YOU HOLD THE KEY
TO THE FUTURE OF WILDLIFE IN AMERICA
During the early history of our country a bitter controversy waged over whether men had the right to keep other men in bondage. The official decision that abolished slavery came after a bitter struggle. Slavery was not the original issue of that war, but the United States Government established the policy that it was morally wrong to enslave another human in bondage.

For some slaves, this new-found freedom was a release from oppression, fear, and cruel treatment. For others, whose owners were kind and generous, freedom was just another word, and many of these slaves chose to stay on the plantation, working as share-croppers. Many of those who left kind owners to compete in a world of free enterprise that they knew little about, found freedom was not the blessing they had imagined it to be.

Freedom for any living being is not much freedom from ownership as it is from oppression or cruelty. Certain animals, such as dogs, cats, and domestic livestock, domesticated by man centuries ago, would probably not survive if given freedom from ownership and proper care. They don't understand what ownership means, anyway, and respond with affection to their owners when properly treated. But these animals, if neglected, or cruelly treated by their owners, represent the slaves of civilization. Some owners neglect their animals. Others exploit them for profit or amusement such as circuses, rodeos, and bullfights. Others raise livestock under unnatural conditions, feed them unwholesome diets, or force-feed them, or inject them with chemicals to hasten their growth or increase their production. In the name of science, animals are exposed to fear or stress so intense that the animals' normal behavior patterns change.

While we do own dogs, cats, and other domestic animals, what is important to them is how well we care for them, protect them from harm, and how much love and affection we offer them. Most of these animals respond to our love, and consider us their good friends. They are much like the slaves of kind masters who stayed on the plantation--they wouldn't want to leave us even if we set them free. Even though we own them, we provide the freedoms they seek--freedom from fear, danger, hunger, or pain.

Wild animals should not be owned, because they have a different set of freedom values. Even though he gives it the best of care, the owner of a wild animal cannot give him freedom of choice to go where he pleases. Confinement becomes a form of oppression to a wild animal.

Wild animals should be free to rove, just like the wild animals of the Bible. In the time of Daniel, the hunter, with his rifle and bow and arrow, would become a vanishing species.

If we learn to respect and to exercise tender care for all the animals that live free, perhaps in time the free animals will learn to trust us a little, and there will be greater opportunities to appreciate them when we visit their homes and appreciate their kinship with nature.

In Daniel Boone's time, frontier hunters often wore a coonskin cap, with the tail of the raccoon attached in back, as a striped coat, hat, and gloves. A wilderness hunter, Daniel Boone, who considered these caps ridiculous. He wouldn't wear a coonskin cap, preferring, instead, the simple style of hat worn by most farmers. Although you may see illustrations of Boone wearing a coonskin cap, the classic wilderness hunter is mythical. Today, people are beginning to criticize these departments, when they cater to such a small minority of the public, the hunters, and don't offer protection and help to all animals, for the enjoyment of all the people.

Every American has a stewardship duty toward all our wildlife. If enough people appreciated wildlife, and demanded that the fish and game commissions protect all wild animals, whether or not they are sought by the hunters, it is possible that these agencies could be changed. If so, and if some of the natural predators returned to resume their duties in maintaining the balance of nature, perhaps the most dangerous predator, the hunter, with his rifle and bow and arrow, would become a vanishing species.

Man has always thought of himself as more intelligent and better than the animals. Now we are discovering that porpoises are dependable friends to others, and that both they and the whales have sophisticated systems of communication. Just recently it has been discovered that an important verse in Genesis was translated incorrectly many centuries ago. The verse says that man is "to have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth..." We usually think of the word dominion as meaning domination, or control. The original Hebrew word actually means "to exercise tender care for." This means then, that man has been given the responsibility to live so in harmony with all of God's creation, that he could use his intelligence to protect the Earth and every living thing from harm of any kind.

Daniel Boone, who depended on meat and hides as a basic part of his living, and was disgusted by hunters who killed animals and didn't make good use of every part of them. There is no comparison between the frontier hunters like Daniel Boone, who depended on survival and the modern day sport hunter, who derives pleasure from the act of killing an animal.
BRANCH CLUB REPORTS

The "Reading Raccoons," Mrs. Alice Snyder's fifth grade class club, collected signatures on a petition to protest the use of steel jaw traps in their state. The "Reading Raccoons" attend the Volker School in Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Humane Society,

Bully for you for taking the Department of Interior to court to try to stop sport hunting. Even though you lost that case, it let the public know that hunting is nothing but legalized murder! Again, bully for you!! And go get 'em!

Sincerely yours, Myles Kelley age 13

Dear Sirs,

I have a good idea. Why don't you put an ad in KIND magazine, that we should write to our state Senators and Representatives, and ask them to illegalize those traps that make animals suffer. I think there should be a law.

Sincerely, Phyllis McKenzie, age 14, Mobile, Ala.

Dear Phyllis,

I think it's a good idea. But I thought KIND members would rather read your letter than read an ad, so here it is. - Editor.

Dear KIND,

In the next DEFENDERS newsletter please remind people not to leave their dogs in their cars in summer. I read one time about a dog who was left in the car and it smashed its mouth and teeth and tore its feet, trying to escape the heat. The vet was unable to save the dog. Its temperature was 109. Even though it may not be that hot outside, it's like an oven inside the car. Someone did an experiment and even though it was 85 degrees outside, in the car it was 130 degrees. So please leave your dogs at home.

Sincerely, Patti Braga age 13

Thanks for the reminder, Patti. DEFENDERS can also order posters warning people not to leave dogs in hot cars. 12 posters are only a quarter. - Editor

PHOTO AND PROJECT CONTESTS

Don't forget to send your entries in our contests, which must be postmarked no later than September 1, 1973. (See June and July newsletters for details.) Remember photos cannot be returned. Winners of both contests will be announced in your October newsletter.

Drawing by Kathie Trembicki, N.J.

Dr. John Lilly, foremost authority on dolphins, warns that dolphins kept in captivity and made to perform silly tricks, are inclined to commit suicide. He states: "You cannot treat animals of such intelligence, sensitivity, passion and affection like caged lions." He gave up his own research on dolphins five years ago because six of his dolphins committed suicide. He said: "I felt I had no right to hold dolphins in concentration camps for my scientific convenience." Dr. Lilly maintains that any place where dolphins are confined should have an outlet to the sea, and that, because dolphins like people, they will not escape, but can come and go as they please. He commented on the way dolphins help an injured dolphin, holding him up to the surface so he can breathe, and on the number of drowning people who have been saved by dolphins in the same manner. The Navy reports the special Medina escape panel, which allows dolphins to escape from tuna nets, is not working as well as they had expected, perhaps because dolphins refuse to leave their friends, the tuna, when they get in trouble. Dr. Lilly's feelings are verified by Dr. Farooq Hussain, who is investigating dolphin circuses in Britain, and preparing a report on the morality of keeping dolphins in circuses.
ANIMAL NOTE STATIONERY

Note stationery is now available from KIND, each style with a different animal. You may buy a box or two at retail price for your own use, or order in quantity to sell to raise money for local projects. Fund-raising orders: Minimum quantity one dozen, any combination, prepaid only. We will pay all postage. Please order by catalog number.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4&quot; X 5&quot; MEMO PADS - 50 sheets per pad</th>
<th>Retail Price</th>
<th>Fund-raiser Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Please specify:</td>
<td>$1.00 ea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(304) Cat</td>
<td>$1.00 box</td>
<td>$1.00 box for $9.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(341) Owl</td>
<td>$1.00 box</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(343) Horse</td>
<td>$1.00 box</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE STATIONERY

(155) American Wildlife Ecology Cards
8/animal mother with infant cards, each different
$1.00 box

(243) Siamese Cat, Mixed Poses
10 cards in box
$1.00 box

(340) Pelicans - Black on Blue
10 cards in box
$1.00 box

(359) Dog - 10 sheets with envelopes
$1.00 box

Retail Price

- (190) Dachshunds in sepia - 10 sheets with envelopes $1.40 box
- (254) Siamese Kittens in sepia - 10 sheets with envelopes $1.40 box
- (329) Quarter Horse in sepia - 10 sheets with envelopes $1.40 box
- (356) Cuddly Koala Bears - 10 sheets with envelopes $1.40 box

Fund-raiser Price

- 12 boxes for $13.20

NATIONAL PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS DAY

Representative Ronald A. Sarasin, from Connecticut, has suggested a special day to honor humane societies. He introduced House Congressional Resolution #243 requesting the President to issue a proclamation naming August 29 as "National Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Day." This date was chosen, because on this date in 1813, Henry Bergh, founder of the first humane organization in the United States, was born. He organized the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, in New York.

He probably intended this to be a national organization, but other societies were soon organized in neighboring states. The ASPCA still exists and operates the public pound for the City of New York. Because each humane society is a separate organization, it is important for all humanitarians to try to work together so more animals can be helped. A special day honoring animal protection might help achieve this goal.

A true humanitarian is concerned about the welfare of people as well as animals. Henry Bergh took a case to court, in fact, when he found a little girl had been mistreated. Since there were no child-beating laws in those days, he won the case on the first law that had been enacted to prevent cruelty to animals. He argued that a child was an infant animal, and won the case. Henry Bergh then organized this country's first Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Many humane societies are also chartered for the prevention of cruelty to children, as well as animals. They seek to prevent all forms of cruelty through education on the importance of respect and concern for all living creatures.
Some of the wild burros that the Navy would have killed at China Lake, Calif., if The Humane Society had not come to their rescue. To be sure no more burros are killed, write and plead for them to be spared. If there isn't enough food for them, perhaps some can be moved to new homes where food is plentiful. Write: The Honorable John W. Warner, Secretary of the Navy, The Pentagon, Room 4E710, Washington, D.C. 20350. California Governor Ronald Reagan, State House, Sacramento, Calif. 95814

"What They Say About Hunting" is a booklet that contains a comparison of the official policy statements of major associations in the United States, on the subject of hunting. It is an interesting and revealing comparison. You may order this booklet from: The National Shooting Sports Foundation, 1075 Post Road, Riverside, Ct. 06878. The booklet is 50¢.

DEFENDERS is published monthly for members ages 11-14 by KIND, youth membership division of The Humane Society of the U.S. R. Dale Hylton, Editor

Add this newsletter to your kit for supplementary information.

This is recycled paper.

Permission to reprint any portion of this newsletter is granted, provided that no material may be taken out of proper context.