(No. 39) -- Good News About Humane Slaughter

Humane Information Services, Inc.
Good News About Humane Slaughter

As the famous radio broadcaster, Kaltenborn, used to say, "Ah! There's good news tonight.

Good, that is, for humanitarians and for the consuming public. It was enacted for every other recent human being who wishes to spare animals from suffering.

The gunter bill for which humane Information Services has been fighting every year since 1973 finally seems to have an excellent chance for passage this year. The present Congress. We can make sure of this if the humane movement unites behind this excellent bill. For various reasons other humane societies have not really pushed this legislation in the past, but in 1977 we are determined to examine why that is so, and to show why we should all get behind the bill during the present session of Congress to insure its passage. We were confused about this subject, because it is a field of humane work with which they have no personal experience.

THE GUNTER BILL

Away back in 1973, at the urging of our sister society, the National Association for Humane Legislation (NAHL), Congressionally appointed representatives from animal welfare groups were Shocked into realizing that the humane slaughter movement is in great danger. This was especially true because other humane groups who had not realized what great quantities of meat are imported by the United States. Conditions in meat packing plants in several foreign countries are shocking to the humane movement. It has been estimated that this amounts to the equivalent of at least five million head annually. Thus, a substantial part of the meat consumed by Americans, in the blissful belief that it is from humanely-slaughtered animals, is not affected by present United States humane slaughter laws.

Some of these plants already were using humane equipment for stunning the animals, so make them unconscious before shocking, and then to use a captive bolt to kill the animal. But others were not. Humane Information Services had been unable to obtain complete information on these conditions, despite diligent inquiries addressed to foreign humane societies and the United States Department of Agriculture. However, as enough evidence to indicate that conditions in some countries are bad, and that we should make sure that none of the same disease is produced under such conditions.

The accompanying pictures are evidence that it is possible to gain the support of the humane movement, and that the gunter bill is ready for immediate action. The picture, which shows a captive bolt pistol and meat products to the United States.

The gunter bill was developed, much more comprehensively and effectively than the gunter bill, and designed to meet objections to the latter based on the claims by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the State Department that the gunter bill would require some of foreign plants to use humane methods as defined in the 1958 law. And foreign plants exporting meat products to the United States would have required all foreign plants exporting meat products to the United States to comply, regardless of whether or not they sell meat products to US government agencies.

EXTENSION OF COVERAGE

The new Brown bill, H.R. 328, extends humane slaughter laws to all packing plants now under federal inspection, or "equal-to" state inspection, subject to the humane methods unless a state humane slaughter law similar to the federal act has been passed by the state legislature. About half of the states have passed such laws. Vigorous campaigns for state laws in the remainder, conducted by humane societies in the fifties and sixties, have "petered out" in the seventies, except in a few states, including Mississippi, where a bill (H.R. 328) is now before the state legislature. Humanitarians seem to have given up their efforts to pass such laws. These will be unnecessary, however, when the Brown bill passes. The Brown bill would extend the provisions of the federal law to all of the state plants which are inspected either by USDA inspectors, or by state inspection services "equal-to" and affiliated with the USDA service, which means practically all commercial plants.

INSPECTION GREATLY IMPROVED

The USDA personnel now charged with the task of inspecting the plants use modern methods which have made a valiant effort to do a good job. But there are too many ways in which these efforts may be thwarted. A plant may have a captive-bolt pistol on hand, and use it for stunning cattle (see HUMAN SLAUGHTER, page 2, column 1)

ENFORCEMENT IMPROVED

Under the present act, as previously noted, only meat packing establishments owned by firms which sell meat to federal government agencies, such as the Army and Navy, are affected. Any such packing firm must submit a statement that it is in compliance with the law, which means for all species (cattle, hogs, sheep) in all of its plants. But there is no convenient way for the purchasing agency to check up on that statement. The results of inspections are reported separately for different species. It would require a staff of prose and a computer to keep track of all these reports and determine, for any firm bidding on a meat contract, whether or not it is in compliance. So far as we have been able to determine, this is not done. The simple statement by the supplier is accepted at face value. What would be a complete crime enforcement that accepted a signed statement from a suspected criminal that he had not violated the law.

As a result, a veterinarian who is very well informed about administration of the federal law states: "I know of no cases of non-compliance having been made in the 18 years the law has been in effect."
HUMANE SLAUGHTER — FROM PAGE 1 —

when the inspector shows up. In between, however, they may prefer to go back to the old inhumane sledgehammer (not permitted under the 1958 act). Dr. Thomsen has observed such a case.

If the electrical method of stunning is used for hogs or sheep, the slaughtermen may be careful to place the device properly if the inspector is present, but get very careless at other times. Unless the electric current passes through the brain quickly, or through the body, it can be as painful as the former method, still very careless at other times. Unless the electric current passes through the brain quickly, or through the body, it can be as painful as the former method, still very careless at other times. Unless the electric current passes through the brain quickly, or through the body, it can be as painful as the former method, still very careless at other times. Unless the electric current passes through the brain quickly, or through the body, it can be as painful as the former method, still very careless at other times.

PENALTIES INCREASED

The present federal humane slaughter act has no criminal penalties, and does not identify those who are not in compliance. The reports made by the state inspectors identify only those who are in compliance. The only penalty for non-compliance is the possibility of the privilege of selling to a federal agency. But this is a theoretical matter, since, for reasons that have been explained, it is no feasible way the purchasing agency can check on compliance. Under the Brown bill the inspector would be told of any violation immediately, and if the violation did not cease, the inspector would not pass the carcasses for human food. The packer would lose the big money.

Thus, the Brown bill changes the penalty for violation of the act from a virtual slap on the wrist to a financial loss sufficient, if the violation continues, to close the plant. This is a big improvement.

If the plant hires a new worker to apply the electric shock, without giving him adequate training and warnings, and the meat inspectors hire him using the device in a way that results in an inhumane death, he could condemn all of the carcasses coming from the line during the time the offending worker was doing the stunning. Of course, he would be very unlikely to do any such thing. The inspectors are not unreasonable. Probably he would give a stern warning to the plant management, which might take immediate steps to correct the deficiency. Under the present system, it might be a year before the deficiency was discovered and corrected.

MERITS OF THE BROWN BILL

To summarize, the Brown bill would:

1. Extend coverage of the 1958 federal humane slaughter act to several hundred domestic commercial plants not now covered.

2. Extend coverage also to foreign plants that now use it in the US.

3. Entirely change the enforcement of the act, from the present non-enforced provisions applying to meat packers who sell to the federal government, to all plants coming under federal or state USDA-supervised federal meat inspection.

4. Change the present hit-or-miss, occasional inspection system to daily inspections by USDA meat inspectors.

5. Make penalties for violation of the act much more of a deterrent to slipshod or inconsiderate practice.

6. But, because existing personnel now continuously employed as meat inspectors in all of these plants would be utilized also for the inspection of slaughtering methods, the Brown bill would not appreciably increase the costs of enforcing the act. In short, it would provide somewhat much better than what we now have, without significant additional expense to the government.

No other humane bill now before the Congress, or any state legislature, has more merit.

A NON-CONTROVERSIAL BILL

It would be hard to find any other kind of legislation more controversial among humanitarians and humane societies than humane slaughter. Organizations that fight "live" inhumane slaughter have been of two minds about eliminating the cruelty of slaughter.

There has been a great difference of opinion over what methods of slaughter are humane and what are not. The basic principle, upon which all agree, is to eliminate the shackling and hoisting of conscious animals before cutting their throats (see photo). In the case of non-ritual slaughter, this is accomplished by using some humane method of stunning the animal. For ritual slaughter, it involves the use of some kind of hold device so the animal is positioned for the shochet's knife without prior stunning and slaying.

Livestock producers and meat packers also support such legislation. Producers understandably feel that they should not be subject to humane slaughter requirements that their competitors in foreign countries do not have to observe. And packers would agree with the need for the very careful handling of holding device so the animal is positioned for the shochet's knife without prior stunning and slaying.

Those fears now should have been removed. There is no real danger of the Brown bill affecting ritual slaughter in any way. It would not hurt anyone.

JEWISH OPPOSITION?

Despite diligent search for opponents of the bill, in the hope that if they are found we might persuade them to change their position, we have not found one directly. But we have been told by persons connected with the Congress that Jewish rabbis, and a very active Jewish organization, have quietly let it be known that they do oppose the bill.

How can this be? The bill would not affect ritual slaughter in any way. It does not redefine the word "humane" as applied to slaughter. Since ritual slaughter is specifically exempt by the federal humane slaughter act, the Brown bill would only extend the coverage and greatly improve the enforcement of that act; it would not affect ritual slaughter in any way.

Why, then, do some Jewish interests
Vegetarianism and Humanitarianism

FROM A VEGETARIAN

"Please stop sending Reptor to Humanitarians. I've been a vegetarian for so long now that it seems so senseless to fight for humane slaughter...Why have animal rights groups not supported a publication that is fighting for different things than I believe in."—Ms. Mary Jane Need, Westport, Connecticut.

REPLY:

We continue to read vegetarian viewpoints, and wish you were open-minded enough to continue reading ours. If you like the idea that you'll simply see us again and let us know which you then think we should have fought for in 1977, humanely, and make every effort to educate all animal lovers. The old "all or nothing" belief is hard to eradicate (see article this issue).

About twelve o'clock one night several years ago Doc was awakened by a telephone call from New York City. The caller had just read an article in our Report to Hu­manitarians about humane slaughter. Why don't you have the courage to come out against the eating of any meat? Are you a vegetarian, then demanded.

"That depends on how you define 'vegetarian,'" Doc replied.

KINDS OF VEGETARIANS

There are many different varieties of vegetarians. Probably less than ten percent of them are "vegans," who will eat or use any product of animal origin, including meat, poultry, fish, eggs, milk, butter, cheese, leather, furs, wool, honey, etc.

The remainder of the vegetarians are divided into various groups, such as the lacto-ovo-vegetarians, who consume only dairy products, but not meat or fish. Likewise, vegetarians who rationalize the eating of gelatin because it is only a by-product of the slaughter (if meat is not available) are also Ovo-vegetarians.

There is no doubt that much more food, including protein, could be made available to undernourished peoples of the world if everyone were a vegetarian. This is a big "if" inevitably followed by a big "but." Would farmers be willing to shift from the production of feed grains, hay and live­stock to vegetable crops, fruits and nuts that would be required to turn theory into practice? Would you have to live for a long time. Meanwhile, for a time at least, food production probably would decrease. It is an important source of food in many countries, but would not be used if the world went vegetarian. And livestock grazing on land unsuited for production of fruits, nuts and vegetables. Beef cattle are "finished" on grain only in the feedlots. The acreage available for conversion would be mainly that now devoted to corn, sorghum and hay, probably not as large a part of the total as vegetarians think.

The world's population, which in past centuries has been limited mainly by the pressure of herding on the available food supply, would respond to any eventual increase in food production, leaving the per capita availability of food much less changed than vegetarians believe. The education and propaganda required to bring about the necessary shift in consumption and production patterns would be so severe that the pressure would be increased instead to hold down the human population through family planning and birth control, maybe do far more for the nutritional condition of the population.

These are merely limitations on the quantitative increase in food supplies that might result from a shift to vegetarianism.

IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH

The effects of a vegetarian diet on the health of those who follow it also are a matter of much controversy. For every nutrition "expert" the vegetarians may get to testify that a meat diet is dangerous for the health of all Americans, we can find two who say the opposite.

Vegetarian claim that man is not natu­rally designed to eat meat (or "omnivore" (eating both animal and plant food). We are, they say, born to be vege­tanians. Our teeth and jaws are not designed for chewing flesh. We per­spire through our skin, whereas carnivores do so through their tongues. The car­nivores hunt for food at night, whereas vege­tanians do so in daylight.

But vegetarians carefully avoid applic­ing this claim to the human race as a whole.

We are unlike "carnivores." Most herb­ivores have multiple chambers for food digestion, while man has only one, markedly from humans. True, anthropoid apes live on nuts, fruits, green shoots, edible leaves and seeds, but this is far from being the kind of diet envisioned by the vegetarians.

These anatomical differences seem to be a dangerous reason not to eat meat, but mean for us to be poor meat-eaters. Yet the vegetarians have excellent rea­sons for believing their diet to be more healthful than that of meat eaters. Meat

Unwillingness to kill animals, due to re­ligious scruples, may result in much un­tended suffering, as by these "sacred cows" in the street of a city in India. (Photograph from St. Petersburg Times.)

As high in saturated fats and cholesterol, believed to be causes of heart disease. Apparently people who eat a diet high in animal fats have a higher incidence of coronary heart disease than those who do not.

Vegetarians also make a case for possi­ble cancer-causing properties of meat. Studies have shown a strong correlation between the incidence of colon cancer and meat consumption.

Vegetarians also claim that meat has a far greater amount of harmful bacteria than vegetable foods. Salmonella infec­tion is especially likely to result from bacterial contamination of meat. Accord­ing to Dr. James Goddard, writing on "Nu­trition Today," meat eaten at random in retail markets has shown a high incidence of contamination. Others say that proper cooking destroys these bacteria.

It is pointed out, also, that a carniv­orous diet creates more waste for the kid­neys to contend with. Urine analyses show that meat eaters require much less kidney work in the elimination of ni­trigenous wastes than is demanded of the kidneys of flesh abstainers. There is a high incidence of kidney disease.

And, finally, the fatty tissue of meat are said to act as biological magnifiers, adding to the chemical content of the hu­man body derived from pesticides, addi­tives, preservatives and antibiotics.

One of the best, if somewhat biased, presentations we have seen of these health considerations arising from the eating of meat is to be found in Facts of Vegetarianism, a tabloid publication of the North American Vegetarian Society, 501 Old Harding Highway, Malena, New Jersey 08328, which sells for ten cents per copy. In­terested persons may wish to send for it.

Another publication which will be found useful by those interested in vegetarianism is Eating For Life: Not About Vege­tarianism and Humanitarianism.
VEGETARIANISM — FROM PAGE 3


DIET PROBLEMS OF VEGETARIANS

What we have found to be true, in most diagnostic aspects, vegetarians, is adequate warning and explanation of the need for specific vitamin B12, which must be ingested in a vegetarian diet, and which must be provided if the diet is not to prove harmful. For the vegetarian will be well-advised not to depend on statements by the sales people of the local bakers who may have a plumbers or used-car salesmen turned physi-ologists and nutritionists by reading the advertising and promotional literature of their patrons.

For this purpose we have found very useful the more objective and scholarly articles in the magazine, 

Vita-Vision (Rodale Press, Emmaus, Pennsylvania 18049). Particularly helpful will be found the issue of September, 1971 (Vol. 23, No. 9), especially the article "How to be a Healthy Vegetarian" (page 154).

We recommend that any vegetarian or would-be vegetarian read this article from the nearest library and read the article carefully. It may not be the nutritionists' last word on the subject, but it does contain a great deal of valuable information, particularly on the role of amino acids in nutrition. We also recommend that you study, in some depth, the elements that found the fourteenth chapter, "The Importance of the Vitamin B Complex," (page 152), and the entire chapter on the vitamin B12 content.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Vegetarianism is more than an individual viewpoint on matters relating to food. Those who recommend it do not do so on a catch-it-or-leave-it basis. It is a case of the opinion that can be proselytized.

Its followers publish numerous papers and this purpose of which is only partly to change the eating habits of individuals vegetarians on matters of diet such as were discussed in the preceding section. The purpose of this paper is to show how the concern to benefit the members or readers, as in the case of an athletic club or ordinary health magazine, and is to proselytize the public into joining the cult. A vegetarian newspaper refers to of unmerited urgency and importance to all of humanity. A true-blue vegetarian will try to convert anyone he or she comes in contact with, as does a real humanist.

Of the four motivational bases for vegetarianism, which we have so far discussed, there is an element of "do-goodism." The religiously-motivated vegetarian tries to convince the world to go vegetarian for his own benefit, but to save the soul of his candidate. The vegetarian concerned over world food supplies wants to convert humanity, not himself. The vegetarian for health reasons cares more for his own health, but has at least some evangelistic concern for his religion, and hence tries to convince the world of the health benefits of a vegetarian diet.

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Probably in the majority of cases there is a certain element, found in all "do-gooders" including humanitarians, of egoism; that is, an interest in appearing "holier than thou," or to defend themselves against implications that they are peculiar. The same is true of a vegetarian diet. The vegetarian for health reasons cares more for his own health, but has at least some evangelistic concern for his religion, and hence tries to convince the world of the health benefits of a vegetarian diet.

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There appears to be a new viewpoint on matters relating to food. This viewpoint is more closely related to the humanist, and it appears to be a viewpoint that is more closely related to the humanist, and it appears to be one that can be proselytized.

We recommend that any vegetarian or would-be vegetarian read this article from the nearest library and read the article carefully. It may not be the nutritionists' last word on the subject, but it does contain a great deal of valuable information, particularly on the role of amino acids in nutrition. We also recommend that you study, in some depth, the elements that found the fourteenth chapter, "The Importance of the Vitamin B Complex," (page 152), and the entire chapter on the vitamin B12 content.

After many decades of promotion of vegetarianism, there has been a number of people converted to the faith. Many people have already stopped eating meat, and many others have stopped eating meat products, and have made other changes in their diet. It is a cult. A vegetarian newspaper refers to of unmerited urgency and importance to all of humanity. A true-blue vegetarian will try to convert anyone he or she comes in contact with, as does a real humanist.

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Somebody else will do the cutting of the animals. It is the wish to avoid imposing physical death or suffering.
USE OF LIVE RABBITS IN GREYHOUND TRAINING

Greyhound racing is very popular in Florida. It provides a "respectable" way to gamble, and the excitement which goes along with any kind of gambling and racing. A local Greyhound track opened last year in Pinellas County. During the tourist season the dog tracks offer an important attraction to supplement the beaches, Disney World, Sea World, Busch Gardens, nightlife, and the host of sleazy type centers which appear to be growing by the day in Pinellas County.

This gives the tracks an immeasurable position of favor with the hotels, motels, restaurants, chambers of commerce, advertising media, and other interests affected by the tourist trade. And the State itself derives millions of dollars annually from admission and pari-mutuel taxes. There is a tremendous amount of revenue to be gained from pari-mutuel wagering.

Our members who write to suggest that we "do something" to stop greyhound racing in Florida be reminded that animal cruelty is a tremendous influence in the business interests supporting the tracks, plus the moral and ethical argument for terminating the use of live animals in greyhound training. There is no more chance of eliminating this political behemoth than of closing all the tracks. Please remember that the defendants are local politicians, as are the suits and the lawyers. It is a fact that the greyhound tracks get some of their financial support from local politicians.

The kennel owners stoutly claim that the discarded dogs are destroyed by veterinarians and buried in the grounds, as is required by the anti-cruelty laws. In the past it has been obvious that the kennel owners themselves destroy the dogs themselves in the nurseries, after the usual "sick" dog, "old," or "blind" or "defective" dog is used in the training. There are far greater sources of animal suffering to occupy our attention for a time to come. In my opinion the tracks have not established a case that they have tried to help their opponents in any way, except by repelling the inquiries of the opponents of racing in those states. The current Florida legislature will have to decide whether the live bait is unnecessary. A device marketed under the trade name, "Jack-A-Lure," is claimed to do as well as the use of live bait.

We are told that the Florida Legislature is not at all interested in the prosecution of a case in which the defendants are local politicians, as are the suits and the lawyers. It is a fact that the greyhound tracks get some of their financial support from local politicians.

The trainers and kennel owners do not deny that they engage in these practices, which are followed in all states where training is conducted. They claim there is no other way to instill in the dogs the needed drive. There is no evidence that the use of live bait or dead bodies in the training of young dogs is another matter. The trainers and kennel owners do not deny that they engage in these practices, which are followed in all states where training is conducted. They claim there is no other way to instill in the dogs the needed drive. There is no evidence that the use of live bait or dead bodies in the training of young dogs is another matter.

The use of live bait for training dogs used in actual racing, as a means of whetting the appetite of young greyhounds, is a matter for which it is not possible for the Humane Information Services to furnish information about the conditions under which the live bait is used, or the way it is used. The Humane Information Services has some members in Florida who have written to us about the use of live bait, and have furnished information about conditions under which the live bait is used.

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In 1973, when a state attorney in Ocala prosecuted a local trainer for using live rabbits in the training of young greyhounds, the Florida Anti-Cruelty Law was not in effect. The Florida Anti-Cruelty Law was not in effect. The Florida Anti-Cruelty Law was not in effect.

We have also furnished information about conditions under which the live bait is used, and the way it is used. The Humane Information Services has some members in Florida who have written to us about the use of live bait, and have furnished information about conditions under which the live bait is used.

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The kennel owners stoutly claim that the discarded dogs are destroyed by veterinarians and buried in the grounds, as is required by the anti-cruelty laws. In the past it has been obvious that the kennel owners themselves destroy the dogs themselves in the nurseries, after the usual "sick" dog, "old," or "blind" or "defective" dog is used in the training. There are far greater sources of animal suffering to occupy our attention for a time to come. In my opinion the tracks have not established a case that they have tried to help their opponents in any way, except by repelling the inquiries of the opponents of racing in those states. The current Florida legislature will have to decide whether the live bait is unnecessary. A device marketed under the trade name, "Jack-A-Lure," is claimed to do as well as the use of live bait.

In 1973, when a state attorney in Ocala prosecuted a local trainer for using live rabbits in the training of young greyhounds, the Florida Anti-Cruelty Law was not in effect. The Florida Anti-Cruelty Law was not in effect. The Florida Anti-Cruelty Law was not in effect.

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VEGETARIANISM — FROM PAGE 4

balanced in proteins, amino acids and vitamins, benefits importantly. The vegetarian movement, by proselytizing people into it and helping them choose what to eat, but they do not necessarily in an important way contribute to the avoidance of animal suffering.

This fourth motivation behind vegetarianism calls for an alternative term which is designed, contribute to the maximum extent possible to a reduction in the demand for meat and animal products. This can be done only if the term "ethical vegetarianism" is made as easy and attractive as possible, from the standpoint of the consumer.

To meet this, in turn, calls for: (1) Not insisting that the only real vegetarian is the vegan. The transgression of one of the post-stumbling blocks to making vegetarianism attractive. There should be no stigma attached to the term "converted-vegetarian" or any other kind of a vegetarian. The present tendency to make the term "ethical vegetarian" synonymous with the term "vegan", a term which is attracting to become vegetarians by ethically consider

(2) Making the reasons why people should become more palatable to people who are not greatly concerned over any of the reasons other than health. More people are selfish than are humanitarians. The assumption that we should not be the object of propaganda even more than their noble ones.

Many people are not good, inventive cooks with plenty of time to eat vegetarian cookbooks and pamphlets or browse among health food stores. They have kids or husbands who are turned off by sesame and sunflower seeds, and for whom, perhaps, any kind of nut causes gas pains! They may believe the idea that milk products are excellent sources of necessary ingredients including protein and calcium, a broad spectrum of family habits, nutritional dogma, and personal tastes. We have been involved in the invasion of meatless meals, that left us hungry and with taste buds unsatisfied. There is great natural resistance to veg

(3) Approaching the idea that meat is high priced, potentially conducive to certain diseases, and can be replaced with other meats, at least, by lower-priced, more healthful and still palatable foods, large numbers could be converted to a vegetarianism.

The most attractive presentations of the merits of avoiding meat eating that we have encountered have not been in vegetarian literature; but in articles in magazines interested in nutrition. An example is an article which appeared in the St. Paul, Minnesota Advocate Times in 1977 quoting Robert Levy, director of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. Levy suggested that Americans alter their diets to include more fruits and vegetables, whole grain, poultry and fish, decrease consumption of foods high in fat, particularly saturated fat, for saturated fat, substitute non-fat milk for whole milk, and decrease consumption of meat, dairy products and other cholesterol sources, high sugar content foods, and of salt.

That is the case by all Americans," he said, "deaths from heart disease, which amounted to one million in 1967, could be reduced 25 percent; cancer, of which there were 315,000 deaths in 1968, could be reduced 20 percent; diabetes, which afflicts 3.9 million persons, could be reduced in 50 percent of the cases; and infant mortality, which amounted to 79,000 deaths in 1967, could be reduced 50 percent.

Studies show that it is possible to in
duce hardening of the arteries "with diets similar to those presently consumed by hu

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This is the way sheep, goats and calves are killed in Mexico and some other countries. The animal is held against the legs of the slaughterer, who grabs the muzzle of the animal with his left hand and cuts the throat with the knife in his right hand. (From Peggy Monning Porteau, Asociación De Lucha Para Evitar LA Crueldad Con Los Animales, A. C., Mexico.) We are using these color photographs despite the fact that they will not show up as well as in black and white, because so far we have not been able to obtain similar ones from New Zealand or Australia, where similar methods are said to be used.

The United States imports negligible quantities of meat involved, as evidence that he is "doing something." Thousands of bills are introduced in each session without the slightest prospect of passage. They are referred to one or another subcommittee, where, in the office of its chairman, it rests in peace until the session is over, when it goes into the waste-basket.

The committee or subcommittee chairman may represent a district where no body is particularly interested in the ob jective of the bill. In fact, a majority of the chairman's constituents may be against it. And when a congressman has been around long enough to become chairman of a committee, he probably has become so well known in his district that he has done small favors for so many people, that nobody seriously challenges him at election time. He may make noises, but he will not back his bills. One of the things he has to keep in mind, however, is the necessity for having a sufficient campaign fund every election year to pay for advertisements and road signs which continue to keep his name and picture before the voters. This requires considerable financial ability and is reasonable for him to listen respectfully to what his campaign contributors say.

Under these circumstances it is a wonder that so much legislation which is not of interest to the majority of his constituents can get passed. Actually, Congress has many more conscientious legislators than is commonly believed, but if they want their constituents to continue to keep their names and pictures before the voters, they must pass legislation which they believe is necessary. The humanitarians can see the great importance of passing legislation that will remove this possible source of opposition to the bill. Therefore, they should be able to see from the foregoing that there are no grounds for their fears. The ritual exemptions in the bill will not be removed, and until the rabbinical slaughtering authorities agree to the practicality and desirability of the new process, not only the ritual slaughterers but also the humanitarians will have to keep using the old method. If, however, they would do so agree, and wish to make the change, the kosher meat packers may not accommodate themselves to the new circumstances.

There is no practical political possibility at this time of passing legislation that would remove the Case-Javits provisions of the federal humane slaughter law.

HUMANE SLAUGHTER — FROM PAGE 2

The ritual slaughter question also seems to be the basis for opposition to the bill from a few humanitarians who follow the principle of "all or nothing." As we said previously, we have been unable to find any such individual who will come right out in the open and say what they think. But we have been told by others that some humanitarians, particularly in the New York City area, where feelings sometimes run high against present practices of positioning the animal for the ritual cut, are giving the "silent treatment" to the bill.

Obviously, both the Jews and these few gentile humanitarians cannot both be right in opposing the bill. Actually, neither is right. It is all a matter of mutual suspicion, intransigence and misunderstanding.

There is no practical political possibility at this time of passing legislation that would remove the Case-Javits provisions of the federal humane slaughter law.
MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

have been received from...

John W. Cutler, Stan Cutler, Mary W. Baker, Hilary Baker and Scott Baker, Stamford, Connecticut, "In loving memory of our dog Chouette, who died on September 14. We have rarely, if ever, met a human being who possessed such a combination of loyalty, intelligence, age and sensitivity to the members of her family."

Mr. and Mrs. Russell S. Denby, Jr., Easton, Connecticut, "In memory of Silhouette. Words cannot express our loss of this loved one. He was beautiful, kind, gentle, patient and understanding. God bless you, 14 years, and we thank Him."

Ms. Linda Jane Grey, San Jose, California, "In memory of Melvin, who was struck by a car on September 20, 1976. No other cat could ever take his place."

Mrs. Leonard A. Harvey, Seminole, Florida, "In honor of my beautiful big kitty cat Tiger."

Mrs. Edward P. Kopecky, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, "In memory of my German shepherd Leica, and in appreciation of all that your organization represents."

Mrs. and Mrs. Frederick O. Mathies, Glendale, New York, "In memory of our lovely crossed terrier, Snoopy, who lived eleven years."

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh McCray, Northampton, Massachusetts, "In memory of the love and understanding that you have given us since we started our work several years ago."


dated January 12, 1975, at the age of 37, and her daughter, Laurel Allison Jens, who passed away April 5, 1968, at the age of seven."

Jim, Evelyn and Craig Orfield, Bristol, Virginia, "In memory of a dog and loving friend, Niko, 19 years old, who had to be put to sleep December 17, 1976."

Mr. and Mrs. Roger W. Peavey, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, "In memory of our beloved Clancy Girl."

Mrs. Louise Lynn Shanafelt, Richmond, Virginia, "In memory of our beloved pet Champ, aged 14 years. We miss him so very much."

Miss Helen A. Stabler, Hillsboro, New Hampshire, "In memory of Honey, Mickey and Patsy."

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Tunkle, Los Angeles, California, "In memory of Leo, Prince and Nikki. We miss them so much!" (See the Tunkles' letter to the editor in this issue.)

Anonymous from Indianapolis, Indiana, "In remembrance of an individual personality like you, one would have to look just long enough to find the glamour and sex appeal that makes you so outstanding."

Anonymous from Indianapolis, Indiana, "In remembrance of an individual personability like you, one would have to look just long enough to find the glamour and sex appeal that makes you so outstanding."

This live and fully conscious hog hangs by one leg on a slaughterhouse assembly line. The slaughterman is starting to cut its throat. The hog to the right already has been "stuck" and is bleeding to death. For having made this effort in behalf of humane slaughter, H.R. 1464.

WHAT OUR MEMBERS SHOULD DO

(1) Write a letter to the Congressman from your own district, if you have not already done so in response to the suggestion in our last Report, asking him to work and vote for the Brown bill for humane slaughter, H.R. 1464. Address: Honorable Representative, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

(2) Write to Mr. W. H. Poage, Chairman, Subcommittee on Livestock and Grains, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. Ask him to hold hearings on the Brown bill for humane slaughter, H.R. 1464, and to report it out favorably as soon as possible.

(3) Write to Mr. Thomas S. Foley, Chairman, House Agriculture Committee, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. Ask him to play an active role in pushing through the Brown bill for humane slaughter, H.R. 1464, as he did last year for the Animal Welfare Act amendments.

(4) Write to each member of the Subcommittee on Livestock and Grains, asking for support of the Brown bill for humane slaughter, H.R. 1464. You can address each one at: House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. Members of the Subcommittee, in addition to the Chairman, Mr. Poage, are: Eligio de la Garza, of Texas; Ed Jones, of Tennessee; James H. Weaver, of Oregon; Thomas R. Harkin, of Iowa; Jack E. Hightower, of Texas; Thomas R. Palmisano, of Missouri; James R. White, of Kansas; Charles T. Mathias, of Maryland; James O. Eastland, of Mississippi; Jack Scott, of Alabama; Daniel K. Daniel, of North Carolina; Keith G. Sebelius, of Kansas; Robert Cowl, of Wisconsin; and Thomas M. Hagedorn, of Minnesota.

(5) Write to each of the two US Senators from your state, urging them to actively support the Brown bill for humane slaughter, H.R. 1464.

(6) Write to the editors of your locally-circulated newspapers, explaining briefly the need for this legislation, and urging readers to write to their Congressmen and two Senators urging passage of the Brown bill for humane slaughter, H.R. 1464.

(7) Persuade your local humane society to pass a resolution endorsing the Brown bill for humane slaughter, H.R. 1464, and to send copies of it to the Congressman from your district; to Mr. Poage, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Livestock and Grains; to Congressman George E. Brown, Jr. to the two US Senators from your state; and to Humane Information Services.

(8) If you are a member of any national humane organization in addition to Humane Information Services, write them and ask them to actively support the Brown bill H.R. 1464.

(9) Try to persuade your labor unions, churches, civic and auxiliary organizations to write letters in support of the Brown bill H.R. 1464.

(10) Send an extra contribution to Humane Information Services to help in obtaining humane slaughter of food animals. Please make the letters to Congress brief, courteous and specific. The Congressman you are addressing has heard all the arguments in favor of the bill, about how we should help the poor, dear animals to avoid suffering, etc. The registered lobbyist of our sister society, the National Association for Humane Legislation, has visited the Congressmen’s offices and left literature. Do not send a copy of this Report or any other. Just ask him politely to do what you want—support the Brown bill for humane slaughter, H.R. 1464. Don’t confuse the issues by referring also to other legislation. Stick to the Brown bill for humane slaughter, H.R. 1464.

Friends and fellow animal lovers, you will also have less trouble when you cook or eat a piece of meat, for having made this effort in behalf of humane slaughter. 

The meat inspectors of the USDA work daily in federally-inspected plants, checking for disease or other conditions which would make the meat unfit for human use. These inspectors appear to have adopted an informal policy of considering seriously only one piece of humane legislation in each session. In the preceding session this single important bill consisted of the amendments to the Animal Welfare Act.