report, No. 6, there have been additional developments in our
fur animal program: (1) the promotion of
use of simulated furs; (2) research to
find more humane methods of slaughtering
the fur-bearing animals; (3) the substitution of
ranch-produced furs for those made from
trapped animals.

Decrease in Wild Fur Trapping
A recent release by the Fish and
Wildlife Service of the United States Department of the Interior shows a sharp drop in the
number of wild animals trapped for fur. The
catch in 1969 was 65 million animals, down about
35 percent from previous years. In reporting
this news item, a prominent humane society
spokesperson said, "The reduction in the number
of trapped animals noted in the news
release, we are just kicking ourselves to
tax this for such developments. The
explanation of the decline in trapping
probably lies in the improvement in other
economic opportunities for some of those
formerly engaged in trapping.

To delude ourselves regarding the effi-
cacy of past attempts to decrease public
acceptance of trapped furs leads to com-
placency and inaction. The elimination of suffering of fur-bearing animals requires
much more intensive, time-consuming, well-
planned work than has been given to this
problem by humane societies in the past.

Placing in the hands of humanitarians
a few thousand leaflets or news bulletins
telling about the cruelties of fur trap-
ing will have little or no "signific-
ant effects upon the fur trade, although
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LABORATORY LEGISLATION

Continued From Page 1

report on the cost of mailings by the SAPL indicates that during these two years over 300,000 separate pieces of literature were mailed, furnished by the N.A.I.P. to Senator Javits and to Senator Hatfield. In the new bill you cannot support it, and only those who are in a position to do so, get a constructive side by saying that you want to see laboratory legislation passed, but hope is left by the same people who control the organizations engaged in lobbying must recognize that this approach is much more effective than mere public relations work in trying to control legislators, take advantage of every opportunity to present their case favorably, and alert their clients to specific special letters of opposition.

Lobbying

Despite the importance of letters to Congress from individual humanitarians, there is no real substitute for personal lobbying and public relations work in trying to control public opinion. As a part of the many other special interest groups find it essential to employ professional lobbyists to carry on such legislative activities, legislators, take advantage of every opportunity to present their case favorably, and alert their clients to specific special letters of opposition. Such a constructive approach is far more effective than mere public relations work in trying to control legislators, take advantage of every opportunity to present their case favorably, and alert their clients to specific special letters of opposition.

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FURS

Continued from Page 2

Furs, specifically made from trapped fur animals. For the latter purpose, it would be desirable to prominently feature in this country. And the effects of such a campaign would be limited by the fact that simulated fur fabric garments are now, and will be in the future, more competitive with cloth garments than with natural furs, we felt that it was very unlikely that any program aimed at effecting the changes in the use of furs which the humane organization sought to accomplish.

The vast majority of the large number of letters we received following publication of the report were expressions of cooperation from the ranch fur industry to improve humane aspects of ranch mink production. We are happy to note the substitution of such ranch mink furs for trapped furs, which on the average, cause much greater suffering for the animals.

Since our last Report we continue to have encouraging news from many animal organizations representing ranch mink producers. These, however, have not yet come to a head. First, it is necessary for us to lea...
Practice to devote full time to humane society, and is information Services is Miss Emily F. Dr. Thomsen has willed practically government publications. After leaving the Department of Agriculture he was executive vice president of a management consulting firm in New York City, and on semi-retirement in Florida served as consulting economist to banks and business corporations. He gave up a good practice to devote full time to humane work, for which he received a fellowship. Dr. Thomsen has wills practically his entire estate, and gives the greater part to humane organizations. He was formerly a director of The Humane Society of the United States and a director of the local humane society, and is now a director of the Florida Federation of Humane Societies.

The Executive Secretary of Humane Information Services is Miss Emily F. Gleckler, formerly a director and secretary of a local humane society and now President of the February Federation of Humane Societies. Miss Gleckler gave us an enjoyable vacation -- can be realized by combining a convention and ocean cruise. Whether or not we have the convention-cruise depends upon your wishes. If you are interested, please fill in the coupon below and return it to us for further details. This will not obligate either you or us in any way.

Cats Made Homeless

Housing Developments

How About a Convention-Cruise?

One of our members asked, "Does Humane Information Services intend to hold a convention-cruise in the future?" Many members would welcome an opportunity to meet and discuss more fully the kind of important humane problems you have been treating in your reports to humanitarians.

Frankly, we have never been very enthusiastic about humane society conventions. Many seem to be more social affairs or a means of buttering up members and contributors than serious attempts at reform. And in most cases keep attending the same old conventions, listening to speakers who reiterate the same old subject matter. Then they go home and forget about it. After a good many years of participating in these meetings, if somebody offered $10,000 for just one example of actual, significant accomplishment resulting from a humane convention, we would be hard put to cite a single valid case.

The early 1960s tried to break out of the rut by holding its conventions in out-of-the-way places, in order to exclude distracting outside influences. It has advantages, but adds to travel expense and inconvenience. And more important, for many people the convention is their only real vacation, and they prefer a little more holiday atmosphere. We believe both of these goals -- plenty of opportunity for quiet discussion, and an enjoyable vacation -- can be realized by combining a convention and ocean cruise.

A cruise line has offered us a low-cost three-day convention-cruise which seems very attractive. The line, which operates a well-established, modern, passenger-carrying vessel, has elevator service between decks, all rooms with private bath and lower beds, and comfortable meeting rooms. It leaves Miami Friday afternoon, arriving back in Miami Monday morning. The entire cost from Miami would be only about a hundred dollars, including all meals, tips and port taxes. No passport or vaccination required.

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Our Offices

Although we published provisions of our bylaws and biographies of our principal officers in Report No. 2, we continue to receive letters asking for such information.

Humane Information Services, incorporated under the laws of Florida, is a non-profit society, the over-all purposes of which are the prevention of cruelty to and the relief of suffering among animals. Copies of pertinent provisions of the articles of incorporation and bylaws are available upon request. The society has a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service classifying it as a tax-exempt society, and its name appears in the Cumulative List of non-profit, tax-exempt organizations. Such tax exemption applies to membership dues, contributions and bequests.

The President of Humane Information Services is Frederick L. Thomsen, Ph.D., a retired economist. He has been professor of economics at the Graduate School of the University of Missouri, and Associate Head of the Department of Statistical Research, Head of the Office of Research and Development Research, and Director of the Marketing Research Branch, all in the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington. He is author of two internationally-recognized textbooks and of hundreds of research reports and articles in professional economic journals and trade and government publications. After leaving the Department of Agriculture he was executive vice president of a management consulting firm in New York City, and on semi-retirement in Florida served as consulting economist to banks and business corporations. He gave up a good practice to devote full time to humane work, for which he received a fellowship. Dr. Thomsen has wills practically his entire estate, and gives the greater part to humane organizations. He was formerly a director of The Humane Society of the United States and a director of the local humane society, and is now a director of the Florida Federation of Humane Societies.

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