INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR THE
STUDY OF ANIMAL PROBLEMS

After almost two years of planning and development, the International Journal For The Study of Animal Problems has become a reality with the inaugural January/February 1980 issue. Published by the Institute for the Study of Animal Problems (ISAP), a division of The HSUS, this fine journal represents a significant landmark in the field of animal welfare. Under the editorship of Dr. Michael Fox and Dr. Andrew Rowan, the International Journal draws upon the expertise and talents of numerous scientists world-wide in addressing, from a scholarly perspective, major problems affecting the welfare of animals.

Designed to balance the needs of people and animals in a scientifically equitable fashion, the Journal will identify, target, and address problems in such areas as livestock rearing, handling and slaughter, laboratory animal usage and care, surplus companion animals, wildlife utilization and predator control techniques, and a range of other issues.

In addition to the contributions being provided the International Journal by individual scholars, the launching of this publication has brought together in joint sponsorship the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals headquartered in Horsham, England, and The HSUS. We are extremely pleased and proud to be associated with this illustrious organization in a project of such significance.

Although the International Journal is written primarily for scientists and educators, it is without question an indispensable resource for animal welfare organizations and animal welfare leaders. Subscription information may be found on page 28.

The HSUS extends congratulations to the staff of ISAP and many others who have made possible this outstanding Journal.
It's No Ordinary Ordinance

Two unique ideas in animal welfare legislation came out of the Midwest recently. Independence, Missouri, has a new animal control ordinance which allows citizens to confine dogs borrowed from the motor vehicle code. In some states, drivers arrested and ticketed for driving under the influence are allowed to "work off" the fine by attending driver education classes. In Independence, dog owners who violate animal control laws can be sent with their pets to dog obedience school, where they can learn better manners.

The other idea may not become law for some time, but it has been introduced as a bill in the Michigan House of Representatives by Representative Sharenbro. The bill would allow Michigan residents to claim a $25.00 tax credit for up to two animals, provided the animals have been spayed or neutered, adding a new incentive to the county of canine and feline companionship.

HSUS and 'Lou Grant' Take on Dogfighting

Those of you who saw the March 3 episode of the hit show "Lou Grant," will have noticed that the producers may have wondered where the show's writers got their information from on the subject of dogfighting.

Dogfighting is an old sport, spawned over 200 years ago when stout dogs called terriers were confined in fighting areas so they could "bait" small dogs. Their initial purpose was to make the dogs stand off and learn to cheer at the gore and swill beer along with the degenerates.

Tuna Aggregation Could Be Key to Porpoise Protection

The fact that schools of tuna tend to aggregate under herds of dolphin has been the cause of much misery for the dolphins since it has been the basis for tuna fishing for the last twenty years. When porpoise herds are sighted, the speedboats take them down and encircle them with giant purse seine nets which are drawn tight at the bottom, capturing tuna and porpoise together. Despite new methods to help the marine mammals out of the nets, thousands are killed each season. If the tuna net itself doesn't get them, the harassment of the chase might.

Dolphins in the eastern tropical Pacific have been seen quite frequently that the moment they sight a tuna purse seiner, they start "running." Chases by the speedboats which used to take one to two hours now take as much as three or four hours. The speedboats must have larger fuel tanks than before in order to chase the dolphins long enough to encircle them. The old, weak, pregnant, or very young may become casualties of these exhausting races. For the protection of the dolphins, it is vital that some new method be developed for capturing tuna.

What would that method be? One idea being researched is that of confining dolphins by the motor vehicle code. In some states, drivers arrested and ticketed for driving under the influence are allowed to "work off" the fine by attending driver education classes. In Independence, dog owners who violate animal control laws can be sent with their pets to dog obedience school, where they can learn better manners.

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Assembly line livestock is big business, but animals are not machines.

A report on the state of livestock under modern farming methods by Dr. Michael Fox, Director of the Institute for the Study of Animal Problems

Each year more than 217 million cattle, sheep and pigs, and over three and a half million chickens take their place in the food chain in the United States. Animal products like meat, eggs and milk flow continuously from farm to market to dining room table. What the eye doesn't see, the consumer doesn't grieve! A styrofoam carton of impeccable eggs, a neat trimmned meat in plastic wrapping, or a delicate slice of veal cordon bleu served on a silver platter can tell us nothing about the care and treatment of the animal. Behind those packages of clean, wholesome-looking food is the agribusiness reality of mass production on land and labor, two of the most costly elements of modern farming. Automation in the factory farm and the motive is profit.

Total confinement rearing has become an economic necessity; it saves on land and labor, twofold the most. It is frequently said in support of factory farming that no farmer mistreats his animals, because his economic livelihood is dependent upon their well-being. But is this true when today the major, if not sole, criterion of the animals' well-being is productivity, yet productivity alone is not a scientifically valid indicator of psychological well-being or even physical health?

Livestock Systems

It is easy to follow the pattern of how the various factory farming systems came about. Extensive (free-range) conditions were first replaced by semi-intensive conditions of raising livestock in enclosed pastures or fields. Next, with increasing land costs dictating a more frugal use of arable land, animals were removed from the land to intensive confinement systems—more animals crammed into less space. Most cattle and sheep are still raised for part of their lives under extensive, free-ranging conditions. But more animals are being both raised and fattened under intensive conditions ranging from feedlot conditions to open-air barns which afford varying degrees of freedom and protection from the elements. However, the free-range and semi-intensive operations require the most labor, so there is a growing trend to raise cattle and sheep in total confinement, where the high cost of animal husbandry is offset by the saving convenience of the operators. Automation in the factory farm and the by-product is cruelty—arthritis, obesity, and infertility are common sequels. Keeping sows tied down or penned alone all their lives, sometimes for as long as four years, is not a humane solution: arthritis, obesity, and infertility are common sequels.

Like many aspects of factory farming, the "better life indoors" can be a rationalization, a substitute for good husbandry and for humane stewardship, as well as being a way to reduce labor and increase productivity at the expense of the animals' well-being. The by-product is cruelty and the motive is profit.

Generally, confinement systems are designed first for the labor-saving convenience of the operators. But now, from the bitter lessons of chronic infertility problems in sows, most farm animal products than we did fifty years ago, but often at the extreme use of animal suffering. The animals' well-being is dependent upon the health of the land and labor, too. If the pens, yards, or fields aren't overstocked, fighting is not a problem. Keeping sows tied down or penned alone all their lives, sometimes for as long as four years, is not a humane solution: arthritis, obesity, and infertility are common sequels.

In confinement systems, the animals are wholly dependent on men and machines for food, water, temperature, humidity and light control of their environment.
mastitis and food problems in cattle, to chronic pneumonia and c visceral injuries in pigs and poultry, farmers are starting to learn that the environment must be designed first for the animals, otherwise confinement systems will continue to fail. One of the greatest costs for the modern livestock farmer is of drugs and vaccines for control of diseases, many of which are a product of confinement factory farming.

Sickness and Death

Good animal husbandry practices to control diseases have been replaced by the administration of drugs in the feed and water to prevent illnesses that are to a large extent created by bad and/or intensive husbandry. Vaccines to prevent a variety of diseases costly to the farmer are essential since confinement rearing, especially crowding stress, increases the animals' susceptibility to many diseases. With too many animals to look after, sick ones are rarely noticed, and if they are, it may be too late, or too time-consuming to treat them. The larger the operation, therefore, the less individual attention each animal gets if it is sick and not performing well. The larger the operation (often supported by a market monopoly, price guarantees, and marketing expertise), the greater is the loss than can be absorbed. Such higness is clearly inefficient, and can lead to unnecessary animal neglect and indifference to those individuals requiring veterinary treatment.

Production Diseases — Accelerated Animal Machines

An often overlooked aspect of factory farming which can cause suffering, stress, and disease is the way in which animals are pushed to their limits to produce milk, meat, and eggs. For example, more and more dairy cattle, pushed beyond their normal physiological limits through selective breeding and nutrition, suffer from a number of metabolic disorders which are referred to collectively as production diseases.

Meat animals are fed arsenic and other appetite stimulants as well as growth-promoting hormones. Highly concentrated feeds that are low in natural roughage are used to produce more milk and to finish or fatten beef cattle and hogs. This approach can cause many problems (including acid indigestion, liver abscesses, bloating, lameness, and ulcers in the digestive tract) and can also lower the animal's stress resistance to disease and temperature extremes.

Broiler chickens are often raised under continuous artificial light to stimulate appetite and accelerate growth. In the battery cage system (cages in a series) for laying hens, the birds are accelerated to produce more by being given a longer day under artificial light. At the end of one laying cycle, they are either destroyed (and put into soups or pet foods) or they are deprived of water or starved for up to ten days to force molting to prepare them for another laying cycle. Many die under this acute stress. Others burn out from stress and are treated and not the basic causes. Less crowding would be more humane and could also be more profitable.

Animal Stress

Confinement can occur during one part of the animal's life or for the duration of its existence. The animal is wholely dependent upon the stockman not only for food and water but also for the cleanliness, temperature, humidity, and light control of its environment. Depending on the confinement system, the animal may also be subjected to varying degrees of social deprivation, and restriction of movement, and an inability to satisfy various instincts and emotional needs.

Deprivation of Basic Needs

Confinement in barren stalls, pens, or cages can be stressful because of the extreme monotony and lack of varied stimulation in the environment. Such deprivation leads to chronic boredom and under-stimulation which may lead to "boredom violence" such as excessive pecking, grooming, nervous ticks, and stereotyped behaviors. Acute social deprivation is also common, especially with veal calves, breeding bulls and hens.

Barrenness of the environment with or without crowding stress, is often combined with a third stress factor: severe physical restriction. Animals crowded in small pens or battery cages or tethered in separate stalls (as are sows and veal calves) are unable to perform many natural actions or to satisfy basic needs. Grooming, preening, stretching, turning, and lying down may be difficult or impossible. Social and emotional needs may also be frustrated.

Darkness: Stress Reducer?

Lack of light may reduce crowding stress and is often employed in intensive pig and veal farms. In darkness, animals move less and so they don't waste food energy by playing together or fighting. They only eat when the lights are switched on. New evidence indicates that veal calves may do better (not surprisingly) if they are not kept in darkness in separate stalls. This ultimate extreme of confinement, isolating creatures alone in pens or crates in total darkness — is surely one of the most disturbing products of human ingenuity motivated by profit. While an animal in a field or barn may consume more food (and money) just walking around or playing during the daylight hours, it may, in the...
Mutilations of basic needs and crowding suffering. Cattle are branded and horned; pigs, lambs, and bulls are debeaked. Many such practices have been shown to be unnecessary and could be eliminated by improvements in animal husbandry. Castrated pigs and cattle could have a health advantage to the consumer, since such meat contains less coronary diseases.

Aside from social isolation, the ground, may be for young pigs and calves, can cause lameness, as may hard concrete. Hens and growing pullets are kept on wire floored cages. Such a surface causes foot problems and constant discomfort: the birds have nowhere to perch and tests have shown that if given a choice, they will avoid thin, wire floors, which are standard in the construction of most battery cage systems. In order to facilitate egg collection, the floor is slanted on an incline which can also cause considerable discomfort.

Solutions and Resolutions

There are many ways to improve the lot of factory farmed animals. Know what animal you eat. Be a vegetarian or conscientious omnivore. Be willing to pay more for animals from farm cooperatives that are concerned with the welfare of their animals. Many are, since healthy and happy animals are cheaper to keep and are better producers, especially for the smaller operator.

More research funds are needed to design facilities which meet the animals' behavioral needs, to study and compare animals under different systems, and to breed more adaptable strains. Only a handful of veterinarians and animal scientists are studying the behavior of farm animals. This lack of knowledge, interest, and funds must be rectified. Also the pervasive attitude that domestic animals are degenerate and unfailing automations must be changed. These animals are not mindless and emotionless cogs in the complex machinery of factory farming.

Understanding, empathy and compassion must become a part of agribusiness as it was once when farmers "husbanded" their land, crops and livestock. It may be slow to come without the spur of humane legislation and consumer advocacy and boycotts because of the many distracting problems and priorities which intensive agribusiness farming has created, particularly in the domain of animal nutrition, disease, waste disposal, and energy. Such problems create new specialist fields and supportive industries and jobs. In attempting to solve such problems only the symptoms are addressed and not the underlying causes: inadequate husbandry, with its by-products of cruelty and suffering. As one USDA scientist has put it, "We have only learned so far what we shouldn't be doing." It's about time we found out what we should be doing to make animal welfare and animal production consoneant and complementary.

Under existing laws, farm animals receive virtually no protection. What is urgently needed is required codes of practice and funding for applied welfare-related research projects. Such research would be especially valuable to identify the needs of the animals and could result in significant economic savings to agribusiness as well.

Because of economics, small independent farms are being phased out and replaced by huge corporate factory farms. A salaried farm manager tends animals owned by investors who may never see the animals or even visit the farm. Data from Europe show clearly that the large factory farms are less productive than a smaller family farm. The larger the farm, the greater is the percentage incidence of disease problems and real and potential animal suffering.

In the final analysis, what is humane and in the best interests of the animal may also be in the best interests of the livestock producer and consumer as well. Consumers who care should be prepared to pay a little more for better kept animals because reforms will increase costs, at least during their initial implementation. Those in the livestock industry should also be willing to explore and implement improvement and reforms in their practices of livestock production, transportation and slaughter.

Some may argue that all one needs to do is to become a vegetarian and then these problems would be solved overnight. While I fully respect the ethical and health reasons behind vegetarianism, such idealism alone will not rectify the problems and abuses of factory farming.

What is especially needed is a commitment by all who care to support humane societies who are pressuring the livestock industry to establish humane reforms, codes of practice and protective laws; public pressure is needed to help generate funds for animal welfare research and educational programs.

In battery cage systems, hens stay in cages like this for their total laying lives—sometimes two years.

The stress of crowded conditions leads to fighting and cannibalism. To prevent this, young chicks are often debeaked by burning the beaks against a hot plate.

The provision of shade and shelter in feedlots is one relative­ly simple reform that can improve conditions for the animals, but real reform will come only when understanding, compassion, and commitment becomes a part of agriculture as it was once when farmers "husbanded" their land, crops and livestock.

**FOX ON FACTORY FARMING**

While conducting on-site research of intensive and confinement farming systems, Dr. Fox has collected dozens of photographs that vividly illustrate the problems of raising animals in unnatural, ill-designed environments. His lecture with these slides has been enthusiastically received at many conferences, seminars, and workshops. Now, for the first time, Dr. Fox has put "The Humane Concerns of Factory Farming" on video and audio cassette. The program is available for sale or rental.

The program in both formats is approximately twenty minutes long and is available for sale or rental. The sale price for either format is $50. To order, send your check to HSUS Slide Show, 2100 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037. Be sure to specify whether you want the slide/sound program titled Humane Concerns of Factory Farming, or the cassette for use by those with video playback equipment.

Let Dr. Michael Fox show you how modern farming methods cause animals to suffer needlessly... and tell you how you can help!
Sometimes it is difficult for people to understand why not everyone who walks in the door of an animal shelter is allowed to adopt an animal. “How can you turn anyone down,” they ask, “knowing the alternative for the animal may be euthanasia?”

The answer is that some things are worse than euthanasia. Bitter experience has shown that, without certain regulations about adoption, many animals are taken by people who have no idea of the responsibilities involved in being a pet owner. If they are unwilling or unable to invest the time and money needed to make a success of the adoption, the pet ends up neglected, abandoned, or returned to the shelter. The ones that don't reach the shelter may die from disease or in traffic accidents — a much more painful death than by humane euthanasia. Often, animals are at the shelter in the first place because they've been rejected or abandoned. It's no favor for the animal to make it go through this experience twice.

I believe an animal shelter exists for the good of the animals, to protect them from cruelty. And if the shelter exists for the good of the animals, it has a moral obligation not to let an animal out the front door unless it is going to be part of a family, will get veterinary care, companionship, food, water, a bath and a brush now and then, will be licensed, inoculated, and on a leash when it is out on the public thoroughfare. Last but not least, all pets adopted from a shelter should be spayed or neutered to prevent the birth of more homeless dogs and cats. In other words, the pet must go to a good home, and not just any home at all.

To meet this obligation, the shelter staff must require certain things of adopters, must make an effort to match adopter with pet, and must spend time educating adopters about animal care.

The potential adopter — in fact, anyone who cares about the welfare of animals — must recognize that these requirements are necessary to protect the animals, even though they may result in fewer adoptions taking place.

Matching potential owner to pet is partly a matter of what the adopter wants and what he or she can handle, and partly a matter of what the animal “wants” or needs to be healthy and happy. A family living in the middle of the city will probably not be happy with an energetic young Irish setter type of dog. A cat that has been an “only pet” in a sedate household may never adjust to a new home full of children and other pets. If an animal has been turned in to the shelter because it has chewed up the sofa and taken down the drapery and eaten the carpet in its old home, it will probably do the same thing in somebody else's home. It would be totally unfair to put that animal in a house without a yard or basement where it can be confined when the family is not home, or not to forewarn potential adopters that the dog has these bad habits.

Medical problems may be another factor in the match-up. Even healthy young animals require medical care, such as regular check-ups and inoculations. Older animals or animals with chronic problems, such as diabetes will need frequent medical care, which can be expensive. It takes a special person to successfully adopt a pet such as that.

Actually, older animals often are not good candidates for adoption, and it might be unkind to place them in any kind of new home. Usually by the age of seven, an animal is so ingrained in a personal lifestyle that trying to break that is very difficult. Animals have very strong attachments to people. I’ve seen older dogs sitting in shelters that wouldn’t eat or respond to anybody. I think it’s terribly cruel and inhumane to subject a dog to the stress and grief of abandonment after years of companionship, and I’ve always asked people who brought an older pet to me to allow me to put it to sleep right away, for its own sake. I’d hate Phyllis Wright heads HSUS' Accreditation program for local animal shelters and animal welfare groups.

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to think I placed that dog and he got out the front door and over the fence and went to look for his old owners. Cats seem to adjust faster, but older cats still find breaking old routines very stressful. Interestingly enough, not as many older cats are turned in to shelters as dogs. They're not as much trouble in homes as a dog, and seem to settle in longer.

People who are adopting their first pet should be prepared to spend some time at the shelter learning about feeding, training, housebreaking, medical care, and other aspects of animal care. Adopters of puppies and kittens especially should be aware of the problems of raising young animals.

Even people who've had animals before don't necessarily know how to care for them. I was in one animal shelter when a man who had just adopted a dog walked out of the lobby and into the parking lot, opened the trunk of his car and put the dog in. I kept over the person who was sitting in the office and ran out to the parking lot saying “You can't carry a dog like that!” “I always carry my dogs in the back of the car,” he said. “That's what the trunk is for. I don't want that dog shedding hair all over my back seat.” And that's an example of someone who really needs some education before being allowed to adopt an animal.

The shelter may use a lot of judgment and intuition in screening adopters, but there are certain rules that should be applied to all cases. They sometimes bring controversy, but they are necessary to be fair to the animals.

The most important requirement of all is that all animals adopted from a shelter be spayed or neutered. With all the puppies and kittens that have to be euthanized day after day because there aren't nearly enough homes for all of them, it is perfectly reasonable for shelters to insist on requiring adopters who have been made to understand the seriousness of the pet overpopulation problem and the benefits of neutering them to agree to this adoption requirement. In fact, there has been at least one court case where an adopter did refuse to have the pet overpopulation problem and the benefits of raising young animals.

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Results of the first phase of a major study on public attitudes toward animals and wildlife issues have been released by the Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The study, which was done on a government grant by Dr. Stephen Kellert of Yale's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, has six focus areas: 1) the presence and strength of types of basic attitudes toward animals among diverse social demographic and animal activity groups in America; 2) public attitudes toward critical wildlife and domestic animal activities such as hunting, and trapping; 3) the social and environmental characteristics of various wildlife and domestic animal activity groups such as hunters, pet owners, or birdwatchers; 4) public knowledge of animals and species preferences; 5) historical trends in the twentieth century; and 6) children's knowledge of, attitudes, and behavior toward animals.

The first phase, on attitudes toward critical wildlife and natural habitat issues, has findings of special interest to US members because, while in most cases the majority of respondents took a protective stand on issues, there was a distressing lack of knowledge about many of these issues. For instance, while 69% agreed they would rather pay a higher price for tuna fish than see the tuna industry continue killing porpoises in their nets, only 27% considered themselves even moderately knowledgeable about the tuna-porpoise controversy. Clearly, there is a need for more far-reaching efforts at humane education for the general public.

Out of a list of eight major wildlife issues, the most widely recognized was the killing of baby seals for their fur (45% knowledgeable). The effect of pesticides such as DDT on birds ranked second (41% knowledgeable), with the use of the steel leghold trap on wild animals ranking third (38% knowledgeable). At the bottom of the list was the use of steel shot versus lead shot by waterfowl hunters, with only 14% of the respondents knowledgeable.

These statistics were taken from a total of 3,107 interviews with randomly selected persons in the 48 contiguous states and Alaska. The attitudes of this representative group towards animals was generally humane, for example:

- 60% opposed hunting solely for recreational or sporting purposes, whether for waterfowl or big game. Over 89% objected to hunting for trophies.
- 78% of the public objected to the use of the steel leghold trap.
- 89% agreed with the statement "Zoos should provide more natural conditions for their animals even if this means higher entrance fees.
- 57% disagreed with the idea that it is alright to kill an animal so that it makes a fur coat as long as the species is not endangered.
- 87% felt that the illegal killing of wildlife should result in stiff fines and, if done repeatedly, even prison sentences.
- 60% agreed that cattle and sheep grazing should be limited on publicly owned lands if it destroys plants needed by wildlife, even though this may result in higher meat costs.

On the predator control issue, 79% of the public supported the idea of hunting only individual coyotes known to have killed livestock. Additionally, more than two-thirds approved of capturing and relocating coyotes in areas away from livestock, despite this being described as a very expensive solution. An incredible 91% found poisoning an unacceptable method of predator control, even though it was called the least expensive method of control.

For comparison purposes, Kellert also interviewed members of specialized groups such as trappers, ranchers, and humane group members asking the same questions as had been asked of the general public. With numerous charts and graphs, the responses of the special interest groups are compared with each other and with the general public. Interestingly, one measure of the heat of such controversies as predator control and wild horses can be seen in the fact that 76% of sheep producers and 82% of cattlemen agreed with the statement that "the goals of most environmentalists are a threat to the continued economic prosperity of our country."

The Kellert study will undoubtedly be a factor in future wildlife program and funding decisions made in the Interior Department.

Single copies of Phase One of the study are available free from the Publishing Unit, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Room 1107, Administrative Building, Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.
### Promotional Materials

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### The Institute for the Study of Animal Problems

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<td>The history of the humane society</td>
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### Humane Education

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<td>You and the birds, wild</td>
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<td>Animals, the vanishing americans</td>
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<td>Careers: working with animals</td>
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<td>The bluebird, wild</td>
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### Human Society Organization and More

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### Information on HSUS

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<td>Horse and country club</td>
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<td>Stop clubbing seals</td>
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### Humane Society Information

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<td>Why say it</td>
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**Note:** The text anthology of essays by prominent philosophers, ecologists, biologists, lawyers, animal behaviorists, and educators—addresses the complex question of man's relations to animals. Hardcover, 256 pages.
HSUS's request for permission for Dick Sikora, HSUS's President John Hoyt, sent a letter to Prime Minister designate Pierre Trudeau asking that he "immediately call off the hunt, or at the very least, substantially reduce the quota." HSUS questions both the humaneness of the hunt and Canadian claims that their quotas are set to allow the seal herd to increase. A statement by the Canadian government to consider working together with the U.S. to end the seal hunt in Alaska is expected.

Ideally, Canada could help renegotiate the current ‘Conservation of North Pacific Fur Seals’ in order to end the hunt on the Pribilofs. seat. In 1980 HSUS News.

In conclusion, Hoyt told Trudeauteur, "The Humane Society of the United States believes that hunts of this magnitude under adverse conditions can never be truly humane, and suffering will be ever present. Clubbing seals to death dehumanizes men. A man who claims he cannot avoid this bit of cruelty from our lives."

What do the Canadians think of the secrecy surrounding the harp seal hunt? The following portion of an editorial from the daily newspaper (of Vancouver) by Mike Tytherleigh, is enlightening:

The International press has been banned from the area. The Canadian press has asked for permission one month in advance if it wants to enter the area.

If permission is refused, no reason is given, no appeal mechanism is available.

In effect, there is a denial of freedom of the press. There is a denial of the public’s right to facts and the truth.

In Canada you see this as it fits the Canadian freedom-loving country.

The coverup is an aspect of the annual seal hunt that has been given scant attention in campaigns to end the slaughter; but it is not being overlooked now.

As we enjoy the euphoria of America’s gratitude for winning freedom for six U.S. diplomats from Iran, we are heading once more for American condemnation of what is considered a repugnant and senseless act, the cost of which exceeds the return, morally and economically.

But let us leave aside our international reputation and consider our apparent acquiescence in having a large area of our land made off-limits to the press. If HSUS applied for observer status in the Arctic, the highest court of the land? It is given, no appeal mechanism is available.

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER?

by Susan Bury Stauffer

Peninsula Humane Society in San Mateo, California, has about one hundred volunteers from fifteen years of age to retirees. Volunteer Coordinator Kim Sturla reports that they serve in almost every department, including the kennels, the veterinary clinic, and the front office, and in the adoption and humane education programs.

Volunteers perform duties ranging from helping new adopters and pets in the “Get Acquainted Room,” to assisting with the 2:00 p.m. cat and puppy feeding, to helping wildlife victims of oil spills.

PHS volunteers are recruited through newspaper, radio, and television public service advertising, volunteer bureaus, high school community service programs, and word of mouth.

Volunteers from Marin Humane Society, Novato, California, appear regularly on a local television talk show to introduce shelter animals available for adoption. Here, Ruth Martin presents “Lobo.”

They attend training classes and when possible, they ride with officers in the animal control vehicles and observe activities in the spay and neuter clinic.

PHS volunteers have their own monthly newsletter, and they enjoy group field trips to area museums, zoos, and other animal facilities.

Sturla says the most important factor to be considered by interested persons before volunteering is the commitment. She says some areas of the shelter have a high turnover of volunteers because the work is done by students completing projects — however, turnover among volunteers in general is a problem, especially since PHS invests in their training and development.

“We ask all our volunteers for at least a six-month commitment to the program, and each volunteer must work at least four hours a week. When uncaring owners lose interest in their pets or homes are not available for all the sheltered animals, many of them will have to be destroyed. These pets, who want to save the animals at any cost may adopt them to people who are clearly not responsible enough to provide proper care and control, or who do not agree with the requirement to neuter pets and may not comply. These adoptions do not help the animals in the long run and create more difficulty for the shelter later.

Volunteers must accept that a humane death is better for an animal than being sent to a home where it will be abused or neglected. The reality of euthanasia was one of the most difficult parts of volunteering for Sheri McLeod, who volunteered for two to three evenings a week at the local Washington Humane Society in Washington, D.C., for a year.

McLeod worked at various jobs, including kennel cleaning, exercising sheltered dogs, dispatching field agents, and handling lost-and-found reports. Although she also assisted with animal euthanasia and felt she could euthanize an animal if necessary, she found it difficult to get used to the fact that healthy animals — “nice animals” — had to be destroyed.

The destruction of unwanted animals added more pressure to working in the adoption program for McLeod, especially in trying to place animals that had already been returned from one unsuccessful adoption, since their chances of finding a home were decreased.

McLeod assisted with home checks of adoption applicants and was often discouraged to find that some of the people weren’t even taking care of their kids.”

Turning down a potential adopter is an especially sensitive and difficult task and has to be done diplomatically. Volunteer training manuals often suggest that volunteers work particularly closely with staff in handling the rejection of an inappropriate unsuitable person’s application to adopt an animal.

At the Fort Wayne, Indiana, Humane Shelter, volunteers do not come into direct contact with euthanasia until they have had considerable training and experience, and they do not have to work in the euthanasia area at all. In fact, volunteers must be made to understand the necessity for euthanasia and the shelter policy of destroying surplus animals before they are allowed to work directly with the animals at all.

To work inside an animal shelter takes a very special type of person.

The pet adoption area is one of the most popular for volunteers, although it can be one of the most difficult. Trainer says adoption volunteers at the ASPCA are trained in animal behavior and health, canine and feline breeds, and the importance of pet ownership responsibility. They also receive instruction in techniques for interviewing and screening adopters and follow-up procedures.

Pet adoption has been rated high for personal satisfaction by a local volunteer bureau in California, which refers volunteers to programs of all kinds in the community, according to Barbara Melville of the Marin Humane Society in Novato.

The shelter gave the rating because of the interaction with the pet and the new owner and the pleasure of placing pets in their new homes.

However, making sure all adopted animals go to caring, responsible homes is a major role for the shelter and for the volunteers who work in adoption programs.

The reason animal control programs are necessary in the first place is that many pet owners act irresponsibly. They allow their pets to breed, adding more animals to the pet surplus when only one in ten sheltered animals finds a home now.

Many pet owners allow their pets to run loose without proper identification. Many pets are abandoned when uncaring owners lose interest in them.

“We ask all our volunteers for at least a six-month commitment to the program, and each volunteer must work at least four hours a week. We are adamant that the volunteer take his or her work seriously.” — Sheri Trainer, volunteer coordinator for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in New York City, agrees that it is important for volunteers to make a commitment to the program. The ASPCA conducts a two- to three-week training course for volunteers, and Trainer says that if a particular assignment does not work for a volunteer, every effort will be made to find a more suitable job.

“The ASPCA has more than seventy volunteers, and about thirty of these have been with the group for many years. The others are individuals who are between jobs, on vacation time, completing school projects, or exploring animal welfare as a new area of interest.” — Trainer reports that this is a problem area for many volunteers.

Some volunteers who want to save the animals at any cost may adopt them to people who are clearly not responsible enough to provide proper care and control, or who do not agree with the requirement to neuter pets and may not comply. These adoptions do not help the animals in the long run and create more difficulty for the shelter later.

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shelter, the rewards can be deeply satisfying: watching a kitten go off in the arms of its new owner; seeing a sick, starving dog brought back to exuberant good health and placed with a loving family; reuniting the lost pet with its anxious owners; or just getting a grateful lick on the chin from a pup who knew no tender- ness in its life until it got to the shelter — these are the things that make this job uniquely worthwhile.

For all the hard work and emo-
tional pressure of volunteering at a shelter, the rewards can be deeply satisfying: watching a kitten go off in the arms of its new owner; seeing a sick, starving dog brought back to exuberant good health and placed with a loving family; reuniting the lost pet with its anxious owners; or just getting a grateful lick on the chin from a pup who knew no tender- ness in its life until it got to the shelter — these are the things that make this job uniquely worthwhile.

Shelter work requires understanding and dedication to a total program of animal welfare.
Legislation is Focus for Great Lakes Activity

Legislation is consuming a great deal of time for the Great Lakes Regional staff this winter as more than one Ohio Regional Director Sandy Rowland has worked with the office of the Governor to draft a bill which would make it a felony to participate in organized dogfighting ventures. Rowland who said passage of the law workable and effective included advising a mandate for the condemnation of all illegal dogfighting ventures and providing a sentence for those found guilty of dogfighting, and assuring a state agency to investigate dog-fighting. Frantz Dantzler, Director of Public Services and Investigations for HSUS, supported the bill by testifying on his experience with dogfight investigations.

Also in the Ohio legislature, a bill to outlaw the use of the high altitude decompression chamber for animal euthanasia has passed out of committee and is awaiting a floor vote in the House.

HSUS members in Michigan are urged to write in support of HB 1097 which would allow public and private shelters to purchase euthanasia solutions directly, without having to contract with a licensed practitioner to do the purchasing. The bill is in the Committee on Public Health.

In Illinois, the state Federation of Humane Societies has pledged to continue the battle to save the state decompression chamber for animal euthanasia solutions directly, without having to contract with a licensed practitioner to do the purchasing. The bill is in the Committee on Public Health.

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cases from the premises) in compliance with the new Connecticut law, effective January 1, 1980, banning that method of euthanasia.

Dr. Robert Stadler, formerly State Veterinarian in Connecticut, went to work for the CHS on December 1, 1979, as Staff Veterinarian. His immediate assignment was the training of selected CHS personnel in the administration of euthanasia by sodium pentobarbital injection.

August R. Helberg, General Manager of the Society, said he is pleased with the smoothness of the transition brought about under Dr. Stadler’s leadership and training.

NERO Director John Inman has observed CHS technicians administering euthanasia using this method. Inman said that he was impressed not only with their skill and technique but also with the obvious compassion and confidence with which they went about their work. The Connecticut Humane Society is striving to achieve a high degree of excellence and professionalism as it prepares to observe its Centennial Celebration in 1981.

Eleven animal welfare organizations in Connecticut have united to reactivate the Connecticut Federation of Humane Societies. A steering committee was given the task of initiating organizational matters and discussion in Connecticut have united to reactivate the Connecticut Federation of Humane Societies. A steering committee was given the task of initiating organizational matters and discussions in Connecticut. The Connecticut Humane Society is considering by the Connecticut Humane Society, Newington; Jane Hope, Humane Society, Greens Pet Park, West Cornwall; Beth Nagorsky, Connecticut Animal Welfare League, Hartford; Joan Proto, Pet and Wildlife Preservation, Milford; and Sarah Rubenstein, Friends of Animals, Westport. New England Regional Office Director John Inman has been invited to participate in the steering committee’s deliberations.

"Turkey Drop" Called Off in Face of Protest

For thirty-five years, celebration of the Yellville, Arkansas annual Turkey Trot Festival has included dropping live domestic turkeys to the ground to be chased, captured, and consumed by those attending the event. Originally, the birds were dropped from the courthouse, but in recent years low-flying planes have been used. Since the domestic turkeys are incapable of sustained flight, panic, stress, and injury can result from this gimmick.

This year, Gulf States Regional Director William Meade warned the Yellville Chamber of Commerce that "we have no reason to believe that we have been committing any cruel acts, but we are not going to continue a project that causes distress." The next Turkey Trot Festival is scheduled for November, 1980. Meade intends to keep an eye on the event for any move to return to the turkey drop.

Two government agencies have heard from the Gulf States Office on animal problems and in both cases have capitulated to HSUS requests. At Lawsville Lake in Texas, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had started a program of trapping coyotes in the preserve. Thanks to the alertness of Texas humanitarians, HSUS regional staff was notified. The trapping was ended after a direct protest to the Washington headquarters of the Corps. In Lawrence County, Arkansas the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was trying to eradicate over two million blackbirds with a chemical that kills the birds slowly and is also toxic to domestic cats. After protesting to the agency, Meade received assurance that use of this chemical will be stopped.

Meade and Rick Collord, investigator for the Gulf States office, have continued their campaign to improve the quality of shelter and animal control facilities in their area. In January, they assisted efforts in Highland, Texas; Lafayette, Louisiana; Freeport, Texas; and Kerrville, Texas. A substandard shelter in Springdale, Arkansas was improved after discussion with the Mayor of the city’s legal obligation to operate the shelter humanely.

Domestic turkeys are incapable of sustained flight, and can be injured falling to the ground from high places.

Felinos Left Out in the Cold after Zoo Plans Fail

More than two dozen wild animals were found in limbo when their owner’s dream of a wild animal park went sour. For some time, Midwest Regional Director Anna Gonsomer has investigated complaints about this group of neglected animals. The owner, Jeff Sharron, had apparently planned to start a wild animal park. He collected a menagerie of lions, jaguars, tigers, bears, baboons, and even goats. For unknown reasons he had to abandon his plan, and allegedly abandoned the animals.

The animals were found living in old trailers converted to cages and parked behind an old barn hidden from the road near Overland Park, Kansas.

After visits from Gonsomer, USDA officials, and local police, some of the animals were relocated, but seven lions, a tiger, and a jaguar remained. At the end of January, Gonsomer and USDA agents, law enforcement officers, representatives from the local media, and staff from the Topeka Zoo went to the site with a search warrant to determine what could be done for the animals and whether legal action would be appropriate.

The owner was charged with cruelty to animals and released after posting a $500 bond. Gonsomer will be following up on this case and possibly testifying at the trial.

This case provides yet another example of USDA’s uneven enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act. The owner was licensed by USDA as a wild animal dealer, even though he does not have a minimally adequate holding facility for the animals. Incredibly, the USDA Area Veterinarian-in-Charge described this zoo as one of the finest private facilities he had ever seen.
Idaho Bans Decompression Chamber

By an almost unanimous vote, Idaho legislators passed a bill to outlaw the use of the high altitude decompression chamber to euthanize dogs and cats. Ninety-five legislators approved the ban, with only eight voting to retain the decompression method. Governor John Evans signed the bill into law, making Idaho the tenth state to enact such a ban.

Elsewhere in the west, the City Council of Reno, Nevada also voted to ban the use of the decompression chamber.

In California, Senator Paul Carpenter has introduced SB 1270, which seeks to outlaw the use of the high altitude decompression chamber to euthanize animals. The address is 1713 J Street, Suite 305, Sacramento, California 95814.

Guide to the National Wildlife Refuges: How to Get There, What to See and Do

Laura & William Riley (Doubleday, 1979) $14.95

With the river in the wings, what could be more timely and welcome than this captivating and vastly informative guide to the nation’s 881 wildlife refuges? Laura and William Riley personally visited over two hundred refuges and conducted hundreds of interviews to compile this definitive work. Twenty-seven exquisite color photographs show the animals and birds for which key refuges are famous, and 181 maps will aid your trips. Most of each of the refuges, quickly and accurately, further enhance the book.

Birding highlights for every region of the country are given (including Alaska and Hawaii), as well as information on where the refuges are located, how to get there, what equipment to take, how to dress, and other useful facts. An extensive index includes names of animals, plants, and refuges.

The authors are well versed on wildlife issues. Laura, a nature writer and photographer, has appeared in many galleries and are presently being exhibited nationally by the Eastman Kodak Company. William has been active in environmental activities in New Jersey and is the past President of the South Branch Watershed Association, an environmental group in that state.

Eileen Songstad Arneson

The Great Swamp: The People, The Power Brokers, and An Urban Wilderness

Cam Cavanaugh (New Jersey Publishing Co., Inc., 1978) $11.95

"Inspiring" is the best word to describe Cam Cavanaugh’s book The Great Swamp — The People, The Power Brokers, and An Urban Wilderness. Weekend trips to the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in beautiful northern New Jersey, who may never visit New York City, could reveal any one of the more than two hundred species of birds (about one-quarter of the number found in North America), thirty mammals, and more than six hundred plants which have been identified at the Swamp. Many of these are listed in an extensive appendix.

The Great Swamp was not always a national wildlife refuge. In fact, in the early 60’s the entire area was the targeted site for a major metropoli-

tan jetport. The book relates in interesting detail the plans, meetings, and anxious moments that were part of saving the Great Swamp. For those of us in the East who are fortunate enough to visit the Swamp regularly, the book is important because it reminds us of the struggle of the people to preserve this area. Of particular local interest are the famous names like Robert Perkins, Edwin Sayres, Sr., Hartley Dodge, former Governor Robert Meyner, and Peter Frelenghuyysen, whose contributions are described throughout. To those of us who may never visit the Great Swamp, the relevance of the book may still be found in the story it tells of ordinary people and some of their "not so ordinary" who were successful in their efforts to effect change.

Today the Great Swamp stands as a grand memorial to the people’s crusade to save open space. For HSUS members the book has a per- sonal meaning in that as far back as the early 60’s our members were part of a coalition formed to save the Great Swamp.

In Mrs. Cavanaugh’s own words, "Perhaps the best message of the Great Swamp crusade to save open space is that individuals do make a difference."

Many royalties from the book are going to the New Jersey Conservation Foundation in Morristown, New Jersey.

—Virginia Foss Austenberg

The Sinking Ark

Norman Myers, (Pergamon Press, 1977) $15.00

Even though I spent long hours struggling for strong legislation in one city, the fate of endangered species, nothing has crystallized the immediacy of the issue for me as much as reading Norman Myers’ The Sinking Ark. This small (284 pages), well-written, nicely organized book consolidates the best available information on the what, where, why, and how of endangered plants and animals.

The facts and figures are grim; one species disappearing each day and the hundred acres of tropical forest habitat being cut each hour. Dr. Myers connects the larger problems of our global food supply, our environmental resilience and our weather patterns to the problem of the dying earth. Conservationists and scientists should read this book, but I believe everyone should experience it. Congress for endangered species is still in the early days and hopefully, each time one eats a fast-food burger, one will think of the deforested Latin American habitat which has been sacrificed for the inexpensive cattle grazing land, ultimately leading to greater desertification and change in wind and rain patterns.

The final section of the book is most revealing. Dr. Myers creatively outlines the obstacles to conservation and implementation of ap- propriate technologies; and final- ly some solutions which are politically and economically feasible.

I strongly recommend this book as a primer for the next two decades. That may be all the time we have to save the majority of this planet’s genetic diversity.

—Marguerite Perkins
There has been much in the press lately about government regulations. In the case of animal welfare, we often fight for more regulation in order to prevent pain and suffering.

In this section, we usually report the progress of bills through Congress or state legislatures. This time, because of the importance of regulations on behalf of animals, we are reporting recent developments on three laws that occurred after they became law.

Often, Congress passes laws that specify goals and a basic, rudimentary outline of how to accomplish them. But leaves the details of a program to the federal bureaucracy. The bureaucracy, in turn, specifies goals and a basic, or regulatory system to the federal government. The HSUS watches every segment of this process. The HSUS follows the progress of bills through both chambers of Congress, the Executive Branch, and the Department of Agriculture. The HSUS strives to see that the public interest is protected.

Marine Mammal Protection Act — Tuna/Porpoise Regulations

In the early 1960's, when a new method for catching tuna fish using “purse-seine” nets was introduced, there was a history of intentionally encircling and strangling porpoise along with the tuna. The HSUS was involved in the death of millions of these intelligent and highly social animals. The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) of 1972 was passed in order to prevent pain and suffering. New types of nets and gear, government observers on board fishing vessels, an end to intentional “setting” on spinner porpoise (the species was found to be depleted under the MMPA), and a ban on imports of foreign tuna unless the country certified they were catching tuna according to U.S. regulations. There were many specific requirements in the regulations, all aimed at reducing porpoise mortality.

The tuna industry had economically successful seasons under the new regulations, and the number of porpoise deaths dropped dramatically. When the MMPA was passed in 1972, the U.S. industry was killing nearly 400,000 porpoise per year. By the end of 1978 that was down to 15,366. For 1979 the final kill was estimated at 18,549. Happily, the industry came in way below the quotas. As a result, the HSUS was able to advocate even stricter regulations in April. During those hearings, HSUS and several other groups represented by a lawyer from the Environmental Defense Fund. The tuna industry as well as the government with which to participate, each trying to make the best case scientifically regarding the regulations.

If the outcome of these hearings is a decision to forbid setting on any offshore spotted porpoise, the question will be: can the tuna industry survive in the U.S.? The dilemma may cause some boat owners to transfer their boats to other nations. The tuna industry must understand that the U.S. is a leader in this industry and the survival of the nation's tuna supply depends on the future of the marine mammal standards. The marine mammal standards are more exacting and some of the provisions of the law are more burdensome.

The HSUS will be working to find the best solution for keeping strong regulations for tuna. It is impossible to state now what the final results will be. A new scientific report indicates that there aren't as many offshore spotted porpoise left as everyone thought. This is a reflection of an earlier overestimation of the population by scientists rather than a decline during the past few years.

New population surveys show there to be depleted (yet threatened under the Endangered Species Act, but lower than their optimum population).

This species of porpoise accounts for 87% of the porpoise sets made and produces 92% of the yellowfin tuna caught. Obviously, the industry cannot set on offshore spotted porpoise, they will lose easy access to a large portion of the yellowfin species of tuna. (Yellowfin is the species of tuna called “light.”)

As a result of that new scientific study, the Department of Commerce has proposed new regulations for 1980 and 1981 which will reduce the number of porpoise deaths. The regulations are consistent with humane treatment to assist them in surviving the quota restrictions. If the regulations are properly enforced, the U.S. tuna industry will be working to find ways to end all setting on porpoise, and porpoise deaths per year will be reduced. Unfortunately, the situation in the early years on the part of industry and government has resulted in a poor showing.

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The Humane Method of Slaughter Act Amendments of 1977

This statute greatly enlarges both the scope and legal ramifications of the original 1958 Act. The 1958 law was a tremendous victory for The HSUS, and showed both the continuum and progress of the humane movement. The 1958 law only covered the pre-slaughter stunning of livestock. The law’s application now starts at the moment the animal is killed by a licensed abattoir. Some of the worst abuses in the past came from untrained and sometimes sadistic employees who were required to handle and even torturing animals in chutes and pens. This problem was stopped by federal meat inspectors.

The penalty under the 1958 law was limited to the potential loss of a government contract to sell meat. The 1978 law placed humane slaughter standards under the requirements of the Federal Meat Inspection Act. This means that practicality as well as sensitivity, and ethical concerns of feeders, horsemen, and other species: indoor and outdoor space requirements, specifications for animal husbandry, the use of pain, sanitation, employees, safety and protection, veterinary care, handling, and transportation. The regulations also contain precise formula for pool sizes and water quality. However, many of the standards mentioned above are more exacting than the regulations for other species. HSUS advocated ever stricter rules than those issued, but if the final rules are properly enforced, many standards in livestock facilities should be put out of business.

Because of the stricter requirements of the marine mammal provisions, substantial changes and costly construction will have to be made by many of the regulated parties if they are to comply with the regulations. Also, because of some of the regulations have been disputed, every evidence regarding the factors involved may be established which would jus tify a change in the regulations.

In deference to the objections voiced by many of the users of these facilities, the USDA has created a special category in order to ease the financial burden and provide some flexibility in anticipation of possible new information. The regulated parties, pending approval by the HSUS, will be working to find ways to reduce the regulations.

Animal Welfare Act — Marine Mammal Regulations

This law regulates the care of many warm-blooded animal species by commercial enterprises such as dealers, research laboratories, zoos, and circuses. Although regulations cover domesticated species, there are few marine mammals included. The HSUS is concerned about the potential abuse of this provision, and has examined the sixty applications for ‘variances’ submitted to USDA. It seems that some people are trying to receive a permanent variance for their own personal use. We have cautioned USDA to be extremely conservative in their use of such ‘variances’. The HSUS will be closely monitoring this aspect of the Animal Welfare Regulations.

Compiled by Patricia Forkan, Mark B. Morrisson, and Margarette Perkins.
As a recent incident in New York makes clear, the more enactment of laws which are intended to protect endangered species does not assure that the threatened animals will, in fact, be protected. The Allen King-Hitzeg Production Company, a movie-making concern, asked for and received a permit from the New York Department of Environmental Conservation which enabled the company to bring into and possess and use within New York State several timber wolves. The wolves were to be used in the making of a werewolf horror film on location in New York City.

Under regulations issued by authority of the New York Environmental Conservation Law, all subspecies of timber wolf are endangered species in New York. As is the case with other endangered species legislation on the federal and state level, the legislative intent in enacting the New York law was clearly to preserve endangered species by eliminating or reducing incentives to take, capture, or possess such species for commercial exploitative purposes.

However, the New York law also provided the Department of Environmental Conservation with the discretion to exempt individual cases from the statute's effect by granting a permit. The Department issued the permit in this case, thereby triggering a sharp criticism by HSUS, a national organization with headquarters in New York City, of the Department's decision to approve a project which, they said, would be a “Horror” film featuring “so-called ‘sport’ inevitably involving frightful and atrocious cruelty to the animals involved, primarily in connection with the training of the racing dogs.”

On May 6, 1980, the voters of the District of Columbia will be asked to approve an initiative which, if passed, will for the first time permit various types of dog racing to be conducted in Washington, including dog racing.

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Compiled by Murdaugh Stuart Madden, HSUS General Counsel, and Roger Kindler, Associate Counsel.
The Animals Need Us

The animals need us
For the care and protection
That they cannot give themselves.
And on a cold winter morning
When your bed is so warm,
The cattle are lowing
And you find yourself rising
Automatically with one thought,
The animals need us.

And you trudge through the rain
As it runs down your back,
There are chores to be done
As the milk pail grows heavy
And the hay bales are sweet
The animals need us,
As you clean out their stalls,
No one else will give them
The care that they need.

The animals need us
When the mare is in foal
And the light's burning low,
You stay up all night
Drinking cold coffee
'Til the miracle of life
Comes in the early morning.
The animals need us
As you brush back a tear.

The animals need us
When the cruelty abounds,
You stop what you can
By education and law
And your own personal care
And sometimes in evening,
When the chores are all done,
The animals need us
As the horses neigh low.

—L. Charles Merrill