One of the worst cases of mistreatment of animals in the United States today is the puppy mill and the associated commercial trade in puppies. Not only are thousands of breeding dogs kept and bred in these puppy mills under conditions which by comparison make many of the much-criticized biomedical laboratory "vivaria" seem like models of humane treatment of animals. Not only are the puppies by the millions born to suffering followed by an untimely death from disease and neglect. Not only do the methods of production, handling, transport, and sale of these puppies frequently upset in a diseased, psychologically-unfit and poorly-bred puppy which turns out to be a disappointment, a burden, and a great expense for the unwary purchaser. Not only is the entire trade in these unfortunate animals a major commercial operation constituting a fraud on the American public, and a moral blemish on the nation which permits it to continue.

It is found in all sizes, from a farmer or housewife with one female dog whose litters are sold to a wholesale dealer, bringing in a little cash to add to the "litter and egg" profits up to a kennel producing thousands of puppies yearly, constituting the owner's major business or occupation.

The housing facilities frequently are minimal. The breeding dogs are kept in ramshackle cages often so small that the animals can hardly turn around or sometimes even stand up straight, exposed to the elements, unsanitary, with wire floors (one accompanying photograph). Imagine a breeding dog living its entire life in such confinement!

Some of the mills do have makeshift runs for the breeding dogs, and indoor cages for use in bad weather. But since the operation is for profit only, little or nothing is done which is not considered to add to the profitability of the enterprise.

This is how the ENQUIRER's investigative reporter described conditions in one of the puppy mills visited: "It was a shabby, slumming house on a dead-end street--a house so filthy it wasn't fit for a dog. Yet, inside its dirty, foul-smelling rooms we saw more than 60 unfortunate animals; totally dependent on masters who had neither fed or cleaned them for days."

"The home was a typical puppy mill--uncovered by a special ENQUIRER reporter-photographer team investigating these backyard fast-buck operations that bring incredible suffering to millions of dogs each year." The investigators found the horror puppy mill operating on the outskirts of a small town in Iowa and got inside by posing as interested dog breeders. The puppy mill was destroyed November 18, 1975.

SUFFERING: Pathetic scenes like this are common in puppy mills, where animals are crowded in filthy cages, many allowed to die because it's cheaper to kill than feed them. (Photograph courtesy NATIONAL ENQUIRER.)

Almost as important, from the standpoint of the humanitarian, is the fact that these puppy mills and their commercial appendages are an important factor in the vast over-production of puppies which helps to perpetuate the problem of the surplus and negate the efforts of humane societies to deal effectively with it. Much of the blame for the death of millions of dogs in the pet animal slaughterhouses maintained by humane societies, cities and counties can be traced to the puppy mills and the associated commercial trade in mass-produced "purebred" dogs.

The foregoing statements are documented by investigations made by several humane societies including the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)1, Humane Information Services (HIS)2 and the American Kennel Club (AKC)3, and by the NATIONAL ENQUIRER4, whose sensational article on the subject elicited 65,000 letters from revolted readers.  

3) NATIONAL ENQUIRER, issues of July 6, 1975, and November 18, 1975.
4) NATIONAL ENQUIRER, issues of July 6, 1975, and November 18, 1975.

The Puppy Mills Must Go!

"We're both unmole and couldn't face getting out of bed to tend them," the woman and her husband said they usually see about 900 puppies a year. "But although they claimed we were 'unwell' to care for the dogs already in our home, both our veterinarian and the investigators that they could easily produce another 50 puppies every six months for shipment to Europe.

"Shocking as these conditions are, the sickening truth is that in a great many of the 5,000 puppy mills, animals are subjected to treatment that's much more brutal and inhuman. The suffering animals our team saw were, in effect, the 'lucky' ones."

The ENQUIRER further reported that its investigation into these "shameful" operations revealed: "Dogs are raised in cages so small they can't even stand upright. "Those that get sick or injured are often left to suffer...and die because owners don't want to pay for better care. Unwanted puppies are callously killed."

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PUPPY MILLS - FROM PAGE 1

born to pain, suffering, disease and cold-heated death.

NOT ALL PUPPY MILLS BAD?

A copy of the rough draft of this article was sent to Roy H. Carlberg, executive secretary of the American Kennel Club, with an invitation to correct, criticize or comment. The AKC maintains such records from the registrations of dogs and litters by and resulting from sales made by the puppy mills, and we do not expect that organization to be enthusiastic about articles of this kind. But we want to be fair, and to avoid exaggeration or judging an organization by a few unrepresentative cases. Excerpts from Mr. Carlberg's letter follow:

"Your article, 'The Puppy Mills Must Go,' is returned herewith, sans correction. I read it with a great deal of interest and spontaneous reaction. It is described as ambivalent. On the one hand, I heartily agree that those who own and operate unhygienic and unhealthy kennels, and those who sell uncontrollable animals upon an unwary public, must be dealt with in the fulsome measure of the law (Editor's note: Does he mean existing law or needed future law?) but I cannot agree with the promise that every breeder and broker of dogs for financial gain or social prestige breeds dogs for inhuman manners. To the contrary—at least from that which we have learned as we are investigating our operations throughout the country—such breeders are not. I am inclined to accept the statement made by Floyd Clark, President of the National Pet News and Breeder Association (National Pet News, November, 1973), who, being a breeder and broker for the past 40 years, indicated 10% as being 'shoddy' operations.

"The overall impression I got from the article is that a major portion of the pet population problem falls to those who engage in pure-bred dogs. I cannot agree with that either. The figures cited, such as the 750,000 do-large commercial dog breeders, is too small in that many dogs are being trafficked annually through the commercial pet market, are not supportable. (Editor's note: Mr. does not the AKC produce an analysis of its records which would show the actual numbers involved.)

"More and more dog clubs around the country have launched educational programs, preaching the gospel of responsibility. Too often, local clubs have (or more correctly, their members have) become active in the humane movement in their respective areas. We, too, as an organization, have taken a more active and persuasive role in forcing out those whose reasons for being in pure-bred dogs are inconsistent or in opposition to the ideals of the hobbyist.

"We do not wish to engage in any confrontation with the AKC, and would be glad to cooperate with that organization in a determined effort to present the views of the participants described in this article, if they apply to 80 or to only 20 percent of the commercial pet trade.

"Any successful attempt to deal with this situation will not be based on superfluous knowledge of hasty, shoot-from-the-hip simplistic action such as licensing of pet shops. Above all, support for an effective program by humanitarians, legitimate breeders, and public officials will depend upon more complete understanding of the various interests involved than the foregone description, or other brief articles like it, can offer. It will be necessary to read and digest the remainder of this analysis before it is possible to even understand the basis for the remedial action required. So, you advocates of condensation, please labor on!

WHERE THE MILLS OPERATE

Puppy mills are found in many parts of the country. In the near-western farming states of Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri and Illinois, that is because of their cheaply, non-quality puppies received from the mills, have sought to establish their dog tracks, have been shipping to nearby pet shops. The latter also may watch the classified advertisements in newspapers and call backyard breeders who are trying to get rid of puppies which are the by-products of an inefficient attempt to get into the legitimate breeding of dogs.

SOME BACKYARD BREEDERS

Not all puppy mills sell to or through wholesalers and pet shops. Many city and suburban "backyard breeders" who sell directly to the public through signs in the front yard or by classified advertisements in the newspapers meet the definition of the puppy mill. A statement by the editor and publisher of North American Dog News:

"A "puppy mill" operation is not identifiable by the name of the business, but rather by its purpose, namely, to breed puppies to sell for a profit, and no other reason.

"According to that definition, a substantial part of the classified advertisers of "purebred" puppies might be called puppy mills. Frequently they are housewives seeking a source of supplementary income. One such woman referred to her breeding bitch as "my little gold mine."

"While the AKC confines its efforts to the mid-western puppy mills, since potential customers generally visit the premises, but they make a very important contribution to the pet animal surplus."

"Newman, Edward; President, California Humane Council; "Dog and Cat Breeding as a Business," Speech presented to Humanitarians No. 26; December, 1973; p. 2.

PROPOSED NEW TYPE OF PUPPY MILL?

For some time our members have been sending us brief news stories about those that take to be the efforts of Milton Doctor to establish a new type of puppy mill, to be financed partly by no less than the United States government. If this were true, it would constitute one of the greatest boondoggles of all time.

"With all the problems presented by the pet population explosion and the existing puppy mills, we hardly need a new source of puppies for the commercial pet trade.

"We understand that Doctor now disavows any intention to emphasize or encompass the breeding of any new enterprises, which would be designed, we understand, to breed other kinds of pets needed by pet shops. (Let's hope it is not cats, which so far have largely escaped the attention of the puppy mills) and to make collars, leashes and other supplies for the pet industry. "That, of course, is a misunderstanding of Doctor's real intentions. We quote from what purports to be a press release issued by Doctor's Pedigree Industries, Inc., which was sent to us by Robert E. Frank, chairman of the Legislative Committee of the Illinois State Federation of Humane Societies:

"HARLEHEAD, MASS.—Milton Doctor, the founder and former president of the coast-to-coast Pet Center, Inc., has announced plans to form the country's first handicapped entrepreneur lending program through the U.S. Office of Minority Business Enterprise.

"The Handicapped Entrepreneur Lending Program, Ltd. (HELP) will allocate funds to handicapped veterans, minorities and other economically or socially disadvantaged persons desiring to breed pets and produce related products commerciably. Such Small Business Investment Companies are usually referred to as a MESC... Minority Enterprise Small Business Investment Company.

""Mr. William Goldman, the President's Special Assistant for Economic Affairs, has conveyed to us President Ford's praise and encouragement for our worthy goals," said Doctor, who is now president of Non-Blind-based Lending Program, Ltd.

"The official announcement was made at a Washington, D.C., luncheon meeting held in June at the Reagan House Office Building.


Decompression Fight Gets Hotter!

Alerted partly or largely by articles about the decompression chamber which have appeared in Report to Humanitarians\(^1\), humane organizations, and animal rights groups, wrote to the editor of the Boston Globe and elsewhere on May 27, 1976. The chief opponent of this method was the Animal Rescue League, of Boston, an American Humane Association (AHA) affiliate. (Robert T. Hummer, veterinary consultant to the AHA, appeared at the hearing in support of the chamber.)

The chief opponent was the chamber manufacturer, who is said to have made the statement that if an animal has to die it makes no difference how it dies, did effective work to impede the use of his chamber. (These details are given for the historical record only, and are not intended to support action by anyone.)

STATE LAWS

Humane Information Services has been urged repeatedly to prepare a model euthanasia law which would forbid the use of decompression chambers and other laboratory methods for destroying dogs and cats in shelters and pounds, and perhaps specify humane methods. A number of humane organizations have consistently refused to do so, because we do not yet know enough about some alternative methods to warrant citing them as either humane or useless. We need to investigate the problem, and try to meet these demands as soon as limitations of funds permit.

Some of those who cannot wait on more investigation to act against decompression chambers have proposed that sodium pentobarbital be used. This method, properly used, causes death in 20-30 seconds. But improperly used, it is almost impossible to get a slow death. (See Report to Humanitarians No. 17, March 1974, p. 1, col. 2). Injections of this barbiturate can be quite inconsistent. Those who were given the injection in one arm died instantly. Those given it in the other arm were kept alive. As with any method, failure to inject properly will make this one no better. For these reasons, it is difficult to get some animals to take the drug in food.

Moreover, to specify this, and only this method, is to create a very different situation because of federal restrictions on the purchase and use of sodium pentobarbital. AHA, for example, wishes to keep the shelters with no feasible humane method.

These objections to requiring the use of sodium pentobarbital do not apply in places like Dallas, where only two establishments are involved, both employing voting representatives of the bill. For these reasons, it is difficult to get some animals to take the drug in food.

For these reasons we prefer, until we can come up with a more comprehensive bill, one that requires a more focused, thorough investigation policy.

ARGUMENTS TO BE OVERCOME

What happened at the hearings on the Connecticut bill raises many issues. The chief opponent of such legislation must overcome the testimony against the bill was given by Dr. Hummer, veterinary consultant to the AHA.

According to the summary of Hummer’s testimony given in the AHA publication Shop Talk for April, 1976, he presented “factual and logical disproof of the false, fallacious and unsupported allegations of cruelty” resulting from use of the chamber which were made by opponents, “inaccurate and not factual statements,” and that “the use of the decompression chamber to destroy animals is a humane method.”

A favorite device of debaters is to set up straw men or non-relevant paragraphs or sentences have been omitted to save space.

“Dear Dr. Hummer:

"Every active individual humanitarian and humane society seems to have some preferred method of so-called euthanasia..."
DECOMPRESSI ON—FROM PAGE 3

Invariably seems to arouse anger, resentment and non-objective rebuttal. Since these divergent considerations are not directly involved in most cases, one would think that all of those concerned with euthanasia as a whole object of seeking the truth, and to find the best method to use under specific circumstance as we have considered it. We have attempted to describe viewpoints and findings of others, but actively seek such information. Nobody as yet has the final answer to this question, and I feel that any humane society should assume an intrinsically objective attitude on the subject.

A decompression chamber, for example. I have been engaged in scientific research for over 50 years. And I believe the analysis of the decompression chamber is as objective as anything can be. When we started our study, I was hoping that we could come up with the solution of decompression, thus removing one of the unfortunate sources of conflict within the humane movement. We have researched the literature on the subject, and our conclusion in essence was that this method is humane and not for adult animals. But for young animals it is questionable and for adult animals which have had painful difficulties resulting in stoppages of air passage, would permit equalization of pressures within and without the body it may cause severe pain. The results of our research were fully presented in our two-part article. Nobody has questioned any of the facts upon which the conclusions were based.

"What then, are the reasons given for continued advocacy and use of the decompression chamber by individual humane societies? The most compelling reason among those I have encountered are the endorsement by the AVMA committee, some experiences of inflicting pain, and some have undergone decompression without unpleasant effects, and a few experiments with a very small number of animals. In the next sentence in the same paragraph you refer to repeated rapid decompressions as a convenient means of equalizing the tympanic membranes, and hence do experience pain in the inner ear. Following each trip I have been engaged in scientific research for over 50 years. And I believe the analysis of the decompression chamber is as objective as anything can be. When we started our study, I was hoping that we could come up with the solution of decompression, thus removing one of the unfortunate sources of conflict within the humane movement. We have researched the literature on the subject, and our conclusion in essence was that this method is humane and not for adult animals. But for young animals it is questionable and for adult animals which have had painful difficulties resulting in stoppages of air passage, would permit equalization of pressures within and without the body it may cause severe pain. The results of our research were fully presented in our two-part article. Nobody has questioned any of the facts upon which the conclusions were based.

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Humane Information Services, Inc., St. Petersburg, Florida 33713
Report to Humanitarians No. 36 - June, 1976 - Page 5

PUPPY MILLS  - From page 2

federal agency, administrative and other persons attended. Many praised the action that HELP and its associated company, Pedigree Industries, Inc., will undertake. HELP and Pedigree will use HELP as it is an especially important method of creating new profit-producing, entrepre-

neurial and small employment opportunities. Some 4,000 jobs could be created in the initial phase. (Editor's note: We understand that members of Congress and others will be meeting 13 June to receive protest mail and discuss giving their approval to the project.)

HELP Plus was established by the U. S. Department of Commerce, for each million dollars of privately, paid-in-capital, HELP will invest an additional $1 million by the Small Business Administration," Doctor added.

HELP Plus, through HELP, our "bank," should enable Pedigree Industries, Inc., to initially undertake "joint ventures" with 400 "profit-minded" federally owned and managed "advantaged people," concluded Doctor.

"Historically deprived of entrepreneurship, these people will enter into various profit-making ventures with Pedigree Industries such as pet breeding, pet sales, pet products, pet food, pet grooming, pet cemeteries, and pet hotels. These businesses, in turn, will provide employment for disadvantaged people."

As soon as he learned about this proposal, Dr. Frederick L. Thomsen, as president of the sister society, the National Association for Humane Legislation (NAHL), wrote to President Ford as follows:

"Recently a society here in your state have called our attention to stories recently appearing in newspapers about a proposal by Milton Doctor, former president of the country's first handicapped entrepreneur lending program through the U. S. Office of Small Business Administration.

"This is unbelievable. Municipalities and counties throughout the country now spend millions of dollars and thousands of dollars, annually, trying to reduce the number of abandoned pets and to aid them in finding homes. The return to the owners of the money spent is the only profit derived.

"It is within the realm of possible that hundreds of thousands of pets are being used as an easy means of obtaining money while having absolutely no interest in the welfare of the animals."

"To act favorably on this suggestion would be probably one of the most stupid moves in the history of animal welfare. And, additionally, it could be even more stupid. such an act could be counted on to alienate millions of animal lovers, consume millions of dollars, and destroy the good name and the excellent intuitions of government into private animal welfare, and city and county officials everywhere to the stem the tide of pet animal breeding.

"Please put your foot on this dangerous project, whatever it is, before it gets started.

"In reply, Doc received a polite letter from The White House thanking him for his letter and suggesting, and a copy of a letter from the Director of the Office of Inoffensive Business Enterprise, United States Department of Commerce, which contains three pertinent paragraphs of his letter follow:

"Unfortunately, Mr. Doctor has published a press release which is both pre
ture and inaccurate. The Federal Govern-

"It may be possible, provided Mr.

"Company (SBIC). If such a license were obtained, and subject to stringent regulations, the SBIC, which is a private-not-for-profit and non-profit corporation, might be able to obtain loans from SBA to lend to or invest in businesses owned by handicapped individuals. Any such investments could not be more than the safe risk of the private capital investors (Editor's note:). Doctor has not applied for such a license from the Small Business Administration, and there is no assurance that such a license will be issued even if an application is received at some future date. No funding would be provided by the Department of Commerce.

Does all this, or does it not, mean that the proposal of Milton Docktor to es
tablish these enterprises marks the beginning, or the end, of an effort to estab-

lish a new kind of puppy or cat mill, which we need as much as we do a new form of cancer? To tune in to the next epi
deme, which will be broadcast on all chan-
nels. Frankly, after studying the available facts we remain puzzled. But cer-
tainly the possibilities of such as humans

itarians and legitimate dog and cat breeders should be on guard. Those who

try to do things repeatedly. It is clai-

m'sed, even, that wholesalers sometimes

will ship a batch of puppies to some pet shop "on consignment," hoping that they

will take on arrival. If not, they must be returned.

One might think that the large losses of puppies which result from these condi-
tions would motivate the airlines, the

market needs, perhaps supplying stud ser-

vices, helping them in obtaining "papers" from the AGC, contacting potential buyers asking for "demonstrations" and shipping the puppies. Conditions for the animals in the establishments of these wholesale dealers are said to be little better than in the individual puppy mills they service.

TRANSPORTATION BY AIR

The "bunchers" ship most of the puppies by commercial airlines, to which the busi-

ness is a relatively small yet still a ma-

terial source of dollar income. The large-

ly shipping point is Gal 
s, Kansas, which is a "busy puppy port." But ships

ments leave airports throughout puppy-mill territory.

The usual shipping container is a flis-

m (to reduce cost and weight) or a

“ horse crate, in which two and sometimes

several puppies are confined. They must

many available space on planes, many not

next available space on planes, many not

moving direct to destination point. Ade-

quate supplies are rarely made for food

and water.

An Iowa puppy mill. (Photograph courtesy American Kennel Club, via HSUS.)
PUPPY MILLS—FROM PAGE 5—

involved in the commercial pet trade.

CONGRESSIONAL ACTION

In response to the public clamor to do something about the overbreeding problem, bills were introduced in both the Senate and the House of Representatives which provided for government agencies responsible for bringing about certain reforms in the air transportation of puppies. Among other things, they would have required that no puppies be shipped for eight weeks of age, unless otherwise specified by the Secretary of Agriculture. These house and committee were managed against considerable opposition through the Agriculture Committee and the House Committee on Commerce, the latter including the chairman, chairman, who was expanded to forbid interstate shipment of animals for fighting, or the promotion or sale of dog fighting. This feature was a part of the Senate bill. The two bills passed by the respective houses were combined by the conference committee, and the result, identified as S. 414, approved by both branches of Congress. Congressman Ford, who had been associated with Animal Protective Legislation, who had written letters to Congress and the President about the problem, had been a leader in the effort. It had been feared that he would veto the bill, especially because of the prohibition on dog fighting, but the latter is a condition brought to be exempt states that permit cock fights. It is probable, also, that the 35, 000 puppies raised last year by breeder associations are transmissible to humans.

"We need that unless we can win the battle to detect the transmissible disease, we cannot win the battle to detect the transmissible disease. It is difficult to tell what the cutest puppy looks like when a puppy is supposed, so a baby is never born to a female, unless otherwise specified by the veterinarian, chairman, who was expanded to forbid interstate shipment of animals for fighting, or the promotion or sale of dog fighting. This feature was a part of the Senate bill. The two bills passed by the respective houses were combined by the conference committee, and the result, identified as S. 414, approved by both branches of Congress. Congressman Ford, who had been associated with Animal Protective Legislation, who had written letters to Congress and the President about the problem, had been a leader in the effort. It had been feared that he would veto the bill, especially because of the prohibition on dog fighting, but the latter is a condition brought to be exempt states that permit cock fights. It is probable, also, that the 35, 000 puppies raised last year by breeder associations are transmissible to humans.

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The Chairman of the Senate committee, and the Secretary of Agriculture, responsible for bringing about certain reforms in the air transportation of puppies. Among other things, they would have required that no puppies be shipped for eight weeks of age, unless otherwise specified by the Secretary of Agriculture. These house and committee were managed against considerable opposition through the Agriculture Committee and the House Committee on Commerce, the latter including the chairman, chairman, who was expanded to forbid interstate shipment of animals for fighting, or the promotion or sale of dog fighting. This feature was a part of the Senate bill. The two bills passed by the respective houses were combined by the conference committee, and the result, identified as S. 414, approved by both branches of Congress. Congressman Ford, who had been associated with Animal Protective Legislation, who had written letters to Congress and the President about the problem, had been a leader in the effort. It had been feared that he would veto the bill, especially because of the prohibition on dog fighting, but the latter is a condition brought to be exempt states that permit cock fights. It is probable, also, that the 35, 000 puppies raised last year by breeder associations are transmissible to humans.

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LEGHO HEAD TRAP TO BE BANNED
IN BRITISH COLUMBIA
FOR THREE YEARS!
(From "The Fur-Bearers," Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals, Vancouver, British Columbia)

The official statement of the new BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals WAS THAT COMMITTEE THAT CLEAR METHODS OF TRAPPING BE BANNED WITHIN THREE YEARS AND THAT SOME HUMANE TRAPS BE DEVELOPED THEN.

It was your letters, your petitions, your protests, your sending in papers, and constantly since, that made it all happen. Ten thousand letters in one month from you and the public was just too much pressure for you to handle. YOU WERE FUR- BEARER MEMBERS; YOU AND A SHOCKED PUBLIC, INFORMED AND AROUSED BY THE PROVOCATION
HIS COMMENT: CONGRATULATIONS TO FUR-BEARERS. THIS SAME MOVIE HAS BEEN ON TV AND SHOWN BEFORE PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND OTHERS. THE TRAPPING, CONTAINING COLORED PHOTOGRAPHS SIMILAR TO THOSE IN THE MOVIE, WENT TO 16,000 PEOPLE.

We propose to give up this source of supply just to hobby breeders.

The marketing of hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions of so-called "purebred" puppies is now being controlled by a group of brave people, who have agreed to use the HSUS Money to fight for pet shop puppies, which have to do with the profit margin of the pet shop, as well as with the genuine humane organizations that adopt dogs.

WHAT CAN BE DONE
TO STOP THE CRUELITIES OF THE COMMERCIAL TRADE?

The time has come to do something to eliminate the cruelties and fraudulent aspects of the commercial trade in puppies. Passage of the Foley bill is a good step in the right direction. But the six-week-old puppies, with little or no progress toward a solution of the problem, except passage of the Foley bill. Our readers will respond in volume if we later suggest letters to the Secretary of Agriculture.

In its special report on this subject the HSUS offers a number of recommendations, including passage of state laws, particularly those that permit the killing of porpoises. The HSUS has supported this legislation. If we wait to include all except a few breeders in any such acts, we may wait for decades. And the HSUS may be able to convince the state legislature to pass such a bill, apparently, because it feels it favors local dog breeders.

HSUS is inclined to side with the proponents of this legislation. If we wait to include all except a few breeders in any such acts, we may wait for decades. And the HSUS may be able to convince the state legislature to pass such a bill, apparently, because it feels it favors local dog breeders.

The killing of porpoises

The killing of porpoises is a cruel act, but it is necessary for the survival of the porpoises. The HSUS has opposed this legislation. If we wait to include all except a few breeders in any such acts, we may wait for decades. And the HSUS may be able to convince the state legislature to pass such a bill, apparently, because it feels it favors local dog breeders.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR . . .

PRIORITIES AND MAILING LISTS

"We have enjoyed receiving Report to Humantarians for several years. At one time it was a part of The Bulletin, but for some reason your name was removed unintentionally. That has been rectified and you will begin receiving the OMB again. A copy is sent to our natural resources commission which provides habitat for billions of individual animals."

"The March, 1976 (Number 35), issue of Report to Humantarians identified a similar misdirection of priorities in the humane movement." --James L. Weighton, Secretary, Wildlife Management Institute, Washington, DC.

REPLY:

We thank you for returning to your mailing list. The "for some reason" we had been "unintentionally" removed from your mailing list very likely was our change of address in 1975. We have tried to notify all matters of humane literature to us, but have not succeeded in gaining the decline in number of publications received since our move. Publications are not forwarded from our old address. We will greatly appreciate the favor if all officials of humane organizations reading this check with their mailing lists to see that our address has been correctly changed.

REPLY:

SOMEONE DOESN'T LIKE US!

"Your March Report sounds as though you and you alone, are prizing our legal and humane methods. Perhaps we had all fold up and allow your wisdom to lead us. I think not."

Frankly, sir, your seemingly gall as a know-it-all is quite astounding for any person. A humanitarian? I think not. --V. George, Canada.

REPLY:

We fully realize that sometimes our reports must sound somewhat pontifical. Did you stop to think that this might be because we are not America's fox最新 or duck hunter? You have not been on our mailing list, and hence don't know that we often admit puzzle and ask for suggestions. And we believe that there are so many ways to make a man see as much effort, to keep in touch with what other humanitarians are thinking. We read all letters and all humane publications received--which is a daunting task. We try to keep all the viewpoints expressed in our reports, and use them as a basis for the subject about which we seem to disagree. What you say about trapping is not contradicted by our report. We have specialties which have been doing. There may be other Canadians who feel we have slighted their efforts on trapping. Just the contrary is true.

BUT SOMEONE DOES!

"Yet another excellent Report. Your Report is astounding how you manage to keep your standards of keen insight, practical ideas, compassion, and articulate presentation so consistently high. We have been unwarily consumed by the recent style."

"The March, 1976 (Number 35), issue of Report to Humantarians identified a similar misdirection of priorities in the humane movement." --James L. Weighton, Secretary, Wildlife Management Institute, Washington, DC.

REPLY:

We are glad you are not all of our readers agree with V. George, writer of the letter replied to above! If you are not sure of the future to pass an ordination calling for licensing of pet owners rather than animals, please let us know. The benefits are so obvious, yet the idea is so new that humanitarians seem afraid the public will not accept it. Perhaps the public would not be so resistant if humanitarians asked them.

HE DOESN'T AGREE WITH US!

"Please remove my name from your mailing list. I have never taken part in any way of the Green-Wood County Humane Society and have been only a reader of The Bulletin."

"The March, 1976 (Number 35), issue of Report to Humantarians identified a similar misdirection of priorities in the humane movement." --James L. Weighton, Secretary, Wildlife Management Institute, Washington, DC.

REPLY:

Thank you for bringing us back once again to reality. We in the Green-Wood County Humane Society are not spokesmen for the opinion, from mutual exchanges of correspondence, that nearly everyone else would agree with us, if only they were "educated." Human education is far more than merely "teaching the people what is going on."

Also thank you for asking to be taken off our mailing list. If there are others who feel the same way, please write. We have no postage to lose.

YOUR LETTERS AS GOOD AS OURS

We receive many letters from members suggesting that we write letters to editors or articles about this and that subject. Typical is this one:

"We are greatly interested in your letter on licensing--a rather nice idea in itself. We would like condensation."

"Douglas's baby, I respect his right to raise it as he pleases, but I do not agree with him in his own efforts are mostly directed towards (eliminating) the suffering of animals. My feelings and others I heard from after reading your publications have changed completely regarding what was formerly considered to be humane." --Miss Bernice Wallis, Richmond, Virginia.

REPLY:

Knowing what a dedicated humanitarian you are, we are most pleased to receive your approval.

CONDENSE! CONDENSE! CONDENSE!

"Mrs. Buchwalter isn't the only one commenting on the letter from Donald Zarr which appeared in Report No. 35. We received one, from a long-time member, which reads:"

"Since (Report to Humantarians) is Doc's baby, I respect his right to raise it as he pleases, but I do not agree with him in his own efforts are mostly directed towards (eliminating) the suffering of animals. My feelings and others I heard from after reading your publications have changed completely regarding what was formerly considered to be humane." --H. VanDonk, Orland Park, Illinois.

REPLY:

Doc's only interest is in helping to improve humane programs. Emily has just as much to say about the content of our reports as Doc. She agrees entirely with our present policy. It does no good at all to publish little squibs about bad conditions for animals, unless such ideas react in the form of effective action. They may please some readers, and bring in contributions, but they don't help animals. And, contrary to our report's incidental comments, much of our readers would prefer brevity, more than 95 percent of the many readers we have commented on this in the past urge us to retain our present style."

"In mem.ory of my sister Bertha Mary Soot, who lived and worked in St. Petersburg so many years."

"And from Richmond, Virginia "You need never apologize for delays or even not acknowledging correspondence. I understand your feelings. Our efforts are mostly directed towards (eliminating) the suffering of animals. My feelings and others I heard from after reading your publications have changed completely regarding what was formerly considered to be humane." --Miss Bernice Wallis, Richmond, Virginia.

REPLY:

Know that a dedicated humanitarian you are, we are most pleased to receive your approval.

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

have been received from...

"In memory of Marie Thompson, sadly missed, president and organizer of The Wisconsin Humane Society."

"In memory of my sister Bertha Mary Soot, who lived and worked in St. Petersburg so many years."

"In memory of Thomas Christopher Tyler Heard, the best thing that ever happened to us. He passed away October 75, 1973, only six years old. Thornhills, blood clot in brain. We miss him so much. Words, we hope with all our hearts that some day another Tyler will enter our lives."

"In memory of my dog Snopek (1948-1959)."

"In memory of two of the finest humans who have ever known, Patry and his partner, Filmore. Paty was a beautiful English setter, and Filmore a beautiful chow. If they were living, they could tell you about their namesakes and how one and humanity they are."

"In memory of my parakeet Choo-Choo."

"In loving memory of my parakeet Choo-Choo."

"In memory of my dog Snopek (1948-1959)."

"In memory of two of the finest humans who have ever known, Patry and his partner, Filmore. Paty was a beautiful English setter, and Filmore a beautiful chow. If they were living, they could tell you about their namesakes and how one and humanity they are."

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