KINDNESS IS GETTING TRAPPERS TO PROMISE NEVER TO TRAP ANIMALS AGAIN. Second grade Kindness Club members and Animal Protectors of the Vilas-Oneida Wilderness Society bury traps. They bought these cruel steel leg-hold traps from teenage trappers extracting a promise from each trapper that he would quit trapping. Attending the burying ceremony, and watching with approval, is Bernese, Carl Marty's famous St. Bernard, who has mothered and protected a total of 113 orphaned infant wild animals.
Dear friends,

Cows and horses have a peculiar way of eating. They cannot bite grass off, close to the ground, as sheep can, but must take hold of it with their tongues, and pull it loose. Since sheep crop grass close to the ground, cattle and horses cannot get enough grass to eat in pastures that have been grazed by sheep.

When the west was first settled, cattle ranchers simply herded their cattle from place to place, wherever the grass was best.

Then came sheep herders, seeking the best pastures for their sheep. Cattle ranchers became angry at them because their cattle could not forage in a pasture where sheep had just grazed. Finally the cattle ranchers built their own fences to keep the sheep out. Since sheep can eat grass so close to the ground, the sheep herders drove their sheep to higher pastures where the soil was not so rich, and the grass didn't grow in such profusion. Some eventually bought and fenced land of their own, but as they increased their flocks they nearly always needed more.

To save some of the beautiful untouched western land for all the people, the government set aside large tracts of areas, and designated them public lands. During World War I, when more wool and meat were needed, the government let sheep ranchers rent public lands to graze their sheep, so they could increase their flocks. They set the rental fee so low a sheep rancher would have been foolish not to take advantage of the offer. So the domestic sheep began to graze on lands that, before that time, only wild animals had enjoyed. Soon they began to compete with the deer, wild sheep and goats, and wild horses for food. Many of the wild animals moved to higher elevations, where the grass was not as lush or abundant. Some probably starved.

Now the government has taken steps to protect some of our wild animals that are endangered. People are concerned about the future of the bighorn sheep, the wild mustangs, and other animals who depend on finding food on public lands. But cattle ranchers, and most of all, sheep ranchers, are more concerned about how many animals they can raise, and how much profit they can make from them. They want to keep using public lands, at low rental fees, for grazing their animals. Some have tried to destroy the wild animals that depend on grazing lands, so their cattle or sheep can have it all.

Even though wild horses are protected by federal law, they are still not always safe from ranchers. The Humane Society has just gone to court over a case where 7 wild horses were killed, and 29 others were rounded up and shipped off to a slaughter plant to be killed and used for dog food.

Wild Horse Annie first learned of the destruction of the wild horses, and rented a helicopter for The Humane Society's agent to investigate the report. He moved fast enough to locate the slaughter house where the rest of the horses had been taken, and arrangements were made for them to be spared, and returned to the range.

Even with a federal law, mustangs are not always fully protected. The western ranges are so vast that it is difficult for federal agents to protect them all the time. But something seems wrong with the way they are going about it, because, in this case, the rancher is said to have obtained permission to round up the horses in order to catch his own horses that were running with the mustangs. The law states a permit must be issued in writing, and this was not done. And the law does not permit ranchers to round up mustangs and sell them to slaughter houses for dog food. The Humane Society intends to see that government agents obey the law, and to prosecute ranchers who attempt to destroy wild mustangs.

Other people want protection for mustangs, too. In addition to the help Wild Horse Annie gave us, in renting the helicopter for the investigation, the American Horse Protection Association has joined The Humane Society in its court case to get at all the facts and prosecute the guilty party. Americans who love horses will not permit the wild mustang to become extinct, or be persecuted at the hands of people who are concerned with nothing but profit.

Your friend,

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Some of the 29 horses saved from slaughter for dog food as a result of quick action by humane organizations.
DENISE CAMPAIGNS FOR BILL TO BAN SALE OF BABY CHICKS, DUCKS, RABBITS.

The fourth grade class Kindness Club at the David Caldwell School, Greensboro, N.C., is campaigning to protect baby animals from being sold as toys at Easter. They are also learning how laws are passed in the democratic process. They have written letters to their state legislators, made posters, circulated petitions, and urged others to write their legislators. They have even convinced one legislator, who criticized the bill, to vote for it later, after he received so many letters from students. The bill has not passed yet, but everyone thinks it will easily become a law of the state. A similar bill is pending in New Jersey.

MISS LENA COUCH, TEACHER, READS TO CLASS ABOUT DUCKLINGS.

SUMMER ACTION PROJECTS

Plan your own action projects for helping animals this summer. You might start by making a list of the animals in your community that need help. Then decide which animals need help the most, and then list the ways you can help them the best. There will be an award to the Kindness Club member or branch club that plans the best action project. Send your project report to KIND, being sure it is postmarked no later than September 1, 1973. Don't worry about reporting results, if your project doesn't produce immediate help for animals. You can always send in additional reports later, and they will be added to your project plan. Judging will be on the ideas and the plan for action, not on the results you get.
The members of the Eagles Kindness Club in Lima, Ohio are composing a letter to their Congressman about the cruelties of trapping. They have completed a relief map of the migratory travels of the whooping crane. Mrs. Nancy Raver is their Raccoon Captain.

The two third grade classes at Brookside School, Baldwin, N.Y., have been studying animal traps. They were so shocked when they learned about the cruelty of the steel leg-hold trap, that they determined to do something about it. They wrote letters to all the newspapers in their area, so many more people would learn about the leg hold trap. The Long Island Press printed an article on traps on April 2, as a result of the letter they sent. The New York Daily News sent a photographer to the school, and is planning to print an article in their Sunday edition. Mrs. Harriet Bender and Mrs. Eileen Sturmer are the teachers of the two third grades who worked on this project.

WHO IS THIS?

This animal wears a coat of armor like the knights of olden times. See if you can identify him and send us the most complete information about him.

FOXES THREATENED

The North Carolina legislature is considering a bill that would give open season to killing foxes with the use of dogs. If you live in North Carolina, you may wish to write the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, asking them to oppose House Bill #305. Obtain their address from your local library.

HELP FOR OTTERS

Wisconsin Senator Reuben LaFave is introducing a bill to give complete protection to otters in that state. Write the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, asking them to support this bill to protect otters.

Dear KIND,

In receiving your information I was shocked. I didn't realize how many poor innocent dogs and cats are being put to death. I showed my mother the pamphlets you sent me and right away we got our dogs spayed. I have two dogs, Gigi and Susette. I love them and so does my mom. Our dogs just got back from the vet's and both are happy and feeling fine. They even seemed like they were glad to have it done. And thanks to KIND, I feel a little better to know I've done something worthwhile to help America cope with its problems.

Sincerely,
Lynn Mathews
Clearwater, Florida

Dear KIND,

I found a skunk in a sewer gutter. I didn't want him to drown. I put a board down for him but he wouldn't come out. A friend's father got him out with a net, and now he lives in the stone wall in my back yard. I am happy because I love nature.

Cheri Clapper, N. Storrington, Ct.

Dear Cheri:

I'm glad you were able to rescue the skunk. He will eat bugs and grubs that could harm your garden, so he is a good friend. Some people think skunks would make a nice pet if they didn't smell so bad, so they buy skunks that have had their scent glands removed. The trouble is, skunks are nocturnal, so they don't make good pets, unless you sleep in the daytime and stay up all night, too. Once the scent glands have been removed, a skunk has no defense. He can't even climb a tree like a cat can. People often release their pet skunks in the woods when they realize they don't make good pets, but they are nearly always killed, because they have no way of protecting themselves. Write your State Fish and Game Commission and ask if they can get a law passed to prohibit the desecrating of skunks so they can be bought as pets. Skunks should be left to live free.

Your friend, ARAHUN

A PROJECT THAT HELPS OTHERS

Kim Allen, age 10, told her class about The Kindness Club. Together they have made many posters and put them up to help animals. Now Kim is busy writing little books telling how to be kind. With permission from her teacher, and the kindergarten teacher, she visits the kindergarten student, then helps him read the book herself. They discuss what the book says about being kind. Then she gives the book she has written to the student to take home and keep. Then she writes another book and reads with another kindergartener. The students are helped in learning to read and in learning to be kind. They enjoy it so much they have begun writing books themselves about being kind.
OIL-SOAKED BIRDS

The American Petroleum Institute has just published a booklet to provide advice on rescuing and treating birds that have been damaged by oil slicks. It is entitled "Operation Rescue", and single copies are free. If you are interested in learning how to rescue and treat oil-damaged birds, write to the American Petroleum Institute, 1801 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, and request a copy of "Operation Rescue".

A BOOKLET ON THE ENVIRONMENT

You can order a free booklet on the environment. It is called YOUR WORLD, MY WORLD. You can order your free copy from: Public Inquiries, Office of Public Affairs, Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C. 20460.

BIRDS APPEAR IN PAIRS IN SPRING

Spring is the mating season of most birds. At this time of the year, once a bird has chosen his mate, he keeps her constant company. Perhaps because they are so happy spring has returned, birds clown around and do aerial acrobatics in the spring. Sometimes they get too daring, darting across the path of oncoming cars. You can warn drivers that if they see one bird dart in front of the car, his mate will probably try to follow him. Ask drivers to slow down just a little bit more for birds, during the spring.