



# THE ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE QUARTERLY

P.O. Box 3650 Washington, D.C. 20007

Winter 1982/83

Vol. 31 No. 4

## Europe's farm animals

At a meeting in Washington, DC on 20 January attended by livestock industry representatives and Congressional staff, Diane Halverson of the Animal Welfare Institute talked about her extensive European tour undertaken to observe at first hand some recent developments in the management of farm animals. It is to the credit of US farmers that narrow stalls for confining pregnant sows are not used on any very great scale in this country, in contrast to West Germany where such stalls are the norm. Fortunately, the most progressive scientific work on improved housing, underway at Edinburgh School of Agriculture, relates to sow management. Europe as a whole is seeing definite advances in many aspects of farm animal welfare and it is anticipated that these will serve as the basis of similar advances here.

European farmers, scientists and animal welfare organizations have been exploring farm animal behavior and welfare much longer than their counterparts in the United States. For this reason I travelled to Europe last summer, visiting universities and farms in seven countries, meeting a great many scientists and farmers along the way and, in Norway and Switzerland, discussing developments with government officials. My European tour was centered around the management of veal calves, laying hens and hogs—areas of primary concern to AWI.

Critics of animal welfare groups

have portrayed us as calling for free-range rearing of livestock and poultry. We are certainly pleased to see well-managed free-range systems, but we are not insisting on an across-the-board switch to free-range production. Our goal is to see that commercial methods of livestock and poultry rearing are physically compatible and behaviorally appropriate for the animal and economically viable for the farmer.

### Veal calves

In the US, veal calves are generally transported from the home dairy farms to auction barns, beginning at about

*(Continued on page 6)*

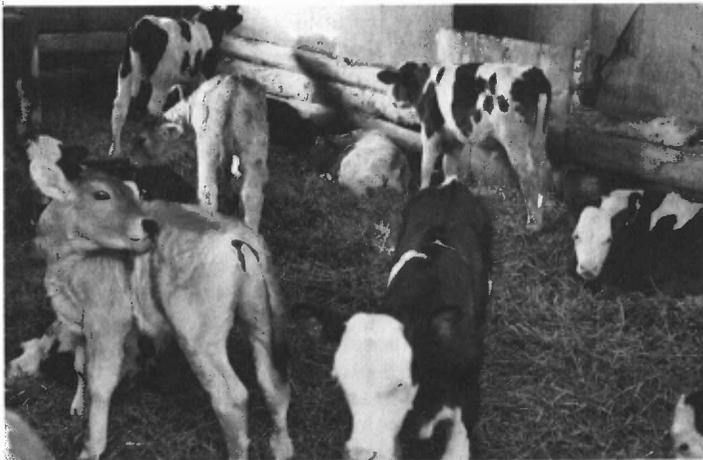
## ICELAND 29 TO 28 FOR THE WHALES

The Icelandic Parliament voted on 2 February by a cliff-hanging 29-28 margin to override their government's decision to object to the International Whaling Commission's moratorium on commercial whaling.

For sheer excitement, it would be hard to beat the televised voice vote as each member was tallied individually. The balloting followed a Foreign Relations Committee move to reverse determination to object. One of the most telling arguments was presented by Halldor Asgrimsson, M.P., who said that Iceland has always been a party to international agreements such as "Law of the Sea". He pointed out that it is dangerous to begin backing and filling on any international agreements that Iceland might not agree with on an individual, nationalistic basis. His well-argued presentation was, undoubtedly, a strong force in bringing stalwart Iceland into line with today's awareness of the importance of preserving whale populations.

Further good news is that Brazil and South Korea have announced that they, too, will abide by the IWC decision.

The splitting of the whaling *bloc* on the most fundamental of all issues — the continuation of commercial whaling — is certain to have a demoralizing effect on the "fearsome foursome" (Japan, and its three co-objectors USSR, Norway, and Peru) as they face mounting pressure from conservationists to abide by the IWC ruling. Hurrah for Iceland! And Brazil! And South Korea!



Swiss veal calves with freedom to self groom and lie comfortably are bedded on deep straw.

# 1080 has no place in 1983

Ten years and more ago sheep farmers in the western states relied heavily on the notorious Compound 1080 to kill marauding coyotes. But with numerous reports of "non-target" species (including, on occasions, man) being poisoned, with government regulations on the use of 1080 being widely and dangerously flouted, and with mounting doubts as to whether the slow and agonizing deaths of erring predators bought any extra safety for the farmers' flocks—and indeed whether predation was even a serious problem—pressure for a ban on 1080 built up irresistibly. And in 1972 a ban was imposed.

Since then the main lines of the argument have not changed. Yet 1080 is poised once again to become the most used and abused weapon in the rancher's armory. For where previous administrations had always given a No to insistent calls from sheep farmers for the re-registration of this obnoxious predicide, the present administration believes that "substantial new evidence" points to the right response being Yes.

The nature of this new evidence can be briefly stated. Interior had tested a so-called toxic collar containing pouches of 1080 and designed to be worn by "sacrificial lambs"; results were inconclusive. Research had been carried out to find an antidote to 1080; none had been found. Sheep farmers were claiming increased losses to predators; the figures do not support the claim.

All this emerged at informal hearings in July 1981. Nevertheless the Environmental Protection Agency decided to go ahead with formal hearings which took place last summer (April through July).

One noteworthy feature of these hearings was the stand taken by the federal agencies concerned in the matter. Although allegedly neutral, EPA, the Department of Agriculture and Interior were all rooting for the sheep-farming lobby. This was plain from the views of the witnesses they called, from the adversarial manner in which their lawyers interrogated opponents of 1080, but above all from their highly subjective interpretation of flawed or inconclusive data—so much so that Dr. Kun, in charge of the antidote research, felt compelled to withdraw from the hearings because of misrepresentation by EPA.

The witnesses for the various parties opposing 1080 succeeded time and again in exposing the frailty of the rival case (see testimony). But Judge Nissen ruled that 1080 should be reinstated for use in toxic collars and

## Compound 1080

REGISTERED TRADE MARK  
Technical  
SODIUM FLUOROACETATE

 **FATAL POISON** 

ANTIDOTE

Internal—Speed is essential. Immediately give a tablespoon of salt in a glass of warm water and repeat until vomit fluid is clear. Then give two tablespoonfuls of Epsom Salts in water. Have victim lie down and keep warm and quiet. Call A Physician Immediately!

Manufactured by Tull Chemical Co., Inc.  
Oxford, Alabama, U.S.A.

"single lethal dose" baits. Significantly, however, the judge's ruling also stated that:

- Predation losses have not increased since 1972.
- The toxic collar is unlikely to reduce predation on open ranges where the most serious coyote problems exist.
- Single lethal dose baits have been used only in other countries under conditions not found in the western states.
- Real risks to humans and non-target wildlife will remain.

*Believing that the evidence does not support the ruling in favor of reinstatement, the Environmental Defense Fund has appealed it to the EPA Administrator, Anne Gorsuch.*

## Testimony presented during the EPA hearings on 1080

*Thomas Power, Professor of Economics. There is little direct evidence that predation has a substantial effect on the viability of the sheep industry. In the West 45% of commercial producers lost no lambs to predators and 67% lost no sheep. Serious losses are concentrated in a minority of sheep operations, and loss to disease and other causes is often larger than losses to predators.*

*William Pfeifer, US Fish and Wildlife Service. In North Dakota 36 ranchers used 44 Great Pyrenees and two Komondor dogs to guard an average of 250 acres. As a result the coyote predation rate dropped steeply from 6% to only 0.4%.*

*Carl Gustavson, Associate Professor of Psychology. A 3000-acre sheep ranch in Washington State showed over three years a 40-60% drop in predation when "aversive conditioning" with lithium chloride was used.*

*Robert Robel, Professor of Environmental Biology. "Recall bias" can commonly cause losses to predators to be overestimated by 50%. This explains discrepancies between field surveys and questionnaires—the latter showing higher losses.*

*Robert Henderson and Edward Bog-gess, Kansas State University. Kansas does not have a predator-control program as do most western states. The Kansas program costs less than a fifth of the amount spent in states with comparable terrain and sheep-farming practices. Ranchers are taught how to prevent predator losses and the value of predators to the ecosystem is emphasized. Kansas has a high, stable coyote population but low predator losses. And losses have decreased since 1972 when 1080 was banned.*

*Hope Ryden, wildlife writer. Historically, bait placed in carrion has removed from the population the coyotes that scavenge, leaving the more predacious killers to breed and serve as models to their young. Furthermore when many coyotes are killed, litters will be larger.*

**John Grandy, Humane Society of the United States.** While 1080 was in use (1960-71) combined sheep and lamb losses from all causes in 15 western states was 8.9%. From 1972-81 (post-1080 ban) losses averaged 9.0%. There is no statistical difference in these loss rates.

**Dick Randall, former trapper in animal damage control program.** There is no place to put poison baits accessible only to coyotes. During later years of 1080 use, coyotes consumed substantially less of the bait material, having learned to avoid it. Most of the time baits were badly over-treated. They were often illegally placed, improperly destroyed and virtually impossible to monitor.

**Barry Rumack, editor of "Poisindex".** One teaspoon of 1080 is enough to kill 30 to 100 150-pound adults. Simply touching a can of meat bait and then licking one's fingers could provide a dose of 1080 lethal to a child.

**Franz Camenzind, wildlife biologist.** There is no apparent relationship between the number of livestock lost and the number of coyotes killed.

**Jeffrey Miller, environmental attorney.** EPA budget reductions will mean less effective enforcement of pesticide regulations, particularly since the Reagan administration is expecting the states to assume more enforcement responsibility. State agencies regulating pesticides tend to be dominated by the agricultural community. It will be impossible to reregister 1080 with effective restrictions which will protect public health

**Stuart Ellins, Professor of Psychology.** In Antelope Valley, California, experiments using lithium chloride produced a drastic decrease in the number of coyote kills and baits taken. The method is relatively inexpensive, has no adverse environmental effects and allows coyotes to return to natural prey.

**Norman Zimmerman, toxicologist.** In applied toxicology we try not to wait until after tragedies occur. The potential for human and non-target animal deaths is so great with Compound 1080 that the ban on predacidal use must remain.

## Don't dump your throw-away plastic bags in the sea!

Dead leatherback turtles in large numbers have been washing ashore for many years along the New Jersey coast. Autopsies have revealed "stomachs and intestines blocked by plastic sandwich bags, potato chip bags, trash bags and other trash items," reports Robert Schoelkopf, Director of the *Marine Mammal Stranding Center* in Atlantic City.

Leatherbacks are a highly endangered species and are believed to be the largest of all marine reptiles. The eminent sea-turtle expert Nicholas Mrosovsky, University of Toronto Zoology Department, says he has data from all over the world indicating that around 44% of leatherbacks in the open ocean today have plastic materials in their stomachs. So — when at sea, don't dump unwanted plastic bags and wrappings overboard. Take them home with you!

## AFRICA

### Mountain gorillas no longer in decline

For the past four years the Mountain Gorilla Project has been battling to save the remnant population of the rarest of Africa's three gorilla species. The mountain gorilla's last refuge is the Virungas, a volcanic and mountainous rain forest small in area but spanning three countries—Rwanda, Zaire and Uganda.



Janet Ross

Nominally the whole area is a national park but during the past 20 years the gorilla population has halved—helped on its downward path in the mid 1970s by a macabre tourist trade in severed gorilla heads (the celebrated Digit, Diane Fossey's pride and joy, being one of the victims).

Now for the good news. In Rwanda conservation efforts, backed by the government, have led to stabilization of the gorilla population with young gorillas becoming more numerous. A further piece of good news is that the gorilla's home in Rwanda, the *Parc National des Volcans*, is attracting more and more tourists.

The tourism is strictly controlled—groups of six and only one trip a day. Even so, for the first time the park is making a profit. This is important because the diminished forest is under continuous pressure from land-hungry Rwandans, and straightforward economic arguments are needed to buttress the ecological case for conserving it—and with it the gorillas.

### Good news for the rhino!

The rhinoceros for once has something to celebrate. The Yemen Arab Republic (North Yemen) has banned the import of rhino horn. Of course the rhino in Africa has long been a protected animal but poachers knew that just across the Red Sea lay the world's biggest single market for rhino horn—used in the carving of highly prized and very highly priced ceremonial dagger handles.

The black rhino has lost 90% of its population in just 10 years. But if the Yemeni ban is strictly enforced, the species now has a chance of surviving.

Chief credit for this welcome turn of events must go to the *African Wildlife Leadership Foundation* and to North Yemen's Ambassador to the US, Mohammad Al-Eryani. The latter had detailed discussions in Washington with the AWLF president, Robert Smith. The ban was the fruit of their discussions.

# Japan, swallow hard and stop whaling

by John B. Oakes, former Senior Editor of The New York Times

When Japan's new Prime Minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone, visits Capitol Hill today, he will be forcefully reminded how heavily his country's economy, as well as its image, is being damaged by its senseless war of extermination against the whales.

One reason Mr. Nakasone is in Washington is to ward off growing American protectionism against imports from Japan. Yet there is a simple action he alone can take to save Japan's vitally important fishing industry from crippling blows from the United States that otherwise will be inevitable.

That action is to annul former Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki's decision to reject the five-year moratorium on all commercial whaling that the International Whaling Commission approved last summer, by a vote of 25 to 7. The ban is to take effect late in 1985.

This vote reflected rising worldwide concern over the virtual extinction of several whale species and the extreme depletion—threatening their survival—of all the rest, because of overhunting (often illegal and always unimaginably cruel) by a handful of nations led by Japan. Tokyo's subsidized support of a dying industry serves no legitimate purpose, for there is a cheaper, readily available substitute for every whale product.

How real will be the penalties to Japan if Mr. Nakasone sticks to the obdurate position taken by his predecessor, who is widely suspected of a corrupt sellout to Japanese whaling interests? The answer is that the penalties are very real and the threat to apply them is very serious.

Two-thirds of the members of the Senate and more than 60 members of the House already have demanded that it be made "absolutely clear" to Japan that sanctions will be imposed if commercial whaling continues after the date set by the IWC. The State Department even promises to take action "beginning this spring," when the next allocation of the amount of fish to be taken by the Japanese in United States waters (their principal source of supply) will be made. If Japan persists in saying that it will ignore the IWC prohibition against whaling, the United States can—and undoubtedly will—drastically reduce the allowable take.

Next spring is only the starting point. Unless the Japanese stop killing whales by 1986 (they legally took 5,000 last year and were directly or indirectly responsible for most of 1982's total legal slaughter of

14,000) their allowable fish catch in United States waters will be automatically reduced by at least 50 percent. They also may, and probably will, lose the right to export fish to the United States. On economic grounds alone, it makes no sense for Japan or anyone else to support the whaling industry at such terrible cost.

Japan's harvest of fish from American waters amounted to \$425 million in 1981—nearly 10 times the value of its diminishing whale catch. In 1981, Japan exported more than \$320 million in frozen

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## Dolphin kill exceeds quota

1982 saw the American tuna fleet kill nearly 23,000 dolphins. This "incidental catch" is the highest since 1977 and exceeds the annual quota of 20,500 laid down by NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration).

Because of a district-court ruling that data collected by federal "observers" aboard tuna vessels may be used for law enforcement, the government is unable

## Whale demonstrators greet Nakasone

Prime Minister Nakasone of Japan was greeted outside the White House on 18 January by three 30-foot blue and white

to prosecute offending skippers. As if this wasn't bad enough, a US Court of Appeals has now ruled that observers have no right to be aboard the vessels at all.

Conservationists are alarmed. In 1980 a tuna crew member reported that his vessel, which carried no federal observer, killed almost three times as many dolphins as boats with observers. Since at any one time only about a third of the boats are carrying observers, and since dolphin mortality is assessed solely on their data, it is depressingly likely that the true mortality is a lot higher.

The Environmental Defense Fund is asking the full Court of Appeals to reconsider its ruling. If that fails and if the government remains powerless to enforce the Marine Mammal Protection Act, environmentalists will probably press for a consumer boycott of tuna. In the mid-1970s this tactic played an important part in compelling the industry to reform its fishing practices.

Today, with the industry in a markedly depressed state, there is reason to suppose that a boycott could again bring results. But it would be better if it didn't come to that.

whale balloons and by demonstrators carrying signs calling on him to withdraw Japan's objection to the whaling ban voted last year by the IWC. The colorful demonstration was featured on the major tv networks that evening.

The appeal was repeated nationwide by AWI in a full-page advertisement (see below) in *USA Today*, the new daily newspaper. We asked readers to telephone their nearest Japanese consulate to convey their opposition to Japan's continued killing of the whales. We now repeat the request. Here are the locations and phone numbers.

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Washington DC | (202) 234-2266 |
| Houston       | (713) 652-2977 |
| Portland      | (503) 221-1811 |
| San Francisco | (415) 921-8000 |
| Los Angeles   | (213) 624-8305 |
| Anchorage     | (907) 279-8428 |
| New Orleans   | (504) 529-2101 |
| Atlanta       | (404) 892-2700 |
| Seattle       | (206) 682-9107 |
| Honolulu      | (808) 536-2226 |
| Chicago       | (312) 280-0400 |
| Kansas City   | (212) 986-1600 |
| Boston        | (617) 973-9772 |
| New York      | (212) 986-1600 |

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### The American People Appeal to Prime Minister Nakasone of Japan

## WITHDRAW OBJECTION TO INTERNATIONAL WHALING BAN



For their part, the people of Japan... our common knowledge of these magnificent mammals... to ensure their survival... the only way to ensure their survival... the only way to ensure their survival...

**Please Help Save the Whales**  
We need the help of every concerned citizen... to ensure their survival... the only way to ensure their survival... the only way to ensure their survival...

**Please Help, Here's Where You Can**  
Call the Japanese Consulate in your area... to ensure their survival... the only way to ensure their survival... the only way to ensure their survival...

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Washington, D.C. | (202) 234-2266 |
| Houston          | (713) 652-2977 |
| Portland         | (503) 221-1811 |
| San Francisco    | (415) 921-8000 |
| Los Angeles      | (213) 624-8305 |
| Anchorage        | (907) 279-8428 |
| New Orleans      | (504) 529-2101 |
| Atlanta          | (404) 892-2700 |
| Seattle          | (206) 682-9107 |
| Honolulu         | (808) 536-2226 |
| Chicago          | (312) 280-0400 |
| Kansas City      | (212) 986-1600 |
| Boston           | (617) 973-9772 |
| New York         | (212) 986-1600 |

### U.S. Threatens Reduction in Japan's \$400 Million Fishing in American Waters

The House of Representatives... the Japanese government... the United States... the Japanese government... the United States... the Japanese government... the United States...

**House Hearing Today**  
The House of Representatives... the Japanese government... the United States... the Japanese government... the United States... the Japanese government... the United States...

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## Bats do not deserve brickbats

Few people have a good word to say for bats. Or had. Until now. Now at last the bat has found a spokesman to put the record straight. From *Bat Conservation International*, born just a year and a half ago, we learn that:

- None of the nasty beliefs about bats are true.
- Bats play a most valuable role as pollinating agents for plants and as voracious eaters of insects—if they're allowed to.
- They are not being allowed to. All over the world bat numbers are in decline—persecuted through ignorance and misplaced fears.

Worldwide, bats by the million have been killed as their caves and other roosts have been poisoned, blown up or bulldozed. Here in America no fewer than 20 states permit and even encourage people who wish to rid their homes of bats to use the deadly toxic chemical Rozol, even though the Environmental Protection Agency has urged its withdrawal as being a grave hazard to human health.

Though still a mere fledgling, *Bat Conservation International* has already been

very active correcting misconceptions and protecting bats. A BCI publication *Bats and Public Health* has been the inspiration for numerous national publications.

In Tennessee and Florida BCI has primed efforts to save the gray bat. Caves in the two states which house this endangered bat are now being protected. While overseas in Thailand BCI has been instrumental in persuading the government to give sanctuary status to the one remaining cave-home of the Kitti's hog-nosed bat.



## Help stop the slaughter of song birds in Cyprus

From Cyprus come bleak reports that the massacre of migratory birds is now on an unprecedented scale. One estimate puts the kill at 10 million birds in the first 10 months of 1982 — that is, *before* the winter shooting season began. One “netter” caught 1700 birds in just one day.

Song birds *en route* south or north during the migratory seasons are the chief victims. There is now considerable evidence (not surprisingly) that many populations have slumped in recent years.

Shooting, netting and liming (“gluey” sticks concealed in trees and bushes) are the three main methods of slaughter. The last two are illegal in Cyprus but almost no attempt is made to enforce the law. And ludicrously the law allows nets and lime-sticks to be imported, sold, manufactured and owned. It is only their use which is prohibited.

Friends of the Earth (Cyprus) is making valiant efforts to see that these legal loopholes are blocked and that the law is enforced. FOE is concentrating on the liming issue (another

group is tackling netting) and has prepared a leaflet in six languages for use in Europe.

International pressure, so FOE believes, can play a vital role. One aspect of this is tourism. Overseas visitors are disgusted by the sight of small song birds, often of species popular in the gardens and countryside of their home countries, trapped and fluttering on lime-sticks and in nets awaiting death. Three British travel agents now refuse to send parties to Cyprus solely because of this slaughter.

After being killed the birds are usually pickled and sold as “ambellopoulia”. It is an expensive restaurant delicacy. Bird-liming is highly profitable; a limer can easily make \$2000 in six weeks in the fall. The slaughter, however, has no economic justification. No one in Cyprus is dependent on bird-liming for a living. And nowhere are birds a serious pest to farmers.

The Berne Convention (*Council of Europe Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats*) forbids both netting and lim-

The size of a bumblebee, it is the smallest mammal in the world and extremely endangered. At the last count the cave held only 30 specimens. Nine months earlier the figure had been 200.

BCI's address is: c/o Dr. Merlin Tuttle, Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233.

P.S. Don't use the phrase “blind as a bat.” Bats have eyes and their vision is usually good. It's we in our attitude to bats who are blind.

ing. Cyprus signed this convention in October 1981 but has yet to ratify. FOE is urging the government to do this. It is also urging well-wishers overseas to write the President of Cyprus or contact the Cypriot ambassador in their country and demand (in a suitable diplomatic manner) that all netting and liming on the island be stopped. Any suggestion that the slaughter is giving you cause to think twice about visiting Cyprus would give your appeal extra weight. And a letter in your own words to a Cypriot newspaper would also be most valuable. Here are the relevant addresses. *President Spyros Kyprianou, Nicosia, Cyprus. H.E. The Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus, 2211 R Street NW, Washington, DC 20008. Telephone: (202) 462-5772. The Editor, The Cyprus Weekly, PO Box 1992, Nicosia, Cyprus. The Editor, The Cyprus Mail, PO Box 1144, Nicosia, Cyprus.*

For the full background story on the mass killing of Europe's migratory birds, see summer 1982 AWI Quarterly.



## Europe

Continued from page 1

four to five months. All calves are brought into the barn as a herd, and are removed for slaughter as a herd. Some of the usual pitfalls of these aspects of veal calf rearing have been circumvented on the Martin Pfister farm near Zurich, Switzerland. Mr. Pfister and his sons buy their calves from individual dairy farmers. Calves are brought into the veal barn in small groups at 10 to 14 days of age and are placed in the first of three group pens. Feeding is *ad lib* (i.e. calves feed at will) from a mechanical dispenser of milk replacer. Floors are straw-bedded. Each calf is moved as an individual through a series of three pens over a period of 100 days. As it reaches a specified weight in the first pen, it is moved on to the second and then, in due course, to the third. Milk concentrations vary from pen to pen. Each calf remains in the third pen until it reaches slaughterweight. Usually just a few calves are slaughtered at any one time. This eliminates problems of variability in weight among calves slaughtered *en masse*. The Pfisters have been



raising calves in this way for about 15 years. University of Zurich veterinarians who showed us this system confirmed that mortality on the farm is unusually low, under 2%.

Around two-thirds of Swiss veal farms rear calves in group pens, with 30-40 calves in each pen. Calves are brought in and moved out of the veal barn as a herd, and are fed *ad lib* from mechanical dispensers of milk replacer. I visited one such farm where 250 to 375 calves are raised each year; in line with the recommendations of Swiss veterinarians, the farmer does not bring them to the veal

farm until they are at least 10 days old. By this age calves are better able to withstand the stresses involved in transport and mixing with other calves.

At the University of Bristol in England veterinarian Dr. John Webster has been studying the health, behavior and performance of veal calves in various housing systems since 1979. AWI has helped with funding his research. He is developing a system of rearing veal calves that is appropriate for the animal and economically viable. At present, he is working with a group of eight Friesian and two Holstein calves housed out of doors in a pen with a shelter of straw bales at one end. The floor is straw-bedded. Feeding of milk replacer is *ad lib* from nipple dispensers. A second group of eight Holstein and Hereford-Friesian calves is housed indoors in a straw-bedded, naturally ventilated pen. Again, the feeding of milk replacer is *ad lib*.

Dr. Webster had not completed his research when I visited and had no formal report on his results. He did say he was encouraged by the progress of this study particularly by the performance of his Holstein bull calves. In an upcoming study, Webster will feed the calves from a computerized, automatic milk dispenser which will electronically recognize



Globovol house for laying hens, birds line the edge of the elevated litter platform. Nest boxes are placed underneath the platform. In the foreground waterers hang above the wire mesh floor which is crossed with wood strips. Feeders are placed nearby.

each calf as it comes to feed and can notify the farmer if any calf consumes less than its normal daily intake.

### Laying hens

Public concern for the welfare of farm animals was recently demonstrated in Switzerland. In 1976 the Swiss public voted in favor of government regulation of the management of farm animals.



Legislation was proposed and passed in both Houses of Parliament in March 1978. The legislation was published and within six months 50,000 signatures had to be collected as a prerequisite for a public vote on the legislation. 90,000 signatures were obtained and in December, 1978, a referendum was held. 80% of the voters voted for the act. On 27 May 1981, regulations issued by the Swiss government on the keeping of farm animals took effect. The law has a 10-year phase-in period. A second law limiting the size of farm operations and providing protection to small farmers is being phased in over the same 10-year period.

According to a Swiss veterinary official the government had decided that the pressure of a law was necessary to stimulate

changes in the way animals were reared. It appeared that without a law, agricultural interests would always argue that change was not possible. Once the proposed legislation became law, the poultry industry presented designs the government had never seen before. It seemed that "necessity was the mother of invention."

The new Swiss law requires that laying hens be given perches and nesting boxes. One of the new designs presented by the poultry industry shortly after the law was enacted was the "Globovol" type of house. It has 2 tiers of nest boxes running through the center of the building. Over the nest boxes is a platform about 16 feet wide, covered with a thin layer of



Dr. Stolba closely observed the behavior pattern of domestic swine on the hillside of trees, gorse bushes, marshland and streams. He then designed a family-pen system recreating in a practical way, all the features most satisfying to boars, sows and piglets.

litter to which hens fly or climb. Placement of the litter platform at this elevation, above the waterers and where the air is warmer, helps keep the litter dry. Wire mesh floors, crossed with wood perches, run the length of the building on both sides of the central rows of nest boxes. The automatic waterers and feeders are placed over the wire mesh. This particular building had 2000 hens. It has been given provisional approval by the Swiss government and there have been many requests to build similar houses. This system, like other building

designs, must be tested by government scientists to determine whether or not it is appropriate for the animals. Its economic viability will also be evaluated. Other systems, including ones in which birds are more densely stocked, have also been designed and will be tested.

Dr Klaus Vestergaard, an animal scientist at the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University in Copenhagen, is overseeing a project to design an alternative housing system for laying hens. Scientists are making comparative studies of behavior, health and productivity in battery cages and in two variations of a small pen. The pens have nest boxes, a wire mesh floor crossed with wood strips which serve as



Sows on the hillside built nests for their piglets. Dr. Stolba added the tin roof and walk to the nest site for extra protection.



Sows on the hillside built nests for their piglets. Dr. Stolba added the tin roof and walk to the nest site for extra protection.

perches, and a small area of litter. Researchers are experimenting with a flock size of 75 birds in each of the small pens.

Many other alternative housing projects are underway in Europe, and commercial farms are successfully marketing non-battery eggs. One such farm, is in France (see page 8 of Spring 1982 Quarterly). The system has been developed over the last 20 years—currently it has some 75,000 hens in three houses. Birds have nest boxes from which eggs are automatically collected, a litter area and perches.

I also observed efforts of Danish and Swedish scientists to make adjustments to the battery cage. In Sweden, Dr Ragnar Tauson is working on improving cages in various ways, including reconstructing them to prevent or reduce foot damage, throat blisters and trapping or strangulation of birds. Battery cages can certainly be made less inhumane but no matter what the improvements, the system itself can never be adapted to the bird's natural functions.

### Swine

One of the most interesting research projects I visited was a swine study at the School of Agriculture in Edinburgh, Scotland, initiated by Dr Alex Stolba, an ethologist from the University

of Zurich, and Dr David Wood-Gush, a professor of animal behavior at the Edinburgh School of Agriculture.

Their goal was to develop improved swine housing by studying the behavior of a domestic breed of pigs, large whites, in a relatively unrestricted, semi-natural environment. Dr Stolba carefully observed swine here, determining which features of the environment were most important in satisfying behavioral patterns. He then constructed a series of smaller and less complex environments and observed the hogs' behavior in each, until arriving at the present housing design which incorporates many of the features that influence the pigs' behavior outdoors.

Stolba found that by providing an interesting or enriched environment for growing pigs, aggression between pigs was reduced. He compared behavior in the enriched pen to behavior in a straw-bedded pen and in a pen without straw. He found that when the pigs' environment was made more barren, their attention shifted from objects to other pigs—often aggressively so. Pigs in conventional, barren housing units soon lose interest in rubber tires or chains placed in their pens to reduce aggression or boredom. However, the young hogs in Stolba's pens do not seem to tire of their more natural environment.

Dr Stolba was trying to determine the most important behavioral patterns of swine and to construct a system to satisfy them. He found that by observing behavior carefully and taking behavior seriously, he could produce a system in which it is possible to achieve overall health and high performance. He has had repeated success with breeding during lactation and growth rates have exceeded those achieved in a conventional control system.

Total space requirements are only fractionally more than in conventional systems.

The Ministry of Agriculture has been impressed by Stolba's research and has funded further testing of the system. Project workers have demonstrated success on a small scale over the short run and are confident that the system can succeed on a commercial scale over the long term. This approach to designing a system of managing swine is an unorthodox but logical one.

We hope it will inspire a similar approach to developing improved housing for other species.

### Preventive medicine

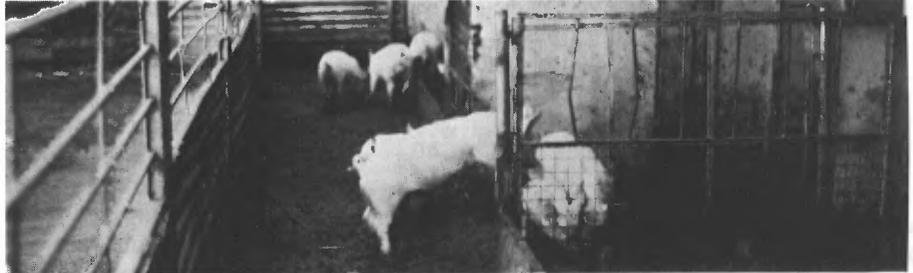
Another approach to evaluating and designing hog-housing has been taken by Dr Ingvar Ekesbo, a veterinarian and professor at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. He has published a great deal of material on the relationship between environment and health in Swedish cattle and swine herds. As a young veterinarian, Ekesbo had been frustrated by the reliance on antibiotics which only treated symptoms of disease and did not remove the cause. He became very interested in research on preventive medicine and began to study the relationship between environment and health. Ekesbo does not define health as "production" but as physical and



Diane Halverson

Young pigs root in this area filled with peat. The iron-rich peat eliminates the need for iron injections that are routinely given to piglets in conventional systems. A levering bar is suspended near the back wall of the rooting area. Because piglets have these and other features with which to interact, aggressive interaction among pigs, such as tailbiting, are minimal making tail docking unnecessary.

psychological well-being. To achieve this definition of health, Ekesbo believes that animal behavior must be given serious consideration. For example, Ekesbo stresses to farmers that a sow's preference for separate feeding, lying and dunging areas should be accommodated. Such an arrangement is in use on his brother's



Diane Halverson

Excellent use of space in Stolba's enriched pen allows for a distinct dunging corridor placed away from lying and feeding areas. The corridor doubles as a runway for active piglets. To the right are rooting areas, filled with peat.



Diane Halverson

In Dr. Stolba's enriched pen hogs can lie comfortably in areas well-bedded with straw. Stobla observed that hogs in the outdoor environment tended to form sub-groups. The design of the enriched pen allows hogs to socialize and form similar groups.

farm, where pregnant sows are confined only at feeding time and have small but distinct areas for lying and dunging. The Regional Agricultural Board has visited this farm in order to copy and spread the system.

A third approach to animal husbandry was presented by a Norwegian agricultural engineer, Dr Lasse Gravas. In an experiment underway during my visit, Dr Gravas was comparing the behavior, health and productivity of sows tied during pregnancy and lactation, with the same attributes of sows kept free-moving in pregnancy and lactation. Gravas is not motivated to evaluate behavior by a strong humane interest but he does believe that understanding behavior will lead to improving productivity. On the basis of his work to date, Gravas recommends to farmers that sows be kept free-moving, and estimates that

about 50% of Norwegian farmers allow the sows to be free-moving a week or so after farrowing, if not during farrowing.

Dr Stolba, ethologist, Dr Ekesbo, a veterinarian and Dr Gravas, an agricultural engineer, represent three distinct approaches to hog management. But all have concluded that

understanding animal behavior is of immense importance in properly managing livestock. Thus armed, one can design a system which wards off the kind of health, production and welfare problems likely to arise when behavioral patterns are ignored.

*Diane Halverson rounded off her presentation by quoting the resolution adopted last November by the US Animal Health Association: "Be it resolved that advances in farm animal welfare based on scientific studies and practical application in the United States and abroad be further encouraged by the U.S. Animal Health Association." She expressed the Institute's interest in working with members of the agricultural community to resolve public concerns for the welfare of farm animals.*

## Save the rain forest

On 12 January PBS gave us the hour-long documentary *Rain Forest*. It made an excellent and appropriate opener to the 1983 season of National Geographic "specials" on Public Television.

Of the huge variety of ecosystems that are threatened today, none stands in greater peril than the rain forest. Indeed IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) has elevated it to the top spot as the "world's most pressing conservation priority" and has launched, with the World Wildlife Fund, a Tropical Forest Campaign.

The reasons for the urgency are twofold. The rain forests are fabulously rich in species and are being destroyed (along with their species) at a fiendish pace. Just four square miles of forest typically contain 125 species of mammals, 400 species of birds, 100 species of reptiles, 60 species of amphibians and 150 species of butterflies, while in every two-and-a-half acres you are likely to find between 300 and 750 different types of trees and tens of thousands of insect species. But by the turn of the century where will all this richness be? Unless present trends are reversed—gone, wiped off the face of the Earth.

The film *Rain Forest* focused on Costa Rica, a country which has a proud conservation record but which, like all Central American republics, has seen its forests tumble to the slash-and-burn beef-cattle barons of North America. Unhappily our liking for hamburgers (three billion a year) is literally eating up the forests.

A 1% Conservation Tax on all imports from tropical forests has been proposed—with the money being used to help conserve this dwindling resource. It would be nice to think that this proposal will be greeted with open arms—and open check books. We shall see.



## Expanding deserts

Hefty farm surpluses in North America and Europe have encouraged the belief that world hunger is solely caused by poor distribution and lack of political will. The UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) rejects this simplistic view. It says that an additional 500 million acres of cultivated land—or eight times the area of the United Kingdom—will be needed by the year 2000 to feed Earth's swollen population.

And this assumes that the newly cultivated land is truly *additional*. But in fact, says FAO, by 2000, the deserts will have claimed another 500 million acres through soil erosion, so the net increase in productive land will be zero.

In 1977 the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) launched an ambitious scheme to "roll back the deserts." The desert nations of the world, rich and poor, gathered in Nairobi and applauded. But so far brave words and fine resolutions have not been translated into deeds. The deserts continue their inexorable advance.

## Halving Dall porpoise deaths

Japan's salmon fishermen claim to have developed a method of halving the number of Dall porpoises caught in salmon gill nets. It is based on the porpoise's ability to detect air by means of their sonar even at great depths. When an air-filled tube is entwined in the netting the porpoises are often able to sense it and so to avoid entanglement.

In the Japanese study which confirmed the value of the device, the nets of 12 of their salmon fishing vessels were fitted with air tubes and a similar number with electric sound generators. The latter proved far less effective.

That Japan has made this porpoise-saving discovery is good. And when it becomes a standard fitment throughout the Japanese salmon fleet it will be better still. But best of all would be for Japan to give up catching salmon with drift gill nets. No other nation uses this method.

## Never cry wolf

Two arduous years of living amongst wolves in the Yukon has gone into the filming of *Never Cry Wolf* which has just (February) been released. The story tells of a biologist left alone in the frozen tundra to learn of the ways of wolves. He discovers not a den of marauding killers but a courageous family of skillful providers who are devoted guardians of their young. As bounty hunters from the world he has left

behind him close in, the wolves' fears become his fears; for our brutal misuse of our fellow creatures conflicts at a deeper level with our innate feelings of kinship. The film is directed by Carroll Ballard who made *The Black Stallion*.

## Radio collars track wolves for Alaska's gunners

The latest Alaskan innovation has to do with killing wolves. Officials estimate that only 8000 to 12,000 wolves are left within the state's 375 million acres. Except for an isolated thousand or so in the Minnesota environs, these are the last wolves in the United States, and they have continued to share with human hunters the available surplus of moose. They are shot, snared and trapped in the ordinary course of events, but to increase further the proportion of moosemeat taken by humans, state sharpshooters have also pursued them in airplanes, in a program that has been controversial in the past.

What's new is that these gunners don't just fly at random over the wilderness terrain. They follow the radio signals emanating from a collar worn by an unwary



Lorraine McNulty

wolf pup trapped earlier so it can lead the plane back to its pack, which might not be located otherwise.

The rationale for such technological wolf hunts is questionable to start with; wolves are a threatened species in the "lower 48," and part of the natural heritage of all interested Americans. And there's reason to be doubly disturbed by the hunts. Radio collars were developed with the special scientific purpose of preserving threatened species, learning their habits and life histories. Swans and porpoises carry the instruments; but to our knowledge this is the first time radio-tracking has been used to destroy.

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Continued from page 4

fish to the United States. If whaling continues, Japan will see both figures reduced to zero.

The Soviet Union, cynical as usual, also announced defiance of the International Whaling Commission ban. The Russians, like almost everyone else, sell nearly all of their whale catch (4000 last year) to Japan. It is generally believed that if the Japanese as the lead country give up commercial whaling, the Soviet Union and most of the others will quickly follow suit.

The Japanese have consistently twisted arms in the crudest way among both whaling and nonwhaling nations to support their position. They tied a \$400 million agricultural investment program to Brazil's vote at the IWC. They own Peru's one whaling station, and have just granted a \$4 billion credit to South Korea. Brazil, Peru and South Korea, along with the Soviet Union, Norway and Iceland were the only countries to vote with Japan against the moratorium.

The Japanese need whale meat neither to supplement their diet nor to strengthen their economy. Whale meat provides less than one percent of Japan's protein consumption. Most of the nation's whale meat goes to captive consumers in uniform, including schoolchildren, members of the defense forces and convicted prisoners. According to Craig Van Note, an authority on whale protection and executive secretary of Monitor, a Washington consortium of environmental organizations, Japan's whaling industry employs fewer than 1,000 per-

## Exploring the value of live whales

At the annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission last summer it was agreed that 1983 would see a *Global Conference on the Non-Consumptive Utilization of Cetacean Resources*. High on the list of these "non-consumptive" uses is tourism. The proposal, introduced by the United States, was strongly supported by the Seychelles which offered to host such a meeting and to contribute \$10,000. Co-sponsors are the Connecticut Cetacean Society, the World Wildlife Fund, IUCN, the IWC and the Animal Welfare Institute.

Dates have now been fixed. A preparatory meeting will be held in the Seychelles on 3-6 May, followed by the main meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, on 7-12 June. To ensure that all member nations of the IWC can send at least one participant to the Boston meeting, the Connecticut Cetacean Society has secured a pledge of \$50,000 to assist with travel expenses. Further information from: *Whales Alive Conference*, c/o Dr. Robbins Barstow, PO Box 9145, Wethersfield, CT 06109.

sons on ship and shore.

To the ordinary Japanese, whaling doesn't seem to be quite the crucial issue its politically powerful proponents have built it up to be. In the most recent Gallup Poll, taken in October, the question was asked whether Japan should object to the Interna-

tional Whaling Commission's moratorium and continue whaling, or "accept the decision." The vote was 17% in favor of the first alternative. It was 76% in favor of the second.

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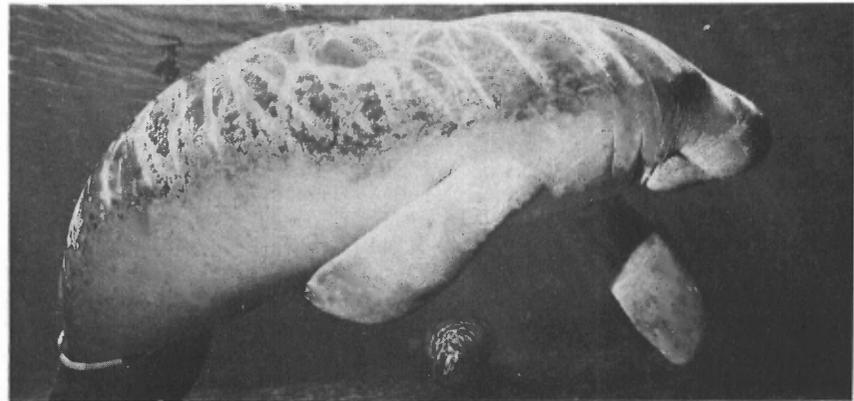
## A fine day for manatees

For boat owner John Levert 19 November last was not a good day. He was arrested for speeding through a manatee sanctuary in Florida. The manatees, though, had something to cheer. For later that month, in a plea bargain arrangement, Levert was ordered by federal magistrate Patricia Kyle to pay a \$7000 fine direct to *Save the Manatees*. She said she learned of this manatee-protection group through a television announcement.

Members of the group were delighted with this windfall. "It's wonderful," said administrator Renee Priest, "not just because of the money but because of the publicity. People will now know that fines can be

severe."

Note: In North America the manatee is now confined to Florida. Lumberingly slow and forced to surface every few minutes in order to breathe, the manatee is all too likely to be rammed by fast-moving boats. Hence the strict speed limits in manatee areas. Going to scale at upwards of a ton the manatee could take most collisions in its stride (or stroke) if it wasn't for the razor-sharp propellers of the speed-boats. One marine expert has estimated that 80% of Florida's 1000 manatees bear scars inflicted by propellers. And 60% of manatee deaths are believed to be caused by people—for the most part people in boats.



Patrick Rose, Florida Audubon Society

## Periodical pleasures by John Gleiber

In spite of its rather trendy title, *In Touch* . . . is a new quarterly of very real merit for all of us who are interested in keeping an attentive eye on just what is going on in what we hope is the burgeoning field of alternative testing. *In Touch* . . . already boasts a circulation of 30,000 in this country, so I may be one of the last to have gotten in touch. It is published by Princeton Scientific Publishers, Inc. who may be reached at P.O. Box 3159, Princeton, NJ 08540. The Fund for the Replacement of Medical Experiments (FRAME) distributes it overseas.

A story in the last issue thoughtfully discusses the altering of LD<sub>50</sub> requirements so that fewer animals need be sacrificed. Another describes the Millennium Guild's incentive awards to encourage practical alternative methods. There are nuggets of practical information. For example, you can find a concise explanation of how firms developing *in vitro* testing programs can

coordinate applications for NIH funding with the Small Business Innovation Research Program. It also describes the three-step program first developed by the National Science Foundation to help decide on funding of new businesses.

There is an "Inside Washington" column which, in the latest issue, reprints a letter from James B. Wyngaarden, the new Director of NIH, carefully replying to Senator William Proxmire's query as to the progress in alternative testing programs. How delightful it is to learn that the NIH are now aware that the "watchdog of the Senate" is looking over their shoulder. I especially like this column because it names names and tells when a Congressman does something on a specific animal issue. These are the people who deserve our support and encouragement. An occasional letter of thanks out of the blue can be a bright and well-remembered spot in a legislator's harried and often thankless day.

# Books

## Man and Beast

by C. W. Hume (drawings by Fougasse)

Universities Federation for Animal Welfare: reprinted 1982, \$5.00 (Available from AWI)

Sometimes one can say of a book that has been reprinted after a long while, that it is as timely as when it was first written. In this instance, it seems more appropriate to say that times are just beginning to catch up with some of the ideas expressed in the book.

*Man and Beast* is a series of essays by Major Hume, founder of the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare. It is a combination of the history of how various animal welfare problems were handled in England, in particular the work of UFAW, and a philosophical discussion of the ethics involved. In this country we lag behind England in the solution of these problems, but we are beginning to ask the right questions. Hume offered some persuasive answers to these questions. He also examines certain shortcomings in the animal welfare movement and exposes the pseudo-scientific nature of several assumptions of some scientific disciplines. Fougasse's illustrations, a combination of extreme simplicity and (gentle) biting humor, complement the text in pointing up the pomposity of certain religious and scientific pronouncements.

Topics covered include: trapping, animal experimentation, legal rights of animals and religious attitudes toward animals. In discussing the "Pain Rule" (a regulation in the British Cruelty to Animals Act which limits the infliction of pain on experimental animals), Hume says: "If I were asked, 'But does not this rule hamper research?' I would reply that even if it did that would be no justification for abandoning it. The pursuit of knowledge is not the

highest good nor does it stand above the moral law." Hume points out that scientists in particular have a ridiculous fear of appearing to reason anthropomorphically; he argues that the judicious application of anthropomorphism is both valid and useful.

The experimenter must put himself in imagination in the place of the animal, says Hume.

"He must leave out of account any risk of death or permanent disablement (which alone can justify him in choosing a victim other than himself) and focus his attention on the individual experience of pain or other stress involved; and he must now ask himself 'Should I myself be willing to endure that degree of pain or other stress in order to attain the object in view?'. If not, his decision must be negative, and no experimenter has a right to do to an animal what he would not wish done to himself but for any risk of death or permanent disablement that might be involved." *Man and Beast* contains facts and concepts applicable to most of the animal welfare problems of today. It is a book for all times.

Marjorie Anchel

## Dolphins and Porpoises

by Richard Ellis

Alfred A. Knopf, \$25.00

Richard Ellis, marine artist and author of *Book of Whales* has now given us another treat: *Dolphins and Porpoises*. In the 270 pages of this beautifully illustrated book we meet no fewer than 43 species—the largest being the immensely graceful orca or killer whale. In his journeyings Ellis takes us up some of the world's great rivers in search of freshwater dolphins.

Myths and legends have always accumulated around the dolphin. But the facts are magical enough—and in many parts of the world there is a bond between dolphin and man which reaches back into our prehistory.

Richard Ellis is a superb artist. Yet this is

primarily a book to read. Which says a great deal for the fascination of the story and the quality of the writing.

## AWI International Committee

The distinguished Japanese diplomat, Fumihiko Togo, who served as Ambassador to the United States from 1976 to 1980, has consented to serve as a member of the International Committee of the Animal Welfare Institute. Ambassador Togo entered the Ministry of Foreign Affairs immediately after his graduation from the Faculty of Law of Tokyo Imperial University. Now returned to Tokyo he remains an advisor to the Ministry as well as to the Nippon Steel Corporation and the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He is the author of *Thirty Years of Japan-US Diplomacy* published last year.

He and his wife, Ise, are known for their humane attitude toward animals. They repeatedly opened the palatial Embassy of Japan in Washington to benefit the Washington Humane Society, and their playful miniature dachshund, Nobby, was well known to many high-ranking statesmen and their wives.



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Courtesy of the International Crane Foundation

"Salute to the Dawn" a painting by Owing Gromme

## Our wetlands are under threat

*O let them be left, wildness and wet;  
Long live the weeds and the wilderness yet.*  
G. Manley Hopkins

If our wetlands were to disappear, so too would millions upon millions of our freshwater birds and beasts and plants and fish—and fishermen! Water quality would suffer—wetlands are natural filters. And both droughts and floods would be more severe—wetlands act like sponges, soaking up excess water and then gently releasing it over a wide area.

Of course the wetlands are not going to disappear. Not just like that. But for a long time they have been slowly dwindling in area and now there is a move to step up the pace of contraction. It revolves around Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. This may not sound a very stirring piece of legislation but in fact it does a most useful

job. It lays down fairly stringent conditions which must be met before a wetland may undergo any form of man-made disruption. Without Section 404 it is estimated the nation would be losing its wetlands at twice the rate that it is.

The present rate of loss is high enough: 330,000 acres a year. Indeed it is too high—both in an ecological and legal sense. For it transpires that permission to discharge material into the nation's waterways, including wetlands, is being too readily granted.

Under the Act the Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for regulating such discharges and for issuing permits where, and only where, the statutory requirements of the Act are being observed. In principle permit applications are reviewed for environmental impact by the Environmental Protection Agency, the Fish and Wildlife

Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service—a procedure which adds less than 1% to project costs. In practice the review process is frequently by-passed.

The Secretary of the Army is empowered under certain clearly defined conditions to issue *general* permits (local, regional or nationwide), so removing the need in these cases for individual impact assessments. However in many instances general permits have been issued without the conditions being met. Which means that environmental impact has often not been assessed where it should have been assessed. Which in turn means, almost certainly, that many permits have been granted which should have been denied.

Nor is this all. Later this year Congress will be asked to reauthorize the 1972 Clean Water Act. Already the Army has promulgated its new regulatory program which does not abide by the Act and is seeking, in the words of Senator Chafee, "administrative revision of Section 404 with a zealous proclivity for deregulation untempered by concern for protecting the integrity of our nation's waters."

These are strong words. But then a great deal is at stake. A *Committee of Scientists for Wetlands Protection*, representing over 1000 researchers and teachers across the nation, has been formed to fight for the retention of the Act unamended. And in both Houses of Congress support is being mobilized. It's a battle that must be won.

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# THE ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE QUARTERLY

P.O. Box 3650 Washington, D.C. 20007

Spring 1983

Vol. 32 No. 1

## CITES: three proposals on whales

*The following article is based on information which AWI requested from the eminent whale scientist, Sidney Holt, in order to clarify certain proposals on whales that will be put to the CITES nations meeting in Botswana on 19-30 April.*

At a meeting in Nairobi last November, African members of CITES who attended gave unanimous backing to three Appendix I proposals on whales which will now be put to all CITES parties in Botswana. The proposals require the immediate listing of the Bryde's whale and two genera of beaked whale, and the listing by 1 January 1986 (when commercial whaling is due to cease) of all whales that come under the aegis of the IWC.

**Because the Bryde's and the minke are now the only baleen whales for which the IWC permits a catch, trading pressure could become severe.**

In the case of the Bryde's whale the IWC permits hunting of only three coastal "stocks", one off Peru and the other two in the North Pacific. In other regions zero quotas have been set on the grounds that the populations are unknown. The North Pacific catch is sizeable (over 500 annually) and is not based on scientific assessment of the stock. However international trade is not involved. The Peruvian stock is a very small one and the permitted catch cannot be scientifically justified. The catch in this case is internationally traded — it is all sold to Japan for meat.

But the rationale for Appendix I listing of the Bryde's is not solely to stop trade in this one stock. Without such a listing pirate whalers operating outside the IWC would find it considerably easier to market illicitly taken Bryde's whales.

There is the further point that at the last CITES conference (New Delhi, 1981) the sei, fin and sperm whale were all given Appendix I listing. The case for the Bryde's

whale is no less strong. Indeed it is, if anything, stronger. For while there is uncertainty about the status of all four species, the one Bryde's stock that is internationally traded is known to be depleted to the point of being endangered. And because the Bryde's and the minke are now the only

**The one Bryde's stock that is internationally traded is known to be depleted to the point of being endangered.**

baleen whales for which the IWC permits a catch, trading pressure could become severe — especially as trade statistics make no distinction between different types of baleen meat. (Continued on page 2)

## New Dole bill for laboratory animals



Senator Bob Dole (R-Kansas) introduced a new bill, S. 657, the "Improved Standards for Laboratory Animals Act" as an amendment to the Animal Welfare Act. In his introductory statement he pointed to the value of the institutional committees mandated by the bill noting that they "could make USDA's inspections more effective without increasing Government costs." Each committee would include a member not affiliated with the faculty to be "primarily responsible for representing community concerns regarding the welfare of animal subjects." (Continued on page 5)

## National Research Council recommends alternative tests

"Proponents of animal welfare legislation are likely to find fuel for their argument in a recent report by the National Research Council," writes Marjorie Sun in *Science*, 25 February 1983. In the testing of chemical mutagens 'There has been spectacular progress in developing short term tests that use microorganisms and mammalian cell cultures,' stated the report, *Identifying and Estimating the Genetic Impact of Chemical Mutagens*. 'These tests are sensitive, efficient, reproducible, and inexpensive.'

According to the National Research Council press release, "It is neither necessary nor feasible to use mammals for initial screening," the committee told the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Tests with bacteria can be completed in a few days, and tests with mammalian cells in culture require only a few weeks, the committee pointed out. Mouse tests are not only much more expensive, but require several months. With some 70,000 man-made chemicals in commercial use, "it is important to have several rapid, sensitive, inexpensive tests available," the committee concluded.

The committee proposed that the EPA adopt a two-tiered screening process for environmental chemicals. At the first level, the chemical would be tested on the bacterium *Salmonella* and on mouse, Chinese hamster, or human cells in culture. If these tests are negative, the committee said, the chemical is presumed *not* to be a mammalian mutagen. If two or more

(Continued on page 7)

Continued from page 1

Amongst beaked whales there are (probably) four species of bottlenose whale. Their oil closely resembles sperm oil and their meat can be used for animal feed and specialized human consumption. And being larger than the minke, each individ-

posal seeks similar treatment for all IWC-regulated species as from 1 January 1986. These species may not thereafter be hunted; clearly they should not thereafter be traded. And dealing with this issue now rather than postponing it to the CITES meeting in 1985 will serve to give due no-

er availability of krill, the dietary item common to all of them. This plausible hypothesis was not sustained by the Committee which could find no hard evidence for it. There is thus no assurance whatever that whaling is having no adverse effects on minke populations. Hence the whaling moratorium agreed to by the IWC. In these circumstances the minke merits full no-trading protection once it is fully protected from hunting.

Aside from the technical arguments in support of these three proposals, the rulings of CITES should, so far as possible, be consistent both with its own previous rulings (in this case the 1981 listing of sei, fin and sperm whales) and with the rulings of the IWC. Not to ban the minke from international trade in 1986 would be inconsistent with the IWC moratorium on whaling which comes into effect then. For CITES to withhold protection from the oil-giving bottlenose would be inconsistent with its own previous ruling on the sperm whale.

The Bryde's proposal is slightly more complicated. If here there is a clash between being consistent with the IWC (which permits a catch that is internationally traded) and being consistent with CITES (which in 1981 banned trading in three whale species which at that time were still being caught and traded under IWC regulations), then the argument which carried the day in 1981 should again prevail. Then



Drawing by Richard Ellis

Bryde's whale

ual animal is of considerable value. Although they are not internationally traded, the potential to renew trade is clearly there — particularly now that the sperm whale is protected by CITES and IWC.

**A third proposal seeks Appendix I listing for all IWC-regulated species as from 1 January 1986. These species may not thereafter be hunted; clearly they should not thereafter be traded.**

The only bottlenose IWC regulates is the North Atlantic species. It is depleted and its catch limit is zero. In the southern hemisphere, however, are two rare species of bottlenose which are vulnerable to incidental catching while pelagic whaling in the Antarctic continues. Such catching would involve "introduction from the sea" and hence, technically, international trade because it would be in localities outside national maritime jurisdictions. Given their rarity — and their trading value — they should certainly be protected.

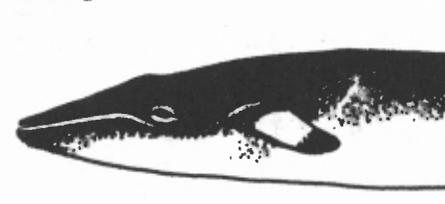
The fourth and largest bottlenose species is the Baird's beaked whale of the North Pacific. For the most part it is an oceanic animal living outside national jurisdictions. It is caught in Japanese waters for local consumption. The applicability of IWC rules to taking it on the high seas is ambiguous. Its status and distribution are also unclear; some scientists believe it is greatly depleted. Catches are now much smaller than they once were. Past catching was entirely unregulated; present local catching is said recently to have been brought under domestic law.

Appendix I listing of the bottlenoses would discourage the development of trade in a closely related group of whales, three of whose four species (two of them rare) are not covered by IWC regulations.

The two proposals discussed so far seek an immediate embargo (via Appendix I listing) on international trade. A third pro-

posal seeks similar treatment for all IWC-regulated species as from 1 January 1986. These species may not thereafter be hunted; clearly they should not thereafter be traded. And dealing with this issue now rather than postponing it to the CITES meeting in 1985 will serve to give due no-

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Drawing by Richard Ellis

Minke whale

Assuming the two proposals already discussed are adopted, this third proposal refers essentially to the minke. Unlike the traded stock of Bryde's whale (and unlike the three whales listed by CITES in 1981) the minke is not known to be dangerously depleted. In fact the status of all minke stocks is completely uncertain. It would therefore be difficult to justify its immediate listing. Nevertheless all minke stocks are under very heavy pressure of commercial exploitation to meet the demand for baleen meat for international trade, which is no longer fulfilled by catching of the larger species, and by the arbitrary catch limits which simply reflect the sizes of earlier catches.

In 1982 some recent myths about minke whales were laid aside by the IWC Scientific Committee. The most pervasive of these, and the one with most consequence for discussion of conservation needs, was that the minke whale had been for decades increasing in the southern hemisphere, as a result of the reduction in numbers of other baleen whale species and hence a great-

er availability of krill, the dietary item common to all of them. This plausible hypothesis was not sustained by the Committee which could find no hard evidence for it. There is thus no assurance whatever that whaling is having no adverse effects on minke populations. Hence the whaling moratorium agreed to by the IWC. In these circumstances the minke merits full no-trading protection once it is fully protected from hunting.

the Appendix I listing was approved on the grounds that the catch limits being set by the IWC were inconsistent with the scientific advice provided. The same is true of the Bryde's whale today; the Peruvian quota is entirely arbitrary.

In the particular case of the Bryde's there is a specific principle at stake. But there is a more general principle underlying all these proposals. Inevitably with marine creatures uncertainties abound. Whales, unlike land animals, cannot be counted and even the most sophisticated models based on catch data and the like give at best only crude approximations to the answers which the whale scientists are seeking. The Berne Criteria offer guidance to CITES parties to assist them in reaching a reasoned judgment. The criteria rightly point to population status as being a key factor. But they offer no guidance where reasonable certainty on this score cannot, in the nature of things, be achieved. We have a particular problem with whales, because when they

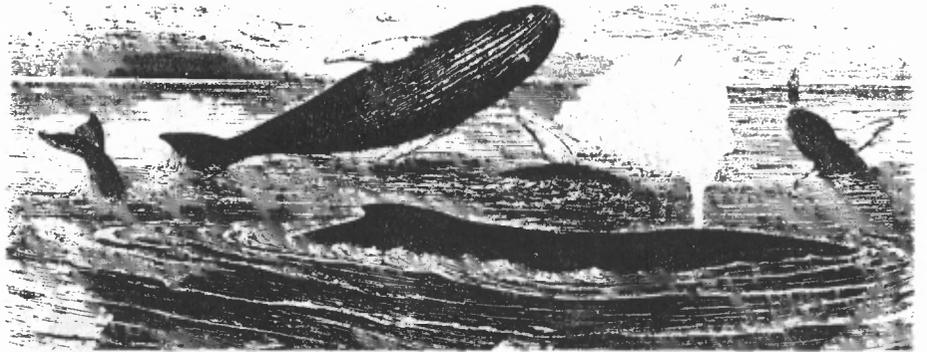
(Continued on page 3)

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## Thank You, George Will

In a splendidly reasoned column on the campaign to Save the Whales, a campaign which George Will called "a rare and refreshing example of intelligence in the service of something other than self-interest," he credited appeals to conscience from groups like Greenpeace and the Animal Welfare Institute with the International Whaling Commission's moratorium vote.

He concluded: "As I sit with pen poised over paper, I am struck by the oddness of cataloging reasons for abandoning the killing — the cruel and utterly unnecessary killing — of such mysterious creatures, about which we have so much to learn. It is possible, and not exactly wrong, to give practical reasons why saving the whales will



be useful. But there are times, and this is one, for rising above utilitarianism.

"It is important to say that life is enhanced aesthetically by the knowledge that these sociable creatures are swimming — and singing — on the surface of the sea, and in the sunless depths below. Furthermore, mankind has dominion over the Earth, but mankind's unsteady, serpentine path toward finer sentiments can be measured, in part,

by evolving standards of what constitutes civilized dominion over lower animals.

"Surely it involves a conviction, more intuitive than reasoned, that Creation, and we as the responsible portion of it, are diminished by wanton behavior toward creatures that so stunningly exemplify the mysteriousness of the natural."

### CITES *Continued from page 2*

are depleted by the setting of too "optimistic" catch limits, the mistake takes a long time to correct owing to their very slow rates of reproduction. In the meantime they are especially vulnerable.

It was surely never intended by parties, in adopting the Berne Criteria, that the criteria would be used to legitimize continued international trade in products of species that are evidently threatened, merely because the scientific data are incomplete or because not all scientists are agreed on the precise degree of threat involved.

Only recently have the scientists engaged in whale assessments realized just how big are the problems they confront. At the same time we see the pressure of international markets being concentrated on fewer species (as the larger whale species have been successfully depleted) and this pressure is manifest through the operation of whaling fleets that were built to exploit much larger stocks. While it is true that these fleets have been reduced substantially in the past decade, it is also true that the two pelagic that now catch minke whales would never have been constructed if it were only for that minor purpose.

Given the continued pressure on whale populations and the increasing doubts of scientists as to whether these populations can sustain the catch levels that the market demands and that non-scientific catch limits still permit, the case for protection is a strong one. And insofar as doubt persists, the guiding principle must surely be (as it was in New Delhi in 1981) to give the species the benefit of the doubt. It is failure to

observe this principle which has led to the destruction of the great whales in the past.

*Note: Of the three whale proposals discussed above, the one on the Bryde's whale is being put forward by the government of Ecuador and the other two by the government of the Seychelles.*

## Long John Silver Has A Heart of Gold

The Animal Welfare Institute in company with many other groups has been urging a boycott of fish products imported from nations which flaunt the decisions of the International Whaling Commission. We are delighted to print part of a letter from O. Bruce Hinton, Jr., Corporate Communications Manager of Jerrico, the owner of Long John Silver's Seafood Shoppes.

"Quite simply, my company now purchases fish only from countries which abide by the Commission's [International Whaling Commission] recommendations . . . We share your interest in conserving the world's populations of great whales and appreciate the opportunity to explain our position."

Your appreciation may be expressed in letters to Mr. Hinton at 101 Jerrico Drive, Lexington, KY 40579, and, of course, in gladsome patronage of their restaurants.

## Turks ban dolphin hunting

As from April this year the Turkish government has banned the hunting of dolphins in the Black Sea. The ban will remain in force until scientists have

## The World Charter of Nature

EVERY FORM OF LIFE IS UNIQUE, WARRANTING RESPECT REGARDLESS OF ITS WORTH TO MAN, AND TO ACCORD OTHER ORGANISMS SUCH RECOGNITION, MAN MUST BE GUIDED BY A MORAL CODE OF ACTION.

These words form a part of the preamble of the World Charter for Nature adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations last October. The three-part Charter embodying General Principles, Function, and Implementation was adopted by a vote of 111 to 1. Based on a draft by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, it is expected to be influential with regard to legal protection of the natural environment through passage of national laws which may draw upon it. The annotated version of the World Chapter of Nature is available from: *The Elizabeth Haub Foundation, P.O. Box 19345, Washington, D.C. 20036. A donation of \$10 is requested by the Foundation.*

completed their studies of dolphin populations in the region. (For full background to this welcome news, see Fall 1982 AWI Quarterly.)

## Top dog star

Veteran canine actor, Sandy, who played the role in the Broadway musical "Annie" more than two thousand times, is shown above onstage after the closing matinee with the five "Annies." As each "Annie" grew up during the five-year New York run, Sandy played with a new young actress. From top left to right they are Sarah Jessica Park, Andrea McArdle, the first Annie, Shelley Bruce, Allison Smith, and Alyson Kirk, the last Annie. The photograph appeared on the front page of *The New York Times*, January 3, 1983.

"He's kind of the Laurence Olivier of dogs," said Bill Berloni who picked Sandy out from a group of dogs in a small Connecticut pound where he had been scheduled for euthanasia on the following day. Berloni trained Sandy and has now bought, with Sandy's earnings, a two and a half acre retreat beside a lake in New Jersey. Sandy, however, has made clear that he is not ready to retire. He commutes to New York with Berloni and continues to make guest appearances in person and on television.

During the entire run of "Annie," Sandy only missed two performances, an unusual record for any performer. He has been asked to play in "Part II," the continuation of the 'Annie' story which is now being written.

Sandy first appeared at the White House in 1977 after "Annie" opened at the Kennedy Center. His gracious and decorous behavior earned him two more White House invitations spanning both administrations. Bill Berloni and Sandy are generous with their time in aiding animal welfare causes. Sandy was featured at the Earth

## To end use of steeltraps



Animal Rescue League of Berks Co.

Congressman Clarence Long (D-Maryland) introduced his bill against the steel jaw trap for the fifth consecutive congressional session. Prospects are improved this time with a more tightly drafted bill, many cosponsors, and substitute capture methods more readily available.



Sandy and the five "Annies".

Chester Higgins Jr./NYT PICTURES

Day Celebration in New York where Martita Goshen danced her interpretations of a whale, seal and a wolf under the auspices of the New York City Board of Education. He has appeared repeatedly for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and other public interest groups.

It's not every dog who is euthanized at a dog pound or sent to a laboratory to be used in experiments who could have given the 2,346 heart-warming performances that Sandy did, but Sandy represents them, kindly, adaptable, faithful, and a living reminder that society must do better for homeless dogs everywhere.

## Animal defenders meet in France

The International Juridical Institute for the Defense of Animals held its first meeting in Bordeaux, France, on 26-28 November. Representatives from 11 countries took part as did spokesmen from the French Ministries of Environment and Agriculture, the Director of Veterinary Services, prosecutors from two national courts in Bordeaux, the President of the University of Bordeaux, the Director of the National School of Magistrates and numerous attorneys, professors and representatives of animal protection bodies. Summaries of the laws of Belgium, Canada, Great Britain, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, West Germany and the United States were made by their representatives to the conference. A statement on US laws was prepared by the Animal Welfare Institute. Gretchen Wyler made the presentation and took part in the conference sessions.

## Insurance for lab animal workers

Since the conviction of Edward Taub on charges of cruelty to his laboratory monkeys in Maryland, workers in animal labs have been feeling somewhat anxious. And they cannot have felt any less anxious after reading what Taub said in the magazine *Science*: "I suspect there is almost no primate or animal facility in this country that you could not go through and find five violations." However their fears can now be stilled—at a price.

The *National Society for Medical Research* has arranged for "professional liability insurance" for its members because of the "increasing incidence of laboratory raids and potential legal costs from ensuing action." For \$62 a year members of the Society can now cover themselves against expenses arising from any suit brought as a result of "close scrutiny by individuals, press and media who may not fully understand the goals and objectives of a particular research program."

## Laboratory animals —Europe

"We want a useful convention, not this outdated bill for butchers," fumed an Italian delegate at a meeting of the 21-nation Council of Europe in Strasbourg last December. The cause of his widely shared wrath? The watering down of a new European convention to control research on living animals.

What had been hoped for was a common code so that tests in one country would be accepted in others; drug companies would have saved money and millions of animals would have been spared. These hopes have been dashed—as has the hope that Europe would give a lead in drastically reducing reliance on the LD<sub>50</sub> test (even at the cost of upsetting the bureaucrats).

It was argued in Strasbourg that a strong convention would discourage countries from ratifying—especially those such as Portugal, Cyprus or Spain which have no national legislation to protect laboratory animals. This may be true, but what purpose does a toothless convention serve, even if ratified by one and all?

Welfare campaigners were particularly irate with West Germany for sabotaging the so-called pain clause under the guise of defending scientific freedom. The infliction of severe and enduring pain is now allowed for "the solution of scientific problems." The wording gives the green light to almost any experiment.

## Charles River's biggest year

A one-room rodent breeding room tended by Dr. Henry Foster himself has grown into a multi-national, multimillion dollar industry whose net sales of laboratory animals of all kinds in 1982 amounted to \$40,925,000, up from \$24,380,700 in 1978 according to Charles River's current financial statement. Foster is President and Chairman.

Last year Charles River persuaded the State of Massachusetts, where its headquarters are located, to pass a law exempting the corporation from sales tax, a bonanza for the business. The federal taxpayer, too, contributes to Charles River's coffers through multimillion dollar contracts it receives from the National Institutes of Health. Charles River reports that 18% of its sales in 1981 and 1982 were to federal agencies.

Charles River is breeding, promoting, and selling massive numbers of animals through its subsidiaries in Japan, Germany, Italy, France, and Britain. It has recently bought a German company named Wiga and brought it under the multinational umbrella.

Charles River advertisements, full-page, color, favor puns and jokes which judging from the success of its sales campaigns find favor with scientific institutions that buy the animals.

The revelation that many institutions received mice of a genetic strain

different from that for which experiments were designed seems to have had little effect on the corporation's sales. (see AWI Quarterly, Summer 1982)

Charles River has taken over the biggest importer of laboratory primates, Primate Imports of Port Washington, N.Y. Numerous alleged violations of the Animal Welfare Act by this company had been reported to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services. On December 10, 1982, they agreed to pay a fine of \$3,500 for shipping monkeys in sub-standard cages. The charge was that from July 10, 1979 to November 21, 1981 animals were shipped in cages that were too small or too fragile. Loose wire and incorrectly sized mesh allowed fingers and tails to protrude risking injury to the monkeys or to the handlers. In addition, some crates had improper locks, some lacked handholds and others lacked wild animal identification and feeding instructions.

In order to resolve the situation, Charles River consented to penalties without admitting or denying the charges. They did, however, promise in writing to follow federal transportation standards and other provisions of the Animal Welfare Act and are now operating under a cease and desist order issued by an administrative law judge. This is a type of permanent injunction against future violations. Any

violation would lead to penalties of \$500 per day while the violation is in effect, leading the company officials to say they would make a concerted effort to educate their employees in proper handling and care of monkeys.

## Dole bill

*Continued from page 1*

"S. 657 would also establish an information service at the National Agricultural Library. The National Agricultural Library would work with the National Library of Medicine in providing information on improved methods of animal research and methods which reduce or replace animal use, minimize pain and distress, and prevent unnecessary duplication of animal experiments. This could help research facilities save time and expense by being able to obtain information on new methods of research or results from similar experiments."

Co-sponsors of S. 657 includes Senator John Melcher (D-Montana), Senator Jennings Randolph (D-West Virginia), Senator John Heinz (R-Pennsylvania), Senator Charles Percy (R-Illinois), Senator Ted Stevens (R-Alaska), Senator Robert Stafford (R-Vermont), Senator Wendell Ford (D-Kentucky) and Senator William Proxmire (D-Wisconsin).

## NIH authorization bill amended

An amendment to authorize expenditure for development of alternatives to laboratory animals in the amount of \$3 million for fiscal year 1984, \$7 million for 1985 and \$10 million for 1986, was proposed by Representative Doug Walgren (D-Pennsylvania) at a mark-up session on the authorization bill for the National Institutes of Health. The amendment directs NIH to provide for training of scientists in the use of such methods and to establish an Inter-agency Coordinating Committee on which the Director of each national research institute will have a place.

The second part of the amendment requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish standards for proper care and treatment of animals used by NIH grantees and requires assurances from those receiving the grants that the standards will be observed. Failure to do so can result in loss of funding.

The amendment was adopted by a vote of 11 to 7 in the subcommittee.

## FRAME

Last November some 300 scientists, government administrators and academics met for three days in London to discuss the report of the FRAME (Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments) Toxicity Committee. The committee had for three years been examining current methods of testing new products, the prospects for using fewer animals and the potential for alternatives.

There was general agreement that far too many animals are being used and that the LD<sub>50</sub> test is seldom justified. Work on alternatives is still in its early days. A \$500,000 research program was begun last June at four different centers in England. It comprises individual attempts to break new ground and a common at-

tempt to find a simple, rapid and inexpensive cell-culture test for assessing toxicity. Sets of coded chemicals will be used in "Blind" trials. Researchers in the United States, France, Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland and Italy have expressed keen interest.

The FRAME report is being sent to all members of the British and European parliaments, and members of the 100-strong UK FRAME Parliamentary Group will be pressing ministers and civil servants to act on the recommendations. The 3-day meeting got good coverage in the British media. Animal welfare is now "news" as it wasn't even as recently as a year ago.

# Our livestock should not be shipped abroad

United States exports of livestock are all set to rise steeply. While the principal market is and will remain Japan, many other countries around the globe notably Korea, Chile, Venezuela and Saudi Arabia, have been singled out as good potential markets for a greatly expanded trade. Congress is being pressed to amend the anitrust laws which currently forbid US banks to grant loans to export consortiums.

The shipping of livestock to distant lands raises two separate but related welfare issues. One: long sea journeys inevitably place great stress on the animals. They must be transported to their port of embarkation, assembled there, embarked, shipped, disembarked. With the best will in the world (a commodity not always in generous supply), this cannot be made into other than a harrowing experience for the livestock concerned. Two: once disembarked, there is no way of insuring even remotely humane treatment of the animals. Indeed we know full well that they are then likely to meet only terror, injury and pain *en route* to the final release of a sanguinary and brutal death.

Moreover none of this is at all necessary. Livestock does not have to be shipped abroad. New Zealand exports a huge tonnage of sheep — in the form of frozen mutton. Humane arguments have there won the day but, interestingly enough, this does not seem to have damaged the one export which, above all others, underpins New Zealand's economy.

Australia, though, has not adopted New Zealand's principled stand. And it is from Australia, which exports many millions of sheep every year to the Middle East, that certain unpalatable truths about the nature of the trade can best be learned. For hidden behind the bland statements of the industry are facts which our legislators need to know before sanctioning the growth of a similar trade from the United States.

The statements which follow are taken from *The Truth About Live Sheep Exports*, a very thorough report put out by three animal welfare groups in Australia.

- During 1983, the various trading companies will have the capacity to ship around 13 million sheep each year — 10% of the Australian flock. Around 96% of the sheep slaughtered in Kuwait come from Australia. Where else could 6 million sheep be obtained each year?
- Frozen mutton is readily available, can be handled now by virtually all of the Middle East countries and is becoming just as acceptable as mutton from locally slaughtered sheep.
- In 1974 New Zealand stopped shipping live sheep to the Middle East — Iran in particular. At the time they were threatened with a complete ban on all meat.



Before the sea transport — a stressful journey by train.

They now have a bigger market in that region for their frozen meat than Australia. They have successfully substituted a frozen lamb trade in place of live sheep.

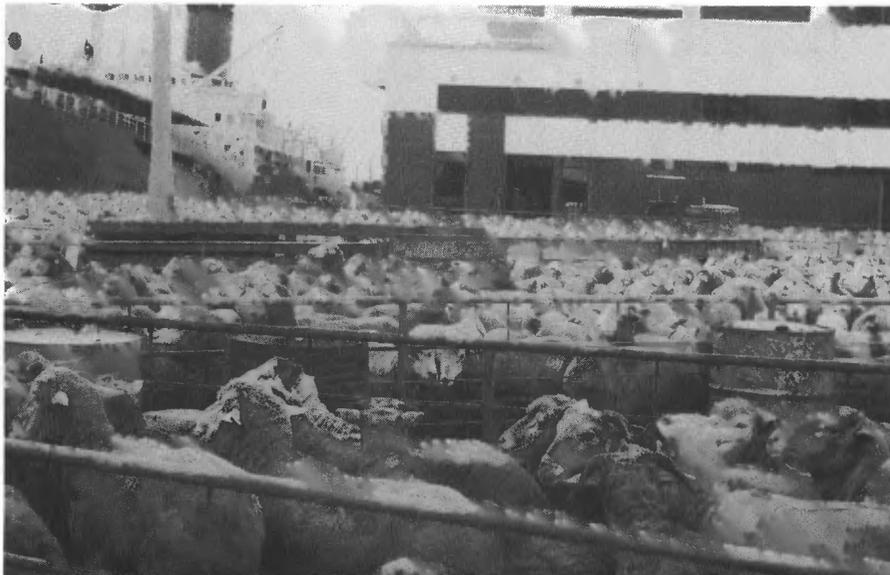
- The Australian meat processing industry and its advisors have failed to recognize the full potential of the burgeoning Middle East sheepmeat market. If the meat were processed and exported by Australia in chilled or frozen form, our 'share of the cake' at today's prices would increase by at least \$3.28 per sheep.
- Muslim slaughter requirements are in no way a hindrance to the development of this market. By August 1981 the Iranian authorities had licensed 51 Australian export slaughterhouses as acceptable slaughterers for meat destined for Iran.
- A sheep in transit to the Middle East slaughter houses is 12 times more likely

to die from accident, disease or stress than a sheep staying in Australia in spite of drought and bush fires.

- Cruelty is experienced by sheep as prolonged stress resulting from pain, injury and fear. This stress causes physical changes to occur in body functions such as heart rate, blood pressure, temperature, muscle tone and appetite so as to enable the body to prepare itself for either fight or flight. These symptoms can be measured. One simple measure of stress is the "woolbreak" test.
- A government report concerning a particular trip states: "There was a marked decrease in the force required to woolbreak between day 1 and days 4 and 5 and then a gradual recovery." All sheep on this ship had apparently been subjected for several days to a higher than normal stress level and for some it was

at the same level as that resulting from a severe drought.

- *Report from Kuwait:* About 20-30 animals, sheep and goats together, were herded into the slaughter hall. Animals were selected and thrown to the ground. The slaughterman slashed the neck of the conscious animal with a sharp knife — an action that may be less likely to cut both carotid arteries. The sheep were then put aside, some still conscious, to bleed to death.
- *Report from Iran:* Animals were shackled and then left hoisted for hours before their throats were cut. *Report from Egypt:* Five men struggled for about 10 minutes to kill one buffalo. Some victims were cast, some had their tendons slashed, even legs cut off to bring them down.



Chris Townsend

Sheep at loading dock, Adelaide, Australia

- *Report on loading at Port Adelaide:* On walking through the decks we observed sheep with opaque, discharging eyes, and sheep which had gone down and would not stand up. We also observed many sheep with watery discharge from the nostrils. Due to the pressure under which the men were working, due to the noise, the terror of the animals, the smell, and the dust of the pellets, due to the crowding, and semi-darkness once

straddling their hind legs (almost doing the splits) or falling right over on their sides and then skidding into the other sheep already penned. The Ministry vets would have passed all the animals as fit to go, but had to cull some out that were lame when the inspectors pointed it out. The loading went on all day and the sheep were not fed or watered at all.

**"No one makes a friend of a sheep. They are counted over like so many**



Chris Townsend

Inside the ship — Thirteen million sheep make the long voyage to Kuwait each year.

pens in the hold were loaded, a proper inspection of the sheep would have been impossible even for a qualified veterinarian.

- *Report on loading at Portland (Australia):* Next morning I stood on the dock and watched truckload after truckload arrive and unload. Most of them fell as they left the truck ramp, either skidding, falling on their knees and

**bank notes. That is all. They are fed because feeding pays. From his lambing to the day he is killed or dies of starvation, the sheep is just a counter in his owner's wealth." So wrote an Australian in 1909. Today nothing has changed — except that a great many more sheep are "counted over" for a very much larger pile of bank notes.**

## NRC *Continued from page 1*

tests are positive, the chemical is presumed to be a mammalian mutagen. A decision on continued use or initial production usually can be made on the basis of this information, according to the committee, because in most cases further tests would only corroborate the findings.

If only one test is positive, screening should move to the second tier, the committee said. At this level, fruit flies (*Drosophila*) would be exposed to the chemical, and the off-spring would be observed for signs of genetic changes. If this test is positive, the chemical is presumed to be mutagenic; if negative, non-mutagenic, the committee explained. Screening data also can indicate whether the chemical is a strong or weak mutagen.

At the next stage, the committee recommended, information on whether the chemical also causes cancer in animals should be considered in lieu of experiments with mice.

Finally, if the conclusion remains uncertain, the committee recommended testing with mice. A positive test would classify the chemical as a mutagen regardless of the results of previous tests, the committee said. However, if the mouse test is negative and the earlier tests were positive, the committee said that it is "unwilling to assume that negative mouse data necessarily outweigh the consensus of a variety of short-term tests." In the event of such a stalemate, it proposed that "all evidence . . . be taken into account, and the decision based on the weight of the evidence in each case."

## Papal solidarity with animal protectors

Acting as the official spokesman for German humane bodies the chairman of the *Animal Protection Society of Aalen* had an audience with the Pope to apprise him of the situation with regard to farm animals. One of the main issues discussed was the needless suffering inflicted on battery-cage hens. The Pope is reported as being dismayed, shaking his head deeply moved. He urged that the fight against cruelty be continued and said: "Protection of animals is Christian ethics!"

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# Prospects for battery hens here and abroad

## AMERICA: It's sunny side up for beak trimmers

Beak trimming is supposed to reduce pecking injury in hens. And perhaps it does. But the humane and proper cure for excessive aggression is to remove the cause of it — namely, the disgraceful battery-cage system. Birds have a natural pecking order and in crowded conditions this can turn vicious.

Hens do not like battery cages. But the makers of beak trimmers certainly do. No cages, no business. One of the companies concerned is *Lyon Electric Company, Inc.*



Michael Fox

Examples of de-beaking

It markets a range of beak-slicing devices (there is even one for ducks) and has issued "A general guide to beak trimming" for the edification of poultry farmers. This contains lots of sage advice—e.g., "avoid burning the tongue. . . . keep the notched area of the blade forward of the nostrils. . . . the costliest error is the use of excessive or prolonged heat especially when doing severe beak trimming."

Severe beak trimming—what exactly is meant by that? The answer comes in the following statement: "Beak trimming of birds over 12 weeks old is generally accomplished by removing two-thirds to three-quarters of the upper beak up to one-eighth of an inch from the nostril. The lower beak is cut one-eighth of an inch longer."

Now that is not so much beak trimming as de-beaking. And de-beaking is widely condemned as abhorrent and unnecessary in all circumstances. Curiously all *Lyon Electric's* beak trimmers carry the trademark Debeaker.

## FRANCE: Where happy clucking rules the roost

The 75,000 hens on Pierre Rannou's farm in Quimper, France, were the stars of a half-hour program on French national television last fall. The handsome red fowl in their well appointed hen house clucked happily, popped into their comfortable plastic nests when they felt like laying an

egg, perched on their roosting boards, scratched in the sandy litter where grain is sprinkled for added interest or spread their wings—all perquisites denied their unfortunate sisters in battery cages.

*France II* gave an uncompromising view of a huge battery-egg production plant. The hens' feathers were grotesquely worn off, exposing naked necks. The camera focused on their trimmed beaks, then took shots from underneath the cages showing toes sticking through the mesh, feet vainly trying to find comfortable footing. The sound track picked up the birds' distressed cackling.



OABA

The commentator twice referred to the batteries as "concentration camps", and the appellation seems apt as the camera reviewed long lines of anxious fowl pecking and jostling for scarce space in their cramped cages. They provided a grim contrast to the glossily feathered, calm and stately flocks of Rannou hens who allowed their owner to walk among them without the slightest disturbance. Indeed they were happy to perch on his shoulder or hand when he crouched down among them.

A few of these hens were taken outside on the grass where, with no hesitation, they walked about and foraged. When battery hens were placed on the grass they froze and could not put one foot in front of the other for a long time. Their reactions were pitifully abnormal—again in complete contrast with the Rannou hens.

Pierre Rannou is not without his problems, however, owing to over-regulation by France as a member of the European Economic Community which prevents him from telling consumers how the hens are kept. There is strong demand for his superior eggs despite the fact that they command a higher price than battery eggs.

## GERMANY: Vets slam Council of Europe for chickening out

The *German Veterinary Society* has written to the federal Minister of Food and Agriculture to express its deep disappoint-

ment at the Council of Europe's timidity in proposing that battery cages be retained. The Society bases its rejection of the battery-cage system on the results of research projects conducted in various institutes of the Federal Research Institution for Agriculture.

While accepting that an immediate ban on battery cages is impractical (though insisting that they be tolerated for at most a further five years), the Society urges that the minimum cage space for each bird be increased from the present 460 cm<sup>2</sup> to between 600 and 1000 cm<sup>2</sup> depending on the bird's weight.

In this connection the Society points out that poultry farmers are currently violating European regulations on the welfare of farm animals. The regulations, in line with scientific findings, demand that an animal's natural movements should not be restricted in such a way as to cause needless suffering or injury.

## Dutch poll on farm animal welfare

From the Netherlands comes news of a recent opinion poll showing that 93% of the Dutch people consider respect for life in general to be the most important reason for considering the welfare of livestock and poultry. The poll shows that 96% object to the Dutch Minister of Agriculture's proposal to approve crates measuring only 27½ inches by 65½ inches to confine a veal calf for the whole of its few months of life.

It is a curious fact that in the United States, Dutch companies have been the chief promoters of iron-deficient diets to make the meat pallid for the trendy "white veal" trade. "Provimi" and "Delft Blue" both sell commercial milk replacer to farmers who buy calves at auction that are only a few days old. Most of them end up in crates and have to learn to take their artificial nourishment from a bucket twice a day.

When consumers in the United States complained, Provimi experimented with keeping calves in straw bedded pens with continuous access to artificial teats, a far more natural and pleasant arrangement for the calves when proper ventilation is provided. However, with temperatures thirty degrees below zero and inadequate arrangements for ventilation the trial was not a success.

## Straw's the only flooring without flaws

The Prairie Swine Center in Saskatoon, Canada, has been researching the pros and cons of different flooring systems for pigs. It would seem there are far more cons than pros. At the Center some 1200 sows, newly weaned pigs and piglets (with their tails docked to prevent tail-biting) spend their confined lives lying, standing, walking and, quite frequently, slipping and falling on one or other of five kinds of floor. Meanwhile staff look on and take notes.

A report says: "Within the first few days of a piglet's life, the first thing one notices is hair rubbed off the knees. Gradually the knees become ulcerated. . . . We have seen knee abrasions on all five kinds of flooring in the farrowing room." In severe cases this can lead to septic arthritis. Then there are certain types of flooring which cause recurring problems of "torn toe nails and dewclaws, toes extensively swollen, soles reddened, and cuts and cracks on feet."

Sometimes the vulva becomes very swollen—so much so in extreme cases that the piglet can no longer urinate. For the newly born the slats at the back of the pen are a grave hazard; wobbly legs are easily trapped, "resulting in either crushing by the sow or a serious leg problem."

On sows the report says: "Often they cut their teats on the floor just before farrowing with resulting loss of piglets if there are not enough healthy teats left to suckle. If teats are cut or the udder becomes scratched, harmful bacteria can enter through this opening causing acute to chronic mastitis."

Abrasive floors, it is clear, bring serious problems. But cure the abrasiveness and you then have the problem of slipperiness. Piglets may be crushed by sows falling, and the sows will, after a while, not attempt to eat or drink standing. Fractures from falls occasionally occur.

Sows nursing their piglets are compelled to spend long periods lying down. On the more bony prominences—shoulders and sometimes hips—ulcers may result.

One of the Center's findings is that sows enjoy showering from their water drinkers. Unintentionally this finding has also nicely demonstrated the sow's intelligence. "On a floor that gets extremely slippery when wet, they usually will not play with the water drinker but will only drink when necessary."

The Center says they have proved that raised flooring is far superior to concrete flooring. And doubtless they are right. But unnatural floorings of whatever kind will continue to cause sickness, painful injury and needless deaths. The solution to the problem of what to put between pigs and the ground is surely terribly simple — natural straw.

## Calf killing in Mexico

The Asociacion de Lucha Para Evitar la Crueldad con los Animales in Mexico is calling for help in bringing an end to a particularly repulsive form of animal persecution, the "Novillada" in which teenagers go through the motions of a bull fight using calves only a few weeks old — dogsized animals that pitifully cry out for help and try to escape as the youths stab at them, generally missing any vital spot.

According to Maria Elena Figueroa, some high schools stage novilladas to raise money for graduation parties. In an account of a novillada at the Alexander Bain High School, when the "torero" fell to the ground, the calf stood still taking no advantage of him, for it had no wish to fight or to kill. But the teenaged boys shouted into the microphone while the orchestra played gaily and, according to an eyewitness account, "When the 'estoque' was pushed through its fragile little body, the end of the sword came out across the other side . . ." but because of "the ineptitude of the participants . . . it was not until the ninth stroke that the animal finally fell with its nose, mouth and back full of blood



M.E. Figueroa

in the most terrible agony, and still alive, they cut its two ears to give as a trophy to the brave torero."

The Association for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in Mexico asks all those who disapprove of such cruelty to write to the Minister of Tourism and the Minister of Education at the addresses below.

Lic. Rosa Luz Alegria  
Secretaria de Turismo  
Pres. Masaryk 172  
Mexico, D.F.

Lic. Fernando Solana  
Secretario de Educacion Publica  
Argentina 28  
Mexico 1, D.F.



Teenager stabs but fails to kill the calf.

M.E. Figueroa



Cutting off the ears of the still-conscious calf.

M.E. Figueroa

## Getty prizewinner resigns in protest

The Getty prize is the Nobel prize of the world conservation movement. It is awarded annually for outstanding services to the conservation cause. So when a Getty prize-winner feels compelled to resign a senior government post in protest against a government decision, conservationists everywhere should sit up and take note. For plainly some big mischief is afoot.

Last year the Getty prize went to two Brazilians, one of whom, Maria Teresa Jorge Padua, was the Director of National Parks. Among the earliest of these parks is Araguaia on the southern rim of Amazonia. Established in 1959, it has for the best part of a quarter of a century remained intact, free of the ravages of predatory developers. Now there are plans to build a road through the middle, skirting Amerindian land; and the promoter of this despoliation is the government itself. Though bitterly contesting the decision, Maria Teresa Padua has been overruled by "higher authority." She has therefore resigned.

•The government decision creates a dangerous precedent. For it opens the way to similar invasions elsewhere. It also conflicts with the progressive conservation policies which Brazil has been pursuing. In the past four years

## Poisoning the forest

Brazil plans to build a huge dam on a tributary of the Amazon, flooding an area 834 miles square. To speed the clearing of the tropical forest the government is now considering use of toxic defoliants in order to start building the Tucurin dam by September.

Use of the plant poisons is opposed by Paulo Nogueira Neto, Secretary of the Environment. According to a *New York Times* report, he stated, "It would constitute a method of destroying tropical forests, and research should not pursue that. If you invent this atomic bomb, no one will come along to disinvent it, and nobody will be able to control it."

Those who may wish to express concern to the Government of Brazil can write to the Ambassador as follows: His Excellency Antonio F. Azeredo da Silveira, Embassy of Brazil, 3006 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20008.

over 20 million acres of new parks have been added to the country's network of reserves. It is a proud record — which makes the ruling on Araguaia all the harder to understand.

## New Zealand debates warfare on rabbits

The following piece is an extract from an article by Bernard Dixon in the January issue of *The Sciences*.

One Sunday afternoon when I was 15 years old I went fishing with my father in the north of England. Walking along the bank of the river Tees we rounded a corner and there, in the middle of the pathway, lay a grotesquely inflamed, twitching rabbit, its face covered with mucus, its eyes bulging in terror and pain. The rabbit was a victim of myxomatosis, a disease that was introduced into France in 1952 and that had since spread to Belgium, the Netherlands and Britain.

Myxomatosis was fostered deliberately to reduce rabbit populations, a move inspired by earlier "successes" in obliterating millions of the animals in Australia. I had read and heard about the enterprise but nothing could have prepared me for the ugly sight of that rabbit. It was one of those images that burn so deeply into the brain that it remains for the rest of one's days.

That is why I shuddered when reading of plans to introduce myxomatosis into New Zealand. This would be the second such attempt; the failure of the first (during the early 1950s) is attributed to New Zealand having too few rabbit-biting mosquitoes and sandflies to disseminate the disease efficiently. So it is now intended to breed large numbers of the European flea *Spilopsyllus cuniculi*, inoculate them with the

## Periodical Pleasures by John Gleiber

One doesn't ordinarily read any government periodical, not even *Fish And Wildlife News*, expecting to be stopped dead in one's tracks by an Office of Current Information news story. But, in the December, 1982-January, 1983 issue, Inez Connor jolted me with her account of a government sponsored sale of a 10-year backlog of items confiscated upon arrival in this country, when they were found to be in violation of state and/or federal wildlife laws. Days later, I am still bemused.

Five hundred and seventy-six people placed 28,000 bids on 380 lots of items, goods and curios (read on) made from wildlife. One music lover proffered \$357.99 for an armadillo guitar. He apparently found out too late the strings were broken, and defaulted. Other treasures now gracing

virus, then release them into New Zealand's countryside! After that, the task of transmission is simple. These fleas have an amazing ability to jump not only from one rabbit to another but also from the ground to any rabbit that happens by.

But the spread of a massively lethal microbe among a vulnerable population of animals is likely to be self-defeating. Britain's rabbits, after the horrors of the 1950s, began to thrive once more. They are again considered pests and are a significant factor in agricultural economics—one the country simply has to accept.

There are two reasons for the rabbit's resurgence. First, the virus has become less virulent. Whereas the one first introduced into Australia killed more than 99% of the infected animals, myxomatosis strains with a mortality rate of only 90% evolved within a year. Later, even milder strains appeared, with killer rates as low as 20%. (From an evolutionary standpoint this is understandable: there is no future for a parasite that completely vanquishes its host and thus stops its own perpetuation.) And the rabbits have changed too, selective pressures having favored the survival of those with greater resistance to the virus.

There is little doubt that, as in Europe and Australia, biological warfare with myxomatosis could save money for the farmers of New Zealand—this year, probably next year, and maybe even the year after that. But these returns would be short-lived. Myxomatosis is not a final solution to the agricultural damage attributed to rabbits. In truth, there is no such solution.

So much for logic. But is it not extraordinary, too, at the very time when animal welfare and animal rights are becoming major public issues throughout the world, that one country is contemplating something so calculatedly cruel?

some happy homes are 36 elephant-hide beer mugs (\$552.60), nine armadillo handbags (Happy Birthday, Mom!), (\$909.00), an elephant foot stand, presumably large size, (\$500.00), four elephant foot ice buckets (\$688.00), and 44 hollow ostrich eggs which brought a mere \$220.00. It's hard to decide which group is the more interesting, the artisans who conceived and then executed these strange conceits, or the throngs who spent more than \$250,000 in this mammoth auction. One thing is certain, however. Animals had to die to satisfy this lust for bizarre exotica.

*Fish and Wildlife News* is a bi-monthly publication for the FWS staff. The articles are mainly pleasant house-organ material, tame in comparison with the above.

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## Right for hunting

Slow, easy to kill and floats when dead—in other words the “right” whale for hunting. That’s how the right whale *Balaena glacialis* came by its English name. And how abominably right the hunters were; all three species of right whale are now endangered. But the most endangered of all—indeed the most endangered of all whales—is the northern right whale. Its total population, now almost entirely confined to the North Atlantic, is believed to be no more than 150.

At 60 feet in length and 50 tons in weight the northern right whale is the third largest species of whale, ranking behind only the blue and the fin. And that almost exhausts the hard data we have on this whale. However a marine biologist, Dorothy Spero, is now trying to fill this gap in our knowledge. Affiliated to Princeton University and operating from West Quoddy Marine Research Station in the Bay of Fundy, Miss Spero is concentrating on the whale’s methods of communication. Baleen whales rely heavily on their acoustical skills, and with seabed exploration for minerals all set to go into overdrive it is vital to know how to conduct our underwater activities so as to minimize damage to the whale’s biological needs.

Already preliminary research has shown that the northern right whale uses low-frequency calls for deep-water long-distance communication and high frequencies for short distances. But a lot more needs to be discovered before a full picture of the whale’s life pattern can be built up. The research is supported by donations and any help in funding this important work would be greatly appreciated. It should be sent to: Dorothy Spero, Director of West Quoddy Marine Research Station, Lubec, Maine.

## Greenpeace confronts Peruvian-Japanese whalers



Greenpeace challenges Peruvian/Japanese whaling ship.

Peru, Japan, the Soviet Union, and Norway filed objections to the International Whaling Commission decision to end commercial whaling by 1986. Greenpeace activists went to Peru to try to persuade the government to rescind its objection, but the Japanese whaling company Nihon Hoge, which has run the Peruvian whaling for 25 years, was not to be pushed aside without a struggle. Consequently, the Greenpeace activists took to the barricades again. Following is an excerpt from their report in the *Greenpeace Examiner*:

“As the *Victoria 7* brought in its quarry on December 13, Ace Van Koeltitz of the U. K. and Raphael Demandre of France chained their inflatable to the stern rail. Bewildered whalers looked on as six other Greenpeace activists boarded the vessel from the opposite side and chained themselves to the harpoon cannon, while Peter Willcox, the skipper of the *Rainbow Warrior*, scaled the mast to occupy the crow’s nest.

“The crewmembers’ first reaction was to head the vessel out to sea; then they circled around near port and eventually dropped anchor. The exchanges that followed with the Peruvians were very genial, and unlike the Japanese officers on board, they accepted our literature and T-shirts.

Soon, an official from Paita came on board to inform us we should release ourselves because we didn’t have permission from the port captain’s office to be chained there. He left us shortly after we explained that we wouldn’t leave voluntarily unless the Minister of Fisheries publicly stated that he was going to withdraw Peru’s objection to the moratorium.

“One very hot day passed, and as night came on we took turns sleeping by the de-commissioned harpoon. Our silent vigil was abruptly ended at 3 a.m. when machine gun-wielding marines suddenly boarded the vessel. A weary commandant eventually arrived, arrested us, and had our chains cut. We were detained for the day in the port captain’s office, then released into the custody of more guards on the *Rainbow Warrior*, which had been seized simultaneously with our arrest.

“The next day we gave our statements to the Paita prosecutor to counter the charges of *Victoria del Mar* officials that we had committed piracy on their vessel. In Peru this crime carries a prison term of three to twenty years. A glimpse downstairs at a small dark cell devoid of furniture but full of languid men offered a grim vision of what our life in the ensuing months or years might be like.

“Public response to our action was mostly favorable. The regional university called on the government to stop whaling and free the foreign ecologists. The daily newspaper *Correo* proclaimed that ecological squadrons should be formed to take up the cause of the whales and other critical environmental issues. Sr. Benavides came forward in our defense, saying that the Japanese were the only true pirates for robbing Peru of its last few whales.

“... You can help influence Peru’s decision by encouraging it to withdraw its objection. Please write to Peru’s new Minister of Fisheries: Luis Percovich Roca Ministro de Pesqueria Av. Javier Prado Este 2465 Lima 30, PERU”

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# Animal welfare and animal rights

*The California Veterinarian*, journal of the California Veterinary Medical Association, devoted its January 1983 issue to discussion of animal welfare and animal rights by 35 authors holding a wide variety of views. Bernard Rollin's "Veterinary Ethics and Animal Rights" was the lead article. The author presented a philosophical analysis more extensively covered in his book "Animal Rights and Human Morality." He appealed to veterinarians to lead in making practical improvements for animals which can and should be carried out regardless of the attainment of the philosophical ideal which as Professor of Philosophy, Professor of Physiology and Biophysics, and Director of Bioethical Planning at Colorado State University he demonstrates by logic.

The last sentence of a paper entitled "Stress, Pain, and Distress," by Charles J. Sedgwick, DVM, Campus Veterinarian University of California at Davis, summed up in plain terms the veterinarian's duty: "An understanding of pain and its prevention and an understanding of stress and the prevention of distress in animals are the basic obligations of veterinary medicine."

California Veterinary Medical Association President, Steven J. Wagner, DVM, re-echoed these thoughts in his editorial; "... perhaps our most prudent course should be directed to ensure the humane and kind treatment of these animals, while still keeping sight of the ideal."

Not all papers adopted this tone of accommodation, however, *The California Veterinarian* gave space to advocates of the steel jaw leghold trap such as David A. Jessup, DVM, State Wildlife Pathologist in

the California Fish and Game Department, as well as to opponents of this painful device: Ned Buyukmihei, VMD of the Surgery Department in Veterinary School, University of California at Davis, and Animal Welfare Institute President, Christine Stevens.



Experimental animals were discussed in a wide range of papers from "Research and Testing Can Be Fanciful, Outmoded and Unreliable," by Dallas Pratt, MD, author of "Alternatives to Pain in Experiments on Animals" to the "international overview" by Joe Held, DVM, Director, Division Research Services, National Institutes of Health. Several papers on alternatives balanced those on animal models, and a brisk dialog on California "pound seizure" was carried on in a series of articles pro and con including one by Senator David Roberti, President pro tempore of the California State Senate, the only legislator to author an article for *The California Veterinarian*. Senator Roberti and the CVMA are at odds over his bill to end use

of impounded animals for laboratory use.

Two papers, one defending rodeos against their condemnation for cruelty detailed in the other, occupied just two pages of the total 103.

Substantial excerpts from the controversial report by the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology on intensive livestock and poultry production were given, and to balance it, a critique of the CAST position by Dr. Brian Klug of DePaul University's Philosophy Department.

A number of articles argued over animal rights as distinct from animal welfare. The most vehement entitled "Animal Welfare — Yes! Human Law-Sure! Animal Rights — No!" by Robert McMullen, DVM, one of the few veterinarians who wrote for *The California Veterinarian* who gave no university affiliation. It was followed by a thoughtful historical piece by D.A. McMartin, BVMS, PhD, University of California at Davis who concluded with this advice: "Let us listen carefully to society and be prepared to modify or compromise if necessary. We do not want to be known in 100 years as a profession which would not move its clocks forward."

*The California Veterinarian* and its parent Association deserve praise for providing an interesting forum. Discussion should be continued in its pages and those of other veterinary journals. A somewhat analogous effort on a smaller scale appears in the February, 1983 issue of the Canadian Association for Laboratory Animal Science Newsletter, based on papers presented at the Association's annual meetings in Saskatoon.

Animal Welfare Institute  
P.O. Box 3650  
Washington, D.C. 20007

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# THE ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE QUARTERLY

P.O. Box 3650 Washington, D.C. 20007

Summer 1983

Vol. 32 No. 2

## **Kill kangaroo imports, not kangaroos**

*Australia's annual slaughter of some six million kangaroos has been dubbed "one of the cruelest massacres in the world." Regular readers of the Quarterly (see, in particular, summer 1981 issue) will surely not disagree.*

*US action can and does greatly affect the situation – for better or for worse. At present it is for the worse.*

*When the Endangered Species Act was passed in 1973 the kangaroo was one of the very first species to be given protection. Under the Act a ban was imposed on all imports of kangaroo products. But in 1981 the ban was lifted. As a result, the US is again importing kangaroo hides. They*

*are made into boots, coats, rugs, golf bags and even roo-paw can openers.*

*Conservationists and welfare groups have been protesting long and loud about this disgraceful traffic. Congressman Robert Mrazek (D. New York) has introduced a bill which would impose the 1973 ban. In his speech to the House of Representatives Mr. Mrazek quoted a former Minister for Trade and Environment in Australia, James Cairns, as saying, "The truth is that we probably won't do anything to save the kangaroo until America does." See Dr. Rawlinson's article on page 2.*



*A joey reconnoiters the landscape from his mother's pouch.*

## **Whales, Bobcats and Turtles Win at CITES; Seals and Leopards Lose**

Conservationists successfully battled to give added protection to six species of whales and maintained strict controls on the trade in bobcat pelts and green sea turtle products at the biennial meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in April. A proposal to monitor all trade in seal products was blocked by Canada and several African nations pressured CITES to allow a limited export of leopard skins.

The tenth anniversary of the treaty organization was marked by the 12-day meeting in Botswana, a vast, bush-covered country in southern Africa dominated by the Kalahari Desert and populated by the finest wildlife in Africa. Delegations from more than 60 nations and dozens of non-governmental organizations gathered under a transplanted circus tent at the Holiday Inn in Gaborone, the dusty capital of Botswana.

The major business was debating and voting on proposals to add species to the controlled-trade lists or to take them off the lists. CITES has two categories of trade controls:

Appendix I listing is a total ban on commercial trading between nations. This status is accorded to endangered species facing heavy trading pressures.



*A baby ET? See page 6*

Appendix II applies to species whose populations could be endangered by uncontrolled trade. International trading of these species is allowed only when it is certified by the exporting country that the

trade is not detrimental to the health of the population. The exports of these species must be closely monitored.

CITES gave support to the ban on all commercial whaling voted by the International Whaling Commission last year (and set to begin at the end of 1985) by placing the last two species of great whales on Appendix I. Now all ten species are to be banned in International trade. The Bryde's whale goes on the list immediately. The Minke whale will be listed on 1 January 1986.

However, Japan, Norway and the Soviet Union, the leading whaling nations, voiced strong opposition to the listings and indicated that they would ignore the trade ban by filing reservations, a loophole in CITES which allows nations to escape the regulations. Overwhelming majorities supported the listings: 34 to 4 on Bryde's and 29 to 5 on Minke.

*continued on page 12*

# Australia concedes 'roo slaughter not legally controlled

Dr. Peter Rawlinson, Senior Lecturer in Zoology at LaTrobe University in Australia, has prepared the following play-by-play account of the strange allegations made by representatives of both U.S. and Australian governments with regard to commercially killed kangaroos. Their claims that 32 or even 36 million kangaroos still live were abruptly reduced to 19.2 million at U.S. Department of Interior hearings June 6, 1983, when three Australians, Dr. Rawlinson, Marjorie Wilson, and Richard Jones, gave extensive testimony. The new number, as acknowledged by the Australian government, is based on 1980-82 government surveys which had been kept secret as Australia sought to persuade the United States to lift the ban on kangaroo imports and remove the commercially valuable species from the Threatened Species list. Continued drought has reduced numbers as much as 70% in one national park since 1982.

In the 1950s an extensive kangaroo industry developed, initially to provide cheap meat for pet food, but later to provide furskins and leather for the export trade. By 1970 over 1.5 million kangaroos were being killed each year to supply the industry, and the United States had become the major importer of kangaroo products.

On 1st April, 1973, the newly elected Australian Labor Government banned the export of kangaroo products. Following the Australian action, Marian Newman and her associates lobbied the U.S. Government on the kangaroo issue and as a result on 30th December 1974 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service took action to:

- 1) Ban the import of kangaroo products
- 2) Place the three major commercial species (the Red, Eastern Grey and Western Grey kangaroos) on the U.S. Threatened Species List.

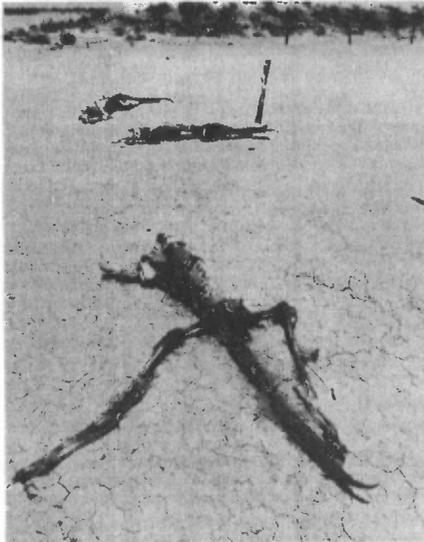
Since that time the Australian kangaroo industry and U.S. skin and leather processors have heavily lobbied the Australian and U.S. Governments to have the respective export and import bans removed and the three species removed from the U.S. threatened species list.

The Australian Government started to capitulate in 1975 and the export bans were progressively removed. By 1980 the kangaroo industry had returned to its 1970 level of operation and 1.5 to 2 million kangaroos were being killed each year.

Throughout the period 1976 to 1981 the Australian Government and U.S. skin and

leather processors exerted extreme pressures on the United States Government to drop the import ban and delist the three kangaroo species. These pressures were resisted until 1981 when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced a two-year partial lifting of the import ban. Defenders of Wildlife appealed this decision but lost on two major grounds:

- 1) Dr. David Anderson of the USFWS visited Australia in 1980 and estimated there were at least 32 million kangaroos.



*Kangaroo skeletons in a bone dry river bed provide grim evidence of Australia's terrible drought.*

- 2) Australia had implemented a National Kangaroo Management Program in 1980.

What was not revealed to the U.S. in 1981 was that the National Kangaroo Management Program was only the report of an ad hoc working group on kangaroo management set up by the Australian Council of Nature Conservation Ministers (CONCOM) and it has no legal status.

On 10th November 1982 the Australian Government formally petitioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to:

- 1) Permanently lift the import ban on kangaroo products.
- 2) Remove the Red, Eastern Grey and Western Grey kangaroos from the U.S. Threatened Species list.

The public comment period on the proposal to permanently lift the import ban (9th May 1983) expired before Australian conservation and animal welfare groups could make submissions. The U.S. Animal Protection Institute formally requested public hearings on the delisting proposals

which were scheduled for 6th June — one day before the public comment period elapsed. This time many written submissions were received by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and in addition three Australians (Marjorie Wilson, Richard Jones and Dr. Peter Rawlinson) travelled to Washington to testify at the public hearings. In addition three U.S. conservationists Marian Newman, Tim Manolis and Bruce Webb testified at the hearings.

The Australian Government sent two spokesmen, Tim Richmond (Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service and Jack Giles (New South Wales Parks and Wildlife Service). Only Giles testified, he insisted on speaking last and then presented a new Australian submission with substantially amended information. Thus 30 days after the elapse of the public comment period on the import ban, and only 24 hours before the elapse of the public comment period on the delisting proposal the Australian Government discounted the information published in the Federal Register.

Prior to Giles' 11th hour testimony and the Australian Government's about-face, Australian conservationists had already pointed out in public hearing how the U.S. Government had been misled.

The major points raised by the Australian conservationists and *conceded* by the Australian Government include the following:

- 1) Australia has no legitimate legal National Kangaroo Management Program.
- 2) The so-called National Kangaroo Management Program is actually only the report of an ad hoc CONCOM working group, and it was drawn up in 1980 in response to the threat of legal actions in the U.S. over the partial lifting of the U.S. import ban in 1980.
- 3) No real effort is made to conform to the so-called National Kangaroo Management Program, e.g. there is an extreme male bias (80%) and age class bias in commercial kangaroo shooting.
- 4) The Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982 is not legally enforceable.
- 5) The economic incentive to kill kangaroos is growing rapidly, product diversity is increasing and markets are expanding.
- 6) Eastern Australia suffered the most severe drought on record in 1982/83 and kangaroo mortality in the major

*continued on page 3*

## Defended by dolphins

If your boat sinks under you when you're out fishing several miles from land, you have little choice but to swim for it. And if the sea is alive with sharks your own chances of staying that way for long — long enough to reach shore and safety — are not usually too bright.

Disaster of just this kind struck Jeffery Barry of Jacksonville, Florida, one fine day last May. But luckily for him help from a most *unusual* quarter came his way. Throughout his 12-hour swim to land he was escorted on all sides by dolphins. Sharks eyed him but kept outside the defending ring.

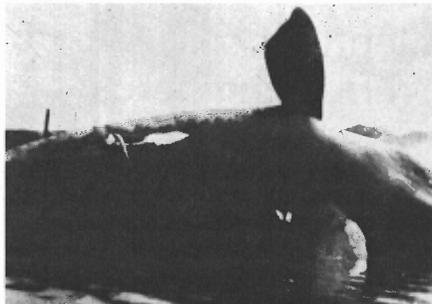
## Boycott tuna?

Friends of dolphins may have to reinstate the boycott against tuna fish if problems related to enforcement of the Marine Mammal Protection Act are not solved soon. A larger number of dolphins died in the giant purse seines in 1982 than in any year since 1977, when improved fishing practices were instituted so that the majority of encircled dolphins could escape from the nets in which the valuable tuna fish were caught.

Earlier this year intransigent tuna boat captains won a court ruling that prevents government observers from monitoring compliance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act. This ruling makes it impossible to enforce the law with regard to dolphin protection.

According to a report by the Environmental Defense Fund: "The district court allowed federal observers on board to gather scientific data, but the Appeals Court denied the government's right to put them aboard for any purpose. As a result, NOAA is removing its observers from tuna boats as they return to port and is sending no new ones out.

"The possible consequences of this ruling are alarming," said Michael J. Bean, EDF Wildlife Program Chairman. "In 1980 a former tuna crewman reported that his boat, with no federal observer, killed porpoises at nearly triple the rate of boats with observers that year. Since only about a third of all vessel trips have observers, actual porpoise mortality in recent years may far exceed government estimates,



### Why a whale sanctuary is needed!

*A right whale (Eubalaena australis) killed in Brazilian waters. The Brazilian Foundation for the Conservation of Nature conducted an investigation into the killing of this highly endangered species for submission to the 1983 meeting of the International Whaling Commission.*

which are based solely on data from vessels with observers."

Humanitarians should express their dismay at this serious turn of events whereby the courts are undermining the intent of an important part of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Addresses as some of the major purveyors of tuna follow:

Mr. William P. Stiritz, President  
Ralston Purina (parent company  
of Chicken of the Sea)  
Checkerboard Square  
St. Louis, MO 63164

Mr. Ian Wilson, President  
Castle & Cook (parent company of  
Bumblebee Tuna)  
P.O. Box 7330  
San Francisco, CA 94120

Mr. Anthony O'Reilly, President  
H.J. Heinz (parent company of  
Starkist)  
P.O. Box 57  
Pittsburgh, PA 15230

## Adopt a horse

Since 1973 the Bureau of Land Management has found foster homes for 42,000 wild horses and burros. The excess population of these animals living on public lands in the western states is sold off each year to people who wish to train them for farming, riding, showing or (in the case of burros) packing. The charge for a horse is \$125, for a burro \$75. For information and an application write: *Adopt-A-Horse, Bureau of Land Management, US Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.*

## Brazil's first sea park

Brazil has established its first marine park, *Parque Nacional Marinho dos Abrolhos*. It is in a region of coral reefs off Bahia State coast studied by Charles Darwin and covers some 266 nautical square miles. Birds that breed on the small islands include the red-billed tropic bird, masked and brown boobies and the sooty tern. A rich variety of sea life inhabit the surrounding waters.

## Argentine judge rules that Japanese may not capture dolphins

The Argentine newspaper *La Nacion* reports that Japanese companies will not after all be allowed to capture dolphins in Argentine waters for shipment to Japan in order to "entertain the public." Permission had been granted but was withdrawn following a judgment issued on 3 April by Dr. Oscar Garzon Funes.

The case had been brought by two Argentine conservationists. The judge upheld their plea that the projected capture would disrupt the family groups in which dolphins live, thus leading to emigration and death. This in turn, said the judge, would upset the ecological balance and be economically harmful to future generations.

In reaching his verdict the judge resisted pressure from his own government which wanted the authorization granted to the Japanese to stand.

## Kangaroos from page 2

commercial shooting zones (Queensland and New South Wales) were in the order of 70%.

7) The latest total kangaroo population estimate of 19 million covered the period 1980-82 and hence is a pre-drought figure and now outdated.

8) The illegal trade is still flourishing. The tagging system does not prevent illegal skins from entering the legal trade and there is still an illegal export trade. Despite these facts, the approved 1983 commercial kangaroo kill quota which was set in December 1982 remains virtually unchanged from the 1981 and 1982 levels at 3,143,000.

Despite the strong bonds that link Australia and the United States, we must all take urgent action to destroy this inhumane and destructive industry.

## Action alert on whales

Please join the boycott of all fish products from the outlaw whaling nations. Japan, Norway, and the Soviet Union have announced their defiance of the commercial whaling ban adopted by the International Whaling Commission last year.

The whaling nations are already feeling heavy pressure from the fish boycott. The largest seafood restaurant chain in the U.S., Long John Silver's, has agreed to stop all fish purchases from the outlaws. The 1300-restaurant company cancelled \$5 million in orders from Norway.

Ask your local restaurants and supermarkets to help send a message to the greedy fishing industries of Japan, Norway, Peru, and the Soviet Union. These nations export to the U.S. huge quantities of cod, shrimp, fresh and canned salmon, canned sardines, and other fish.

In particular, write letters to these two companies which import large amounts of fish from the whaling nations:

**SAFEWAY MARKETS**  
Mr. Dale Lynch, President  
Fourth & Jackson Streets  
Oakland, CA 94660

**RED LOBSTER INNS OF AMERICA**  
Mr. Joe Lee, President  
General Mills Corp. Restaurants  
255 S. Orange Avenue  
Orlando, FL 32802



*Gyr Falcon*

## Elephant bill seeks tough laws to save "remaining herds"

A bill entitled the "Elephant Protection Act of 1983" was introduced on 24 May by Congressman Anthony C. Beilenson with 70 co-sponsors. A similar bill passed the House in 1979 but failed to gain Senate approval.

"We must curtail the international trade in elephant ivory if we want the elephant to survive," Congressman Beilenson urged.

"In 1970, there were an estimated 5,000,000 elephants in Africa. By 1980, the population of elephants had dropped to 1,300,000, and their numbers are continuing to decline," Beilenson stated. He continued: "While habitat loss due to drought, deforestation and urbanization is contributing to the rapid decline in numbers, it is the deliberate slaughter of elephants for their valuable tusks that

poses the greatest threat to Africa's remaining herds."

Regulations issued by Interior have not stamped out illegal importation. The Elephant Protection Act would place a 6-month moratorium on ivory imports, with narrowly drawn exemptions. After the moratorium, the legislation would permit ivory importation only from nations which meet strict standards set by Interior, with emphasis on the establishment of a strong elephant conservation program. The State Department could provide assistance to nations wishing to develop a program to protect and manage their elephant herds. And enforcement would be improved through use of very severe penalties and by allowing ivory imports only through Seattle and New York.

## Eager beavers

Round-the-clock river workers are efficiently repairing the the damage of erosion along Muddy Creek, Wyoming. What's more these highly skilled dam builders are giving their labor for free! All they are asking for — and getting — is plentiful supplies of logs and branches and even old tires.

Just why do these paragons work like beavers and all without benefit of pay? For one simple reason: they are beavers.

In olden times erosion was no problem in these parts. The beavers kept the spring floods in check with strong dams. Then came man — and trouble. The trees along the bank were

felled and the beavers were thus robbed of their dam-building material. Erosion set in.

The US Bureau of Land Management did some sums and came up with a figure of \$50,000 a mile if repairs were entrusted to humans. So the beavers were given the contract. The results? Erosion has been reduced; trees are re-appearing on the banks; the water table is rising; new marshes are developing; fish and wildlife habitat is improving. Indeed so well have Muddy Creek's beavers performed that other areas with erosion problems will now also get a beaver task force.

## Arab falconers pose threat in Canada

The Northwest Territories provincial government of Canada has issued seven permits for the capture and export of gyr falcons. It is proposed that two of these birds be sold to falconers in the Middle East.

The proposal has infuriated the Canadian Wildlife Federation and been fiercely opposed by several Members of Parliament. One of them, Jim Fulton, has declared: "Once the birds are sold in the Middle East we'll be inundated with buyers. Arabs will pay a king's ransom for a hunting falcon and if they find out the birds can be

bought legally here, our falcon population will be wiped out."

Gyr falcons, reports a Canadian newspaper, are also being trapped by Arctic Inuit hunters for *illegal sale* — at the instigation of smugglers whose market is Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. The Inuit hunters may receive as much as CA \$10,000 (US \$8000) for each bird, but its value rises 10-fold once it reaches the Middle East.

The North American population of the gyr falcon *Falco rusticolus* is in Appendix II of CITES. But outside North America it is an Appendix I species.

# What future for Kenya's parks?

by Simon Muchiru, Environment Liaison Center, Nairobi, Animal Welfare Institute International Committee Member.

The following are excerpts from two articles by Mr. Muchiru which appeared in The Standard (Nairobi) March 11 and 12, 1983.

The future of Kenya's National Parks and Game Reserves — which provide the last refuge for endangered species such as rhino and cheetah — is under threat. Pressure to settle landless people and the agricultural encroachment of the immediate park environs is posing an imminent danger to these remnant islands that are so important to Kenya's economy.

A large part of Nakuru Lake forest, in the world-famous Lake Nakuru National Park has already been lost to settlement. A super highway will soon destroy the best grassland habitat found in the park. . . .

The preservation of genetic diversity is both a matter of insurance and of investment necessary to sustain and improve agriculture, fisheries and forest production. It also acts as a buffer against harmful environmental change.

The genetic material contained in the domesticated varieties of crop plants, trees, livestock and aquatic animals as well as their wild relatives, is essential for the breeding programs of edible crops in which continued improvements in yields, nutritional quality, flavor, durability, pest and disease resistance, are achieved. . . .

It is quite clear that Kenya's parks are not the best agricultural and settlement lands. Given the bio-geographical set-up, water and climatic constraints, agriculture is obviously not the answer.

On the other hand, if the lands are left for wild animals capable of adapting to the prevailing climatic conditions, the Government would then be maximizing the use of the parks. It is on these unspoiled lands, with their variety of wildlife, that Kenya's prosperous tourist industry depends.

The prestige and profits that the National Parks bring to Kenya place a global responsibility upon the government and its people to conserve and protect their wildlife and their parks.

While they take upon themselves the responsibility of conserving their cultural heritage, the people of Kenya should benefit both from the profits and the educational and aesthetic values of the wildlife.

Today, only a few Kenyans can afford the entry fees to the parks and

these people are usually the wealthier ones. Reduced rates and the introduction of coupons for organized local groups would increase local tourism. At present the majority of the people feel that the parks are set aside for the recreation of wealthy Europeans and Americans. . . .

It is clear that an integrated land-use system can put an end to the Man-Wildlife conflict. One such system is already in use in the Amboseli National Park and seems suitable.

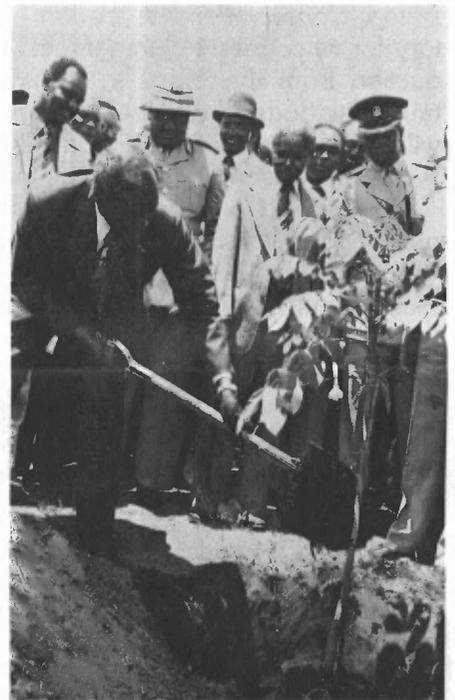
The nutritional importance of wild flora and fauna for a large number of people is invariably underestimated, largely because many of the more frequently eaten plants and animals seldom feature in the diets of nutritionists and they are harvested in places far from the scrutiny of statisticians.

The future of the parks will still be uncertain if the population increases at the present rate of 4.1%. There is need for sound family planning. Kenya cannot afford to multiply its numbers beyond their feeding capacity. Whether or not the government does its best in this direction, ultimate success will depend on the cooperation and awareness of its people on family planning issues.

Between 1978 and 1981 rhinos declined from 1080 to 820, and elephants from 63,000 to 52,656. These declines call for urgent conservation action. The country needs a new commitment to conservation by its leaders.

President Moi has already set an example. But of those who rally behind him, only a few are really aware of, and understand, the intricacies of the conservation problems and values of wildlife.

Therefore, spreading the conservation gospel is a challenge to conservation education institutions. They must endeavour to reach all levels of the



Large tracts of Kenya's parkland is lost to settlement as the population increases. President Moi starts a tree planting project to help counterbalance the deforestation.

Kenyan community, students, rural people, political and civic leaders. Short seminars for all these groups should be organized.

Conservation information should be disseminated through rural newspapers, church and women's bulletins. Social workers can help convey the conservation message to the grass-roots levels.

The Ministries of Education should include environmental education in the school syllabus as an examinable subject and encourage teachers to use outdoor facilities to teach the subject.

Regardless of international financial and moral support for conservation, the future of wildlife and parks depends on Kenyans themselves and on the political will to give intelligent directions to conservation for suitable development. Until people understand why they should safeguard ecosystems and species, they will not do so.

# This project does not need West Africa's wild chimps

Back in 1978 the vigilant and hard-hitting *Sierra Leone Environment and Nature Conservation Association* — SLENCA for short — won a big victory for its country's chimpanzees. By inveighing against their forced abduction from the forests to research institutes abroad, by exposing the brutal methods of capture and by pointing to the dangerous decline in wild populations, SLENCA finally compelled the government of this West African country to ban the export of chimpanzees.

Now SLENCA is once again sounding the alarm. It reports that the medical firm *Immuno* wishes to establish a Hepatitis Research Institute. The animals to be "researched on" are chimps — or, to state it plainly, Sierra Leone's chimps. But the firm is not seeking to have the export ban lifted. Artfully it plans to get around the little problem by setting up its research institute *inside* Sierra Leone — once government permission is granted.

This permission, SLENCA insists, must be withheld. Otherwise the spectre of extinction will again be raised. *Immuno* says it will use "only" 60-80 chimps each year. Maybe, but hepatitis research requires baby chimps and removing just one baby from its family group means first of all shooting four or five guardian adults. In other words 60-80 live babies in the laboratory mean 300-400 slain adults.

The notion that such carnage can be avoided by using tranquilizer darts rather than bullets is wishful thinking. In next door Liberia a similar hepatitis research project undertaken by *Vilab* tried substituting darts for guns, but it was a total failure. So *Vilab* then resorted to the usual method of acquiring chimps — buying them from local hunters who captured them in the usual way (wholesale slaughter).

Once the baby chimps have completed their spell of forced lab labor, *Immuno* apparently believes they can be "rehabilitated" and then returned to the wild to live happily ever after. This is another prime example of wishful thinking. The animals' traumatic experiences will have left wounds which rehabilitation, however expert, may not heal. And if, against all the odds, they were to survive when back in the wild, there is then a very real risk of hepatitis spreading through the chimp colonies and human population. For there is no way of knowing whether a chimp used in hepatitis research has or has not become a carrier.

The World Health Organization has stated that stamping out hepatitis is a

priority health need. *Immuno* is making much of this but fails to mention another statement made by WHO last year. This declares: "Endangered, vulnerable and rare species should be considered for use in biomedical research projects *only* if they are obtained from existing, self-sustaining breeding colonies."

There are, of course, large numbers of chimps in research labs around the world — over 1000 in the US alone. But while breeders charge highly for their animals, the local hunter will gladly do business for a knock-down price. Cheap chimps are wild chimps — while supplies last.

"Our research," says *Immuno*, "will not bring about a decimation of chimps in the wild; on the contrary their population in the country will remain stable." This is an astonishing claim. There is no evidence to support it and a great deal to contradict it.

There is one curious aspect of this whole business which merits a mention. Living in Sierra Leone is a notorious wildlife dealer who fought long and hard against the ban on the export of chimpanzees. His name is Franz Sitter. He is an Austrian emigre. *Immuno* is an Austrian company.

Please write to the President of Sierra Leone respectfully requesting him to continue his government's wise protection of chimpanzees and to reject the unsound proposal of the Austrian commercial laboratory, *Immuno*. He may be addressed: Dr. Siaka Stevens, President, State House, Freetown, Sierra Leone



Jim Wallace, Duke News Service

Nadia (sister/foster-mother), Chiclette (around neck) and Nanette

## A Family Saga

Chiclette, a baby collared lemur (one of a species gravely threatened with extinction), born one quarter of the normal birth size and bearing a remarkable resemblance to E.T. (see above), has become the pampered darling of the staff at the Duke University Center for The Study of Primate Biology and History.

Chiclette's miniature proportions seem to be due to her unusual choice of parents. Mother Yvette is a grizzled veteran of the Duke breeding program and is now about 30 years old. This translates into 80 to 90 human years. Four of the infants born to Yvette have



Jim Wallace, Duke News Service



Jim Wallace, Duke News Service

lived longer than a week, and Chiclette is the fifth. Chico, the proud father, is an even more extraordinary success story. He grew up in Madagascar where he was kept with chickens after being purchased by a South African geologist from a family that had already killed (and eaten) his mother. Carefully tended, his broken leg set, he unfortunately grew to adulthood fixated on humans and chickens. Later a Duke University graduate student rescued him from rockthrowing children and, in June, 1975, Chico arrived to live at the Duke Primate Center. Over a period

of eight years he gradually dropped his aggressive behavior towards other lemurs and finally evinced an interest in mating during the breeding season. Yvette's fading charms eventually turned the trick, and December 1982 saw Chico's first breeding occur. Octogenarian Yvette became a mother of a baby weighing 26.75 grams. However, she did not have enough milk to nourish the infant. The Primate Center staff worked round the clock to tend and feed their miniscule treasure. Every few hours she was hand fed using a tiny syringe fitted with a rubber nipple.

The serendipity continued. On April 19th, Yvette's only other daughter, Nadia, gave birth to a normal-size female, Nanette. That very afternoon, Chiclette was given to Nadia to nurse and rear with Nanette. So, she is being raised by her own half sister acting as an adoptive mother with her own niece acting as playmate. The group photograph (left) shows how well this is working out as Chiclette grows in size and strength. Her weight has doubled, (see upper right) and the staff believes every sign points to a healthy survival for this enchanting creature.

## Physiologists, biologists approve S.657 but vested interests seek delay

The long-standing confrontation between the biomedical establishment and the major animal welfare organizations recently underwent a basic internal shift when the prestigious American Physiological Society (APS) expressed support for S.657, the Improved Standards for Laboratory Animals Act, introduced by Senator Robert Dole (D, KS). The APS Council voted unanimously at its annual meeting in Chicago in May to endorse the bill.

The American Institute of Biological Sciences, (AIBS) a federation of 35 scientific organizations, expressed a similar position in a May 18th letter to Senator Dole, noting that S.657 "would provide a logical approach to ensuring good quality humane care and treatment of laboratory animals," and that it would not impede good research. AIBS emphasized the desirability of the bill's approach in amending the federal Animal Welfare Act whose standards have governed laboratory animal care and housing since 1966.

The American Veterinary Medical Association, too, has expressed general approval of S.657.

Opposition to the bill has largely taken the form of support for a study bill which no less than 60 scientific organizations are listed as endorsing. The 18-month study which would be undertaken by the National Academy of Sciences using Department of Health and Human Services funds could slow action on S.657.

Strongly advocating the study bill is the Association for Biomedical Research, a trade association started by the multinational laboratory animal breeder and dealer corporation, Charles River. The study bill has been incorporated into the NIH authorization bill by both Senate and House Committees. But so far, study provisions have not been able to block mandatory ones.

Skirmishes in the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, recently resulted in the defeat, by a close vote of 19 to 22 of an attempt to substitute a study amendment for the Walgren proposals incorporated in the NIH authorization bill. At the subcommittee

level, both the study amendment and the Walgren provisions were approved by the Committee, but even after the vote, those who sought to block any mandatory action tried to use committee report language to make the 18-month study come *first* before the Walgren requirement for an outside member of the animal care committee, and the provision of \$20 million over a three-year period for development of alternatives to laboratory animals, could become law. This effort failed, but it demonstrates the tenacity and resourcefulness of opponents of advancement of laboratory animals.

*Note; at hearings July 20, American Physiological Society testimony was far less supportive than indicated by the report received or the APS letter sent to Senator Dole.*

## Animal Welfare Act

"Animal Welfare Enforcement FY 1982" has just been issued by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Inspections conducted by APHIS totalled 20,979. These included 1,340 pre-licensing inspections. Unannounced inspections are conducted at the more than 7,000 sites where animals protected by the Animal Welfare Act are kept. These include laboratories, dealers' premises, zoos, airports, airplanes, and trucks.

1,017 investigations of apparent violations were made. The highest percentage of violations requiring legal action came from dealers, with carriers and research facilities second and third.

169 of the 1,016 registered laboratories reported that they used 130,363 animals "experiencing pain or distress (drugs omitted because they would interfere with the purpose of research or testing)." 723 institutions reported a total of 465,518 animals "to which pain relieving drugs were administered to avoid pain or distress." This is an area which requires closer scrutiny than it has had to date.

## SKF takes a stand

On laboratory animals a major pharmaceutical house has come into line with many of the objectives both of animal welfare bodies and of a bill that is now before Congress. Smith Kline & French has adopted specific operational policies similar to those proposed in S. 657 introduced by Senator Robert Dole (R., KS). According to the recently issued "Coordinator's Report" of the Coalition to Abolish the LD<sub>50</sub>, the following policies will be implemented by Smith Kline & French's Director of Laboratory Animal Science:

- "Each animal experiment shall be scientifically justifiable.
- "The number of animals utilized for each experiment shall be the minimum necessary to obtain the required data . . .
- "Wherever feasible, alternative methods that do not require animals shall be utilized.
- "Animal studies of a seemingly unwarranted nature, but which are required to meet regulations set by external agencies, will be reported to the Director of Laboratory Animal Science.
- "Animal tests required by regulatory authorities in certain countries, but generally not by others, will be reported to the Director of Laboratory Animal Science . . .
- "In-vitro test methods developed to replace in-vivo studies are to be documented so that other areas may consider potential applications.
- "Test methods developed as substitutes for animal testing shall be recorded in a centralized reference entitled 'Alternative Methods for Animal Testing.' The same publication consideration should be given to these methods as to other scientific publications.

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"Animal tests required by regulatory authorities in certain countries, but generally not by others, will be reported to the Director of Laboratory Animal Science . . .

"In-vitro test methods developed to replace in-vivo studies are to be documented so that other areas may consider potential applications.

"Mistreatment of animals is a serious violation of policy and may be grounds for dismissal. "

## Pain limitation discussed by veterinary lecturer

A new elective course at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California at Davis entitled "Ethical and Conceptual Problems in the Use of Animals" was made available to third and fourth year veterinary students in a series of ten lectures given by fifteen different people, April through June of this year. Forty-three students took the course.

The lecture on the use of animals in research and teaching was presented by Dr. Joe Spinelli, Director of the Animal Care Facility at the University of California at San Francisco, and Christine Stevens, President of the Animal Welfare Institute.

Dr. Spinelli stressed major problems with federal standards on pain. "What level of pain will we allow?" he asked. "In laboratory animals, we must assume post-surgical discomfort and be very intensive in the use of post-surgical analgesia," he said. He also emphasized the importance of the quality of the surgery and the necessity for aseptic technique. All healing, he said, should be first intention healing. He called for more descriptive material as to levels of pain for use by committees that examine proposals for experimentation to determine "at which point you will never allow it."

In research on pain, he quoted a suggestion from the journal *Pain* that, if possible, the experimenter shall try the pain stimulus on himself. He cited an example of a project which was not approved: subjection of monkeys to a level of shock which the experimenter said would not hurt the animals but which she declined to undergo herself.

How to detect chronic pain was discussed by Dr. Spinelli who pointed out that while acute pain in both people and animals usually results in a fighting response, chronic pain in humans is characterized by depression. When animals become depressed showing no human interest in food or sex, he recommended, "That's the time to terminate the animal," because it is probably suffering severe chronic pain.

In studies involving pain, Dr. Spinelli advised giving the animal control over the painful stimulus as in the rat tail-flick test which measures the point at which the increasing heat of a light causes the rat to flick its tail away. When testing a strong analgesic it is necessary to pre-set the light so the tail is not burned because the rat can't feel the heat. In tests on chronic pain, he said, there are methods for animals to administer pain relieving drugs to themselves.

With regard to housing of laboratory animals, Dr. Spinelli gave veterinarians credit for doing a good job of cleaning up diseases, "but we possibly missed the boat on how the environment may psychologically affect animals." Under his authority,

Dr. Hal Markowitz has been engaged by the University as a consultant for improving the lives of experimental primates, and the development of computer-type games for monkey cages with food rewards is under consideration. A scientist interested in brain function believes the monkeys will be more normal and therefore superior from a research point of view.

The article by Markowitz and Schmidt published in the *Animal Welfare Institute's Comfortable Quarters for Laboratory Animals* was cited by Mrs. Stevens in her presentation.

She pointed to the shortcomings of *The Guide for Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* of the National Institute of Health especially with regard to cage sizes.

"The biggest improvements in laboratory animal care and housing have come as a result of the Federal Animal Welfare Act, passed in 1966, amended in 1970 and 1976. Yet the veterinarians who inspect laboratories for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service continue to find gross abuses of the trust which the public places in major institutions of learning — institutions into which billions of dollars of tax funds have been poured over the years. Let me quote from USDA reports in 1980-82 on two institutions in this state.

"Psychology Department, University of California at Berkeley: 'Primate cages are in a state of disrepair including broken, protruding wires . . . food being placed on bottom pans where it is contaminated by urine and feces. . . .'

'Approximately 6 cricetid rodents left in pans on outside deck were drowned and left decomposing in pans. . . .'

'Completely blocked, non-functional drain.'

'Open bag of feed pellets still on table top, festooned with cobwebs.'

"School of Public Health, UCB: 'No species separation — no cage washing — no quarantine space — poor ventilation control;' 'the room is filthy and infested with flies;' 'all food receptacles must be kept clean and sanitized at least every two weeks not just when the rabbits are changed (upwards of several months).'

"Department of Zoology, UCB: 'Hot water has been inoperative for some time;' 'heavy fecal buildup . . . heavy fly and odor buildup ' "

"Division of Animal Resources, UCB: 'Random check of identification on cats — one cat had two tags — one with a USDA number (62095) and also a UC tag of 528 — 528 does not correspond to this cat.'

"Stanford University Medical Center: 'pits in the floor an inch deep;' 'other rooms have no source of heat;' 'drain pipe of the sink in the necropsy room empties

onto the floor.' "

'No ventilation (cats);' 'primate in a cage 13 by 25 inches that does not provide adequate space for this animal;' 'algae in the watering bottles.'

'Rabbits are being splashed with wash water and/or acid during cleaning. Observed rabbits with sore hocks and soaked matted hair masses.'

'Whelping room . . . no ventilation'

'Frozen and broken water bottles.' "

Student questions and discussion revealed basic concern for animal welfare and active interest in protection of laboratory animals. One student asked Dr. Spinelli, "Do you support the Dole bill [S.657] and if not, why not?"

The course may be continued next year as a required part of the curriculum.

## Abuse of laboratory animals in Poland

*The following is taken from an "official report" made by the Polish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.*

On 11 April 1983 we inspected the animal accommodation at the Department of Physiology of the Medical Academy in Krakow. In a very small room with a stone floor which is permanently wet we found some 20 cats. When we opened the door they came up to us without fear.

We asked to be shown the files of the test animals but Dr. Radecki told us they were in the care of the secretary of the Department who was out. He admitted that two-thirds of the animals came illegally; they were caught and delivered to the Department by people living on the "social margin."

Of course, it is much easier to capture a pet cat than a wild one. Dogs are caught in the same way, when unleashed and running free. No wonder that more and more people in Krakow are searching sorrowfully for their pets.

In a test room we found three big Alsatians hanging helplessly on belts. They were emaciated and exhausted. Mrs. Tasler who carried out the "experiment" refused to give us any information about its nature or purpose and showed us the door.

In many Western countries in order to obtain permission to experiment on higher animals — such as cats and dogs — a scientist must apply to senior authority and provide a thorough justification. Unfortunately it is different in our country. It is high time that Polish lawyers paid attention to this neglected and depressing matter.

**For information on the symposium "Standards for Research with Animals: Current Issues and Proposed Legislation" phone 617-423-4112.**

## Jean Vinter

Dr. F. Jean Vinter, author of the first and second editions of *Facts About Furs*, died this winter. Her leadership in the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare, the Greek Animal Welfare Fund, and the Society for the Protection of Animals in North Africa, and her generosity to the Animal Welfare Institute in shipping her extensive files on fur and trapping to us to assist in the preparation of the third edition (1980) of *Facts About Furs* were of enormous value.

A holder of the degree of Doctor of Medicine, Jean Vinter had a highly disciplined, intellectual outlook. A lecturer and maker of documentary films, she travelled extensively in North Africa and Greece to pursue her work for the welfare of animals. Tributes to her from all the organizations she served are epitomized in the obituary published by the Greek Animal Welfare Fund: "Kind without sentimentality, brave without arrogance, detached in her scholarship yet profoundly humane in her feelings, Dr. Vinter represented the very best qualities which we hope to achieve in our work."

## Alaska: lynx slump as trapping booms

Trappers up by 50% since 1974, lynx down by 97% in the 10 years 1971-81. That in a nutshell is the dismal story from the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska. In the Anchorage Daily News of 23 March, Ted Bailey, a research biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, attributes the lynx's catastrophic decline directly to increased trapping pressure, especially in the "natural sanctuaries." These sanctuaries are where the young are reared to maturity before dispersing to other areas.

Bailey points out that the lynx population will normally fluctuate in line with that of its chief prey, the snowshoe hare. But because lynx continued to be trapped heavily during a recent "low" in the hare cycle, the breeding population suffered severely and is now too thin on the ground to take full advantage of the present "high."

The Fish and Wildlife Service recommended that the trapping season on Kenai Peninsula be shortened by 30 days. The state opposed this but did agree to a 15-day curtailment. Will half measures, though, be enough to save the lynx?

## Monitor awards for law enforcement

Eleven U.S. government officials received awards on June 1 for exposing black markets in birds and chemicals, and for uncovering crimes involving endangered species and for enforcing the Animal Welfare Act.

The officials from seven states and the District of Columbia were honored by *Monitor*, a Washington-based consortium of conservation and animal welfare groups, at its annual awards meeting at the Georgetown home of conservationist Henry Heymann.

*Monitor* credits the agents and other officials with tracking down and prosecuting some of the most notorious offenders of wildlife and other animal protection laws, "listing hunting by aircraft, illegal salmon fishing and fur smuggling among the major violations."

Recipients of the awards — sculptures of fin whales designed by John Perry, creator of the internationally famous flying whale, "Flo", — are:

*H. Clark Connor, Washington, D.C.*, a Justice Department prosecutor and former assistant U.S. Attorney, who has successfully brought to trial numerous unlawful traders in exotic birds, snakes, walrus and other marine mammals.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Special Agents:

*F. Dale Horne, of Oklahoma City, Okla.*, and *Peter S. Nylander, of Beaumont, Tex.*, for disclosing that hawks, owls, bald and golden eagles, woodpeckers and scissor-tailed flycatchers were being killed by the thousands to supply an illegal market for such feathered items as Kachina dolls, Indian war bonnets and Peyote fans.

*James M. Stinebaugh, of Ft. Worth, Tex.*, for bringing about the prosecution of four hunters who were fined \$5,000 each for shooting deer from a helicopter.

*William E. Ferguson, of Lake Charles, La.*, for uncovering a major black market in

azodrin, a highly toxic insecticide that killed hundreds of ducks and geese in Louisiana. Three chemical dealers were charged with violating Environmental Protection Agency regulations, and a farmer was prosecuted for poisoning waterfowl.

*Charles E. Graham (retired) of Atlanta, Ga.*, whose 33-year career as Agent in Charge of the Southeast District included the manatee protection program in Florida and Puerto Rico, "sea turtle patrols" to guard nesting sites, the Alabama deer poaching cases and the much publicized "snakescam" cases.

*Gust J. Nun (retired) of Albuquerque, N.M.*, for a 25-year career that strengthened ties with Mexican wildlife officials and saw the inception of patrols to protect migrating whooping cranes and peregrine falcons. As Special Agent in Charge, his efforts also included "Operation Rio Bravo," a joint endeavor other government agents to intercept illegal traffic in drugs and wildlife.

National Marine Fisheries Service Agents:

*Penelope Fields and Richard Severtson, of Seattle, Wash.*, whose investigation of large-scale illegal salmon fishing on the Columbia River led to a number of Federal indictments under the Lacey Act.

Department of Agriculture inspectors:

*Dr. Cecilia Sanz, (DVM) of Scotia, NY*, an Animal Care Specialist with USDA's Veterinary Services, for her rigid enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act. As the result of Dr. Sanz' inspections, two USDA-licensed laboratory animal dealers, a roadside zoo operator and a commercial dog dealer have turned in their licenses, and two other laboratory animal dealers are facing prosecution.

*Willie B. Ory, of Albuquerque, N.M.*, Area Compliance Officer, for his investigation that led to the first criminal case against an unlicensed dog dealer, now on three years' probation, performing community service as part of his sentence.

## PERIODICAL PLEASURES

by John Gleiber

In "Fur Age Weekly," Bob Harrowe writes a column called "Getting It Straight." In the May 2, 1983 issue, Harrowe "gets it straight" on animals and pain. His argument is so interesting I'll quote the summation.

"But, who is to determine the level of pain, if any, in an animal? Animals can't talk. We don't know how much pain is required to make an animal howl. It's possible that even a stroke of a feather would bring out what seems like a cry of pain from an animal . . . If I were tied down by velvet thongs, I would call out for help. *Were I a Dumb animal (italics mine)*, unable to com-

municate with humans, couldn't that be interpreted as a cry of pain?"

Apart from his trying to imagine himself as a dumb animal, I am most fascinated by Mr. Harrowe's defense of the use of steel jaw leghold traps by comparing them to touches of a feather or pieces of velvet. Feathers and velvet do not lacerate, crush, maim, bloody or break. Anyone who can look at even a photograph of an animal released from a trap, nursing its injuries or hobbling on a stump, and wonder out loud and in print if it might have felt pain is living on a very peculiar level of consciousness. Very peculiar, indeed!

# Books

## Betrayers of the Truth: Fraud and Deceit in the Halls of Science

by William Broad and Nicholas Wade. New York: Simon & Schuster. 256 pp. \$14.95.

You have to hand it to a certain Mideastern biochemist. He learned to make something out of nothing. The "something" was a scientific reputation and entree to prestigious US labs when he had a shaky academic background and no competence in research. The "nothing" is the junk that often passes for a scientific paper today.

By plagiarizing a mediocre paper from an obscure journal and sending it to another obscure journal as his own work, he amassed an impressive list of published research. Since few read the stuff anyway, he was accepted at face value. Such are the clever charlatans who grace the pages of this important book.

Science writers William Broad and Nicholas Wade have brought together a number of cases of fraud and plagiarism to make the point that scientific research is far from being the pure search for truth it is touted to be. They reveal it as the very hu-

man, career-driven, temptation-ridden pursuit it actually is.

They cite a few ancient cases as background — Newton fudged his numbers; Ptolemy stole some of his star positions. But most of the cases are modern, many having come to light in the past decade. The authors use these incidents as a means to examine the state of modern research which has produced them:

Pressure-cooker laboratories where workers are driven to publish or perish tempt researchers to cut corners, faking data or stealing the work of others. The need to climb a career ladder, win prizes, and secure patents is likewise an incentive to fraud. A system in which laboratory chiefs co-author papers to hog credit while doing little of the work breeds lax supervision.

Add to this an elitist system whose leaders are blinded by the myth of scientific research as a self-policing activity, and you have fertile soil for fraud.

The authors have done a workmanlike job of presenting their material and analyzing the problem. They make some recommendations for reform that deserve attention:

Institutions should have formal proce-

dures for dealing with fraud. Co-authors of papers should have had a major share in the research. Supervisors should actually supervise.

One wonders why such commonsensical measures were not adopted long ago. Happily some universities are beginning to set the needed standards.

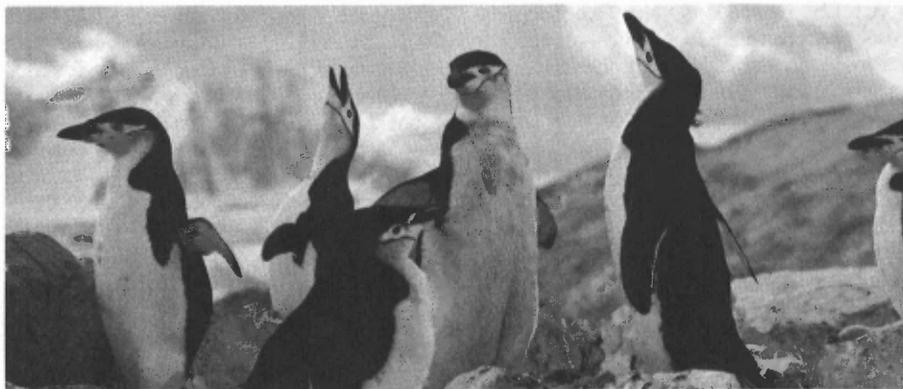
But an important aspect of the problem is neglected. The authors focus hard on the system. But what of the individual? Honesty is an individual responsibility. The book would be much improved by a chapter on the ethics of research and the responsibility of individual scientists to themselves and to society.

Yet, this caveat aside, the Broad-Wade book should be read by all who are interested in the scientific enterprise and its role in society. Most importantly, it should be required reading for every student who aspires to a research career.

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*A slightly longer version of this review by Robert C. Cowen, the Monitor's natural science editor, appeared in that newspaper on 8 April.*

*Let's Save Antarctica!* is a celebration, complete with magnificent color photographs, of the unique beauty of the only continent on Earth to have escaped the ravages of man. Until now, that is. For now Antarctica too is under threat. The book discusses the nature of these threats and how best to counter them. The author, Jim Barnes, is co-founder of the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition. Order from: *Universe Books, 381 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016. Price \$6.95.*



*Chin strap penguins are among the unique inhabitants of the Antarctic.*

*Let's Save Antarctica, James N. Barnes*

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HRH Prince Philip opening TRAFFIC airport exhibit at Los Angeles International Airport as Mayor Tom Bradley looks on.

## CITES *continued from page 1*

The trading ban was also extended to four species of bottlenose whales, large animals which could bear the brunt of future whaling when the IWC ban on the ten great whales takes effect.

The long-standing attempt by the U.S. Interior Department to delist the bobcat from Appendix II — and therefore open unrestricted killing and trading in their valuable pelts — was rebuffed decisively by the CITES delegations after conservationists demonstrated that bobcat populations in North America are under severe pressure already from trapping and that population data on the species is inadequate.

The U.S. delegation, led by Ray Arnett, Assistant Secretary of Interior for Fish, Wildlife and Parks (and former head of the Wildlife Legislative Fund of America), made the bobcat delisting its top priority at CITES. The U.S. federal courts have repeatedly rejected attempts by Interior to evade the CITES requirements on exports of Appendix II species. The courts have ruled that bobcat pelts can only be exported from states where credible scientific data show the populations are healthy and can sustain the kill. Many state fish and game agencies have been unable to com-

ply; they are bitterly opposed to international regulation.

The U.S. was forced to withdraw not only the bobcat delisting proposal, but also proposals to take the lynx, river otter, gray wolf and grizzly bear off Appendix II. Credible evidence that the populations are healthy and that trade in their products would not be detrimental was lacking. The British proposal to allow trading in green sea turtle meat from the Cayman Islands Turtle Farm, strongly supported by the U.S., was similarly withdrawn after strong criticism from the conservation and scientific communities that such trade would probably increase the sale of poached turtle meat and such an exemption would knock a gaping loophole in CITES policy.

The United States government, once the leader in international wildlife conservation, has abdicated this position. On this tenth anniversary of CITES, statements and actions by the U.S. delegation made a mockery of the proud moment in 1973 when the treaty organization was formed at the behest of the United States. Indeed, the informal name of the treaty group is the Washington Convention, in honor of the site of the formative meeting.

Dr. Mostafa Tolba, executive director of the United Nations Environment Program,

## Prince Philip speaks out

**Anyone trading in animal products really ought to take the trouble to discover the origin of those products. After all, reputable antique dealers take a lot of trouble to make sure they do not deal in stolen goods.**

***Prince Philip, International President of the World Wildlife Fund.***

as he opened the treaty meeting stated:

"At the Washington Conference ten years ago, fears were expressed that the proposed convention might be manipulated into a tool to prevent the trade in wildlife resources; those fears have not been realized as CITES has matured into an effective regulatory body helping developing nations to safeguard their valuable stock of wild plant and animal species. The fact that CITES has now been ratified by 81 countries — including most of the world's major producing and consumer countries — is ample testament to the speed with which it has proved its usefulness to governments, some of which, I think it is fair to say, were skeptical at first about the potential value of such a convention."

Tolba continued: "But then, ten years ago some governments, particularly those in the Third World, were similarly skeptical about the value of conservation in general. This view has been overturned at the conceptual and practical levels as we have come to see that conservation of wildlife and other living resources is an indispensable component of sustainable development. By demonstrating the economic importance of controlling the trade in wildlife and wildlife products, CITES has played a significant role in this about-turn."

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# THE ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE QUARTERLY

P.O. BOX 3650 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20007

FALL 1983

VOL. 32 No. 3

## Whales not safe yet

The fight to save the whales is not yet won. And could be lost. Despite the 3-year phase-out of commercial whaling agreed at the 1982 IWC meeting, it is far from certain that 1986 will be celebrated as the year in which the harpoons were finally stilled and the great whales, after enduring a hundred years and more of brutal onslaught, were once again assured of safe passage through the oceans of the world.

And should New Year's Day 1986 prove to be an occasion for hand-wringing rather than bell-ringing, then the nation which in recent years has done more than any other to awake the conscience of the world to the iniquity of commercial whaling and to bring about the agreed cease-fire, may have to bear a sizeable part of the blame — and shame. That nation is our own.

The US, and only the US, can bring real pressure to bear upon recalcitrant whaling nations.

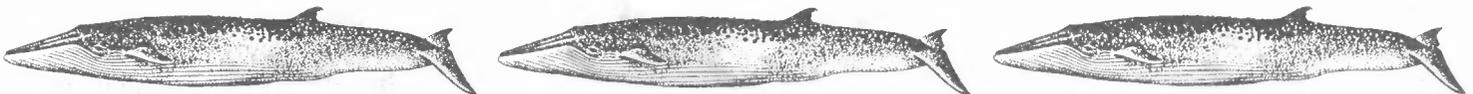
Since the IWC rules lack the force of international law, the IWC is

powerless to impose sanctions. It can exert only moral pressure.

Which is precisely why Congress in its wisdom (on this occasion, considerable) chose to equip the IWC

with a proxy set of teeth sharp enough to bite painfully. The Packwood-Magnuson Amendment to the Fishery Conservation and Management Act states clearly and unequivocally that whaling nations which brazenly flout IWC decisions will *automatically and immediately* lose one half of their fish allocation within the US 200-mile zone. Should the wrong-doing continue for a further 12 months, then the other half of the allocation is also forfeited. Such a loss would be very costly to Japan which normally takes over one-and-a-quarter million metric tons of fish worth some \$400 million a year from US waters.

Similarly the Pelly Amendment to the Fishermen's Protective Act empowers the President to embargo fish imports from nations heedlessly continued page 2



Richard Ellis

## Why the wildebeest herds are perishing

The following article is based on data supplied by Mark and Delia Owens who spent seven years in Botswana and are now striving to publicize internationally the desperate plight of the wildebeest.

**In Botswana hundreds of miles of steel fences criss-cross the country, dividing it into separate regions. Erected at great cost, their purpose is to stop the spread of foot-and-mouth disease amongst cattle. That they have done any good whatever in this matter is doubtful. What is certain, though, is the catastrophic effect they have had on wildebeest and other antelope populations of this southern African nation.**

The drought in Botswana is now in its fourth year. When the rains fail the wildebeest herds instinctively migrate to the lakes and rivers of the north and east. Or used to. Now they find their path blocked by these impenetrable fences. Cut off from their principal sources of water they have died in their thousands and tens of thousands. And this year things are even worse. For the one lake to which they did have access, Lake Xau, is



Wildebeest calf with its protective mother

Norman Myers for World Wildlife Fund



depleting marine resources. Such an embargo would be a serious economic blow to Norway which sells a huge tonnage of fish to the US.

Neither of these Amendments has yet been invoked because strictly speaking, there cannot be a breach of the whaling ban until it comes into effect on 1 January 1986.

What are the prospects? In large measure the answer depends on whether *in the meantime* the US sends the right signals, demonstrates its unswerving commitment to the whale and to the Rule of Law — in this case, US law. The problem is that lately the two Government Departments, State and Commerce, jointly responsible for step-by-step pursuit of the shared goal (world-wide adherence to the whaling ban) have not been pulling in harness.

One of the divisions within State has lately been pulling in a direction which collides with the Commerce Department, with the Bureau of Oceans and International and Environmental Affairs in the State Department, with the forcefully expressed wishes of Congress and — continued page 5

now dry—drained off for use by a South Africa-controlled diamond mine.

There is no justification for this cruel decimation. Wildebeest and other game are not significant carriers of foot-and-mouth nor a danger to other stock, and cattle have not become less vulnerable since the fences appeared.

If the cattle are to be protected, then, say the veterinarians, it should be with vaccine. Certainly if the wildebeest herds are to survive as one of the prime glories of the African savannah, the fences must go.

There is also an economic argument. If just a fraction of the money currently invested in cattle—beef exports rank second only to mining in the nation's economy—were devoted to developing game industries, including tourism, these could provide a major source of income. In this regard it would be helpful if the European Common Market, which already has a surplus of beef, would contrive a more sensible aid program for Botswana than that of sup-

## International Whaling Commission Meeting

### OBJECTION WITHDRAWN

At the 1983 IWC meeting in Brighton, England, attended by 36 member states, by far the most significant — and dramatic — event came about on the final day. Peru which had been wobbling all week finally plucked up its courage and announced: "Our country's objection to the commercial whaling moratorium is withdrawn." The news was greeted with delight by the vast majority of those present. One notable oasis of gloom, though, amidst the prevailing joy was the delegation from Japan.

### QUOTAS DOWN

Quotas for the first time ever have dipped below the 5-figure mark; down from 12,577 last year to 9875 this year. The minke whale 'benefits' the most — by a very wide margin. But then this is hardly surprising since the minke now comprises nearly 90% of the total catch.

Norway, pleading economic distress and supported by many of the European nations, battled hard to retain at least half of last year's allotment of minke. But the Scientific Committee, which includes Norwegians, had unanimously recommended a two-thirds cut, and in the end science triumphed over sentiment and

the fishery politics of western Europe.

### BOWHEAD COMPROMISE

The fiercest tussle was over the bowhead. With the population estimate sharply up over previous years, the Scientific Committee was no longer urging a zero quota. All the same its recommended figure of — at the very most — 22 strikes for the coming year was considerably lower than the US opening bid of 35.

After many hours of failed attempts to reach agreement, a proposal for 43 strikes over a 2-year period with not more than 27 strikes in any one year was accepted by consensus. Why no vote? Probably the fact that it was by this time 3:30 a.m. on the sixth morning of a 5-day meeting had something to do with it.

### INDIA SPEAKS OUT

Japan claimed that improvements made to their explosive harpoons had reduced average time to death (after being harpooned) from 3 minutes 58 seconds to 3 minutes 1 second. The Commissioner for India was not impressed. He said: "Countries involved in whaling should reduce the killing time to what would be acceptable to man himself, or stop it entirely."

porting its cattle industry by importing under a "special agreement" tens of thousands of tons of beef every year.



Wildebeest caught in fence

**UPDATE:** A letter from Botswana dated 14 September describes the situation around Lake Xau as "horrible, almost beyond belief." The animals are in very poor condition and large numbers are dying. They are trying to drink at the reservoir but the local people are

doing their utmost to prevent this. They are chasing the wildebeest in vehicles, setting dogs on them and shooting, stoning and beating them to death.

The Wildlife Department has so far turned a deaf ear to all pleas that hunting in the area be banned and gamescouts posted there to keep order.

### How YOU can help

Write a letter to the De Beers diamond company which operates the mine that has drained off the water from Lake Xau. Ask De Beers to either pump water from their reservoir back into the lake or to help drill wells to provide water for the animals. Otherwise tens of thousands of wildebeest could die. De Beers, the giant cartel that controls the international diamond trade, is headed by Sir Harry Oppenheimer. Write to him with your appeal: Sir Harry Oppenheimer, De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd., BPK, PO Box 616, Kimberley 8300, South Africa.

# Hearings held on Dole bill

On July 20th Senator Robert Dole (R, KS) chaired hearings in the full Agriculture Committee on his bill S.657, the Improved Standards for Laboratory Animals Act. The bill, which is designed to minimize laboratory animal pain and distress and encourage the use of substitute methods of testing and research wherever possible, was drafted in close consultation with major scientific and humane groups.

Dr. Bennett Derby, Professor of Neurology at New York University Medical School, who was the spokesman for animal welfare organizations at the hearings, emphasized, "S.657 achieves a balance between the protection of animals and the needs of legitimate research. And it does it more effectively than any other proposed legislation. The bill builds on an established structure which has the support of both the scientific and animal welfare communities."

A positive statement was given by the 60,000-member American Institute for Biological Sciences whose spokesman Dr. John P. Jordan said "We do not feel that S.657, 'Improved Standards for Laboratory Animals Act,' would impose major hardships on most laboratories nor would it impede good research. Yet it would provide a logical approach to ensuring good quality humane care and treatment of laboratory animals." Speaking of AIBS general policy, he noted, "... we are interested in encouraging research relative to alternatives that may be effective and appropriate but lessen the need for invasive or hurtful protocols on live animals."

A key aspect of the bill is the naming by each institution of a committee member from among the general public. This member, unaffiliated with the institution, would represent community concerns for the welfare of the animal subjects and take part in inspections.

Speaking for the Scientists Group for

Reform of Animal Experimentation, Dr. Herbert Rackow, Professor Emeritus of Anesthesiology, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, emphasized the importance of this provision: "We know from past experience that inspections by NIH and USDA can be inadequate to ensure humane treatment of animals. In what way will the animal studies committee established by S.657 be different? The crucial difference is that for the first time the inspection committee will include an independent, unpaid member who is not affiliated to the research facility, has no conflict of interest and whose prime responsibility is to the welfare of the animals — not to the research facility, not to NIH, not to USDA. The effectiveness of the bill will stand or fall on the quality and quantity of the people who are chosen to fill this vital role."

Opposition came from the Association of American Medical Colleges which strongly urges study in place of action. Spokesman for the AAMC was Dr. Frank Standaert, Chairman, Department of Pharmacology at Georgetown University School of Medicine. Senator Dole noted, "Every time this type of legislation comes up, someone suggests a study." The following interchange illustrates the "study bill" position. Senator Dole: "If AAMC objects to reviewing what is done to animals during experimentation, how can we assure the public that the animal is being treated humanely?"

Dr. Standaert: "We are not objecting to it; we are asking that a survey or study be done to uncover what, if any, instances of abuse are occurring and that those be addressed specifically."

Senator Dole: "If you let the public look, you might not need the study. Who is going to study it, the same people who are doing it?"

Dr. Standaert: "We are recommending the National Academy of Sciences ... one major part of the study is being conducted by NIH right now ... an on-site field inspection."

Editor's note: National Institutes of Health inspections are announced weeks in advance. U.S. Department of Agriculture inspections are unannounced.

A statement submitted for the record of the hearings by the Society for Animal Protective Legislation notes: "The Association for Biomedical Research, which favors the Hatch-Kennedy 'study bill' rather than S.657, has made a frank statement about their reasons. 'This approach,' an ABR Update says, 'would, more than likely, spin off the animal research legislation for several years.' ABR is a trade association founded by the world's biggest laboratory animal breeder and dealer, Charles River, an unabashed promoter of sales of any and all of its species. Not surprisingly a bill that asks scientists to consider alternatives to animals in tests has not found favor with this multimillion dollar multinational firm or the association it has spawned ..."

"S.657 will protect employees from discrimination for reporting violations of the law. The bill directs institutions to inform staff that they should report any violation to the animal studies committee. It has been found that provision of immunity is an essential prerequisite in obtaining reports of battered children so they can be protected. In the commentary on the Model Child Protection Act we even learn that penalties for failure to report are needed: '... nurses frequently relate how the mention of the potential penalty for failure to report is the only argument that convinces hospital administrators to commence protective action.'"

## Odd man out among the honored few



Deformed hands and infected forearms of a Taub monkey. After the primate's removal from the lab by the court, one arm had to be amputated to save its life.

More than 3500 hopefuls applied for Guggenheim Fellowships in 1983. But 92% of them were turned down. Nothing surprising about that. After all, the Guggenheim Foundation is and must be highly selective—granting research awards only to scientists of the topmost calibre and integrity.

Or so we all thought. But this year, amongst these honored few, we find a

singularly tarnished name: Edward Taub.

As regular readers of the *AWI Quarterly* will scarcely need reminding (see Fall 1981 and Winter 1982 issues), in November '81 Taub was found guilty on six counts of cruelty to monkeys in his Silver Spring, Maryland laboratory. As a result—and taking into account his previous record of animal abuse—NIH has permanently suspended its grant to Dr. Taub.

This may explain why Taub applied for a Guggenheim Fellowship. But it doesn't begin to explain why he has been given one.

NOTE: According to the Santa Ana (California) Register, Dr. Edward Taub told members of The American Psychological Association at their Annual Convention to urge Congress to vote against the bill that would strengthen The Animal Welfare Act, an obvious reference to the Dole bill.

## New Jersey to ban leghold trap?

*To its great credit, the Assembly of the State of New Jersey passed A-3207 which bans the use of the steel jaw, leghold trap throughout the entire state. Forty-one votes were needed for victory, and the final count was forty-five to seventeen.*

*The bill was sent to the Senate where the chairman of the Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture, Raymond Zane, an outspoken opponent of the bill, scheduled hearings in Salem, New Jersey.*

*Cathy Liss, speaking for the Society for Animal Protection Legislation invited any trapper to let her spring a #2 Victor Coilspring steel jaw trap on his hand and leave it there for the entire hearing. However, the man who volunteered was unable to stand the pain and removed it in less than 5 minutes.*

*Meanwhile in Trenton a protest group led by Assemblyman Bennett Mazur, chief sponsor of A. 3207, gave a press conference on the steps of the State House urging prompt enactment of the bill.*

Following are excerpts from testimony presented by Robert Markmann at the Assembly hearing:

I am here to represent the Society for Animal Protective Legislation which was founded in 1955 and which has helped to pass many state and federal animal-protection bills. I am a Senior in Animal Science at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and have taken a number of courses in wildlife management.

There are three major problems with the leghold trap:

- The trap is non-selective; any child, pet, farm animal or wild animal is vulnerable.

- The trap can mutilate; in 1978 the Journal of the American Medical Association reported that a 4-year-old girl required reconstructive surgery after being caught in a leghold trap set in the woods behind her house.

- Violations of the trapping laws are frequent and enforcement of these laws is rare; there are few game wardens and a vast number of trappers.

### Trappers' false claims

Trappers often defend the leghold trap by claiming they can release non-target animals with no harm done. The facts tell a

different story. For example the Raptor Rehabilitation Center, University of Minnesota, reports: "For 85% of raptors received with leg injuries involving only soft tissue damage, the result was loss of a foot . . . signs of necrosis require several days to develop." (*International Journal for the Study of Animal Problems*, November-December 1981).

As for coyotes, a study at Northern Michigan University showed that two out of three coyotes radio-tagged after being caught in steel-jaw leghold traps were found dead from their injuries and starvation. In one case the foot had been chewed off after release. In the other case the foot was "badly torn and chewed, exposing broken bones." Yet these coyotes had appeared well enough to be released.

### The trapper's voice

Recalling a bobcat-trapping jaunt with the Vice President of the Woodstream Corporation, the major trapping company, the President of the National Trappers Associa-

tion had this to say about a coyote caught in his traps: "With a number 4 on one foot and a number 2 on the other it left quite a trail . . . 'there he goes!!!' I yelled. We both cut loose with the little .22s. Zing, Zing, Plop. Zing. Plop, Plop. We could tell by the sound every time we hit it. And we hit it four or five times.

*But we weren't shooting at a cat as we expected. We were shootin' at a dad burned coyote!!! . . . Obviously not in a vital area, the bullet would heal. The number 4 trap no doubt had a full paw catch and that paw will dry up and drop off. Then he will continue 'business as usual' on three legs." (Voice of the Trapper, July 1981., Number 3.)*

Such callousness reflects in a highly damaging manner on all who in one way or another condone the continued use of this barbaric, antiquated device, the steeljaw leghold trap. I strongly urge that the State of New Jersey ban its use. No animal deserves to be caught within its jaws.

If animal control is necessary, then alternatives should be used.



Domestic pets are quite often caught in traps.

## Labelled "grey fox" but in fact bobcat

Two bales of fur consigned, invoiced, marked and declared as "grey fox" were found on inspection at Chicago's O'Hare Airport to contain 480 untagged bobcat pelts. They were promptly seized by the Fish and Wildlife Service. Valued at \$144,000 the pelts were being exported by Cambridge Hide and Fur Center, Cambridge, Wisconsin.

## \$500 prizes offered

Two prizes of \$500 each are being offered for the best graduate contribution and the best undergraduate contribution to improving the lives of animals. The prizes are being put up by *Psychologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals* and entries (by not later than 1 May 1984) should take the form either of essays or research papers. Competitors may focus on any aspect of this very wide subject. For further information or entry submission, contact: Kenneth Shapiro, Psychology Department, Bates College, Lewiston, ME 04240.

# Yet another mass kill of kangaroos

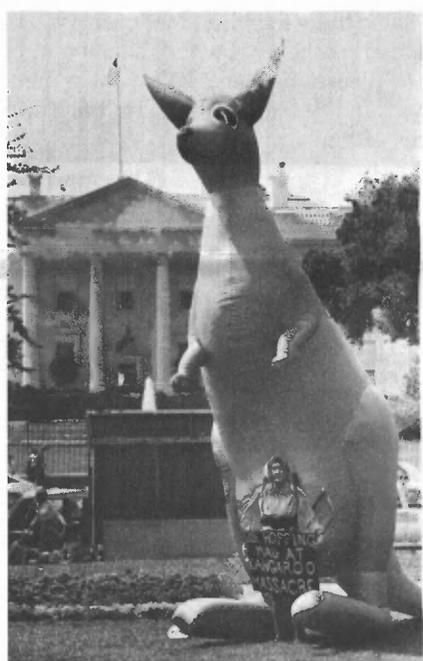
From Australia come horrifying tales of the massacre of some 700 grey and red kangaroos, including babies, on a large sheep property in New South Wales. *The Sydney Sun* reports that members of a shotgun club as well as "social shooters" from Sydney were involved. The animals were apparently herded into paddocks and then either gunned down or run over. The government intends taking legal action against the property owners.

A professional shooter has told the National Parks and Wildlife Service that more than 15,000 roos have been slaughtered in the same way in the past five years. The commercial kill quota is over three million a year and it is reckoned that illegal killing could almost double that figure. Nearly six million a year out of an estimated total population of 19 million is a disturbingly large percentage—especially since the 19 million estimate was made in 1980-82 before the worst drought ever recorded hit eastern Australia.

There are well-grounded fears, too, that the drive for an expanded overseas market is producing a serious age and sex imbalance in surviving populations. In Queensland 80% of the kangaroos shot are older males. Such commercial selectivity, besides being biologically damaging, runs counter to Australian law. Kangaroos may legally be killed only where they are an agricultural pest. Otherwise they enjoy the status (if not the reality) of protected wildlife.

Meanwhile here in the US the Interior Department has announced

plans to *permanently* open our markets to kangaroo products. The lifting two-and-a-half years ago of the 1974 ban on imports was only on a temporary basis.



On 9 August members of 12 animal welfare groups rallied beneath a 16-foot red kangaroo balloon in Lafayette Park, Washington, just across from the White House. Perched snugly in the roo's pouch was Cathy Liss of AWI. The demonstrators were protesting the continued massacre of kangaroos and urging the President to reimpose the ban on imports of kangaroo products.

The story was picked up by press, radio and television nation-wide. As a result the White House received an avalanche of public backing for the kangaroo. No animal has ever won such massive support from just one demonstration.

In July the Japanese received their full quarterly allocation. The co-author of the Packwood-Magnuson Amendment, Senator Packwood, sent a bitter letter of complaint to Secretary of State Shultz in the course of which he said: "I'll be doubly furious, however, if they (the Japanese) get so much as a single fish when the September allocation is made."

So what happened in September? Japan was given 118,640 tons of fish — a far cry from zero. And this huge haul would have been topped up to 160,000 tons if the now "doubly furious" Senator, in alliance with the Secretary of Commerce, had not remonstrated fiercely. Their joint plea, though, that Tokyo be told that further fish allocations were dependent on an unequivocal commitment to rescind the whaling ban, was wholly ignored. News of the September allocation was sent to Japan accompanied by no reproof for present intransigence and no call for future reform.

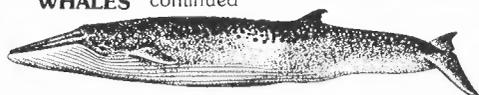
Congress has decreed that fish allocations to foreign countries be indissolubly tied to good behavior on whaling. Japan must simply be told — "Sorry, but that is the law of the land." To have fought so long and hard for a ban on whaling, to have finally achieved it and then to throw away the fruits of it would be to pluck defeat from the jaws of victory.



## U.S. Senate Resolution 174 — agreed 18 July 1983

**Be it resolved that the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Commerce are urged to continue to use all diplomatic and legal means to achieve worldwide compliance with the International Whaling Commission moratorium decision, including use of the Pelly amendment to the Fishermen's Protective Act, the Packwood-Magnuson amendment to the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and all other appropriate legal tools.**

### WHALES continued



most importantly with the best interests of the whales themselves. That department is the East Asian Bureau and, unhappily, in recent weeks it has made much of the running.

There has been action indeed; and until recently, the right action. For there was never any intention of standing idly by until 1986, waiting upon events. As 66 Senators reminded Secretary of Commerce Baldrige

in a letter written shortly after the IWC agreed to the whaling ban (see Fall 1982 Quarterly), the United States has a quiverful of arrows in its legislative locker which can be loosed straightaway at actual or intending IWC rule-breakers. A start was made last April when Japan's fish allocation was cut by 100,000 tons.

The follow-up, though, has been acutely disappointing. With Japan remaining obdurate, further cuts in its fish allocation were in order — and widely expected. So far this has not happened.

# A visit to 15,000 contented hens

by Christine Stevens

As we drew up to the Ferme St. André, the ancestral home of Pierre and Suzanne Rannou near the Breton town of Quimper, northern France, two huge vans were parked outside to receive the cases of eggs produced in massive quantity by the Rannou hens, handsome Rhode Island Reds.

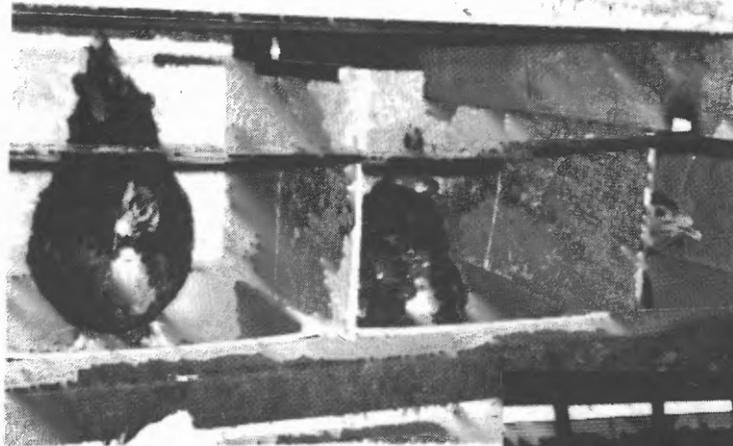
M. Rannou led us up steps to the door of the huge hen house and rapped politely before opening it. The rapping informs the hens that people are coming in, and they were perfectly calm as we entered. The hysteria of battery hens was completely absent. Yet there were 15,000 busy birds, living there together. Many were occupying the nest boxes fitted with specially designed plastic nests whose shape and even color were selected by inventor Rannou to please the hens. "You must think of what *they* prefer, not what you prefer," says Rannou. And he seems to have done a splendid job of ascertaining the preferences of hens.

Calm and friendly, they allow the visitor to stroke their backs without fear; they peck curiously at shoes, a ring, then move off to eat, drink, or pull apart a bale of straw set there for their occupation. These hens are not mutilated in any way. There is no need for the cruel debeaking operation because they do not defeather or cannibalize one another as battery hens do. They live very close to one another, but their "behavioral needs", what comes naturally to hens, have been met so they have no need to "take it out" on another hen.

The photographs show the arrangement of the hen house whose design has been developed over a quarter century by Rannou, a man ever on the alert to make improvements.

There are two long platforms that run the entire length of the house. These are covered with sand (for dust bathing and scratching) mixed with kernels of grain and straw (for the pleasure of food-finding) and they serve another important purpose as an overhanging roof above the nest boxes. Scientific tests have shown that hens prefer to retire to lay their eggs under such an overhang. The nest boxes are arranged back to back so they face the three wide corridors with metal-mesh floors strong enough for a person to walk on to tend the flock. The dropping pit is below, running the full length of the building. Long food and water containers stand on the mesh floor providing ample sustenance for all.

The hens can and do fly from floor to platform. They enjoy sun and fresh air because the sides of the house are open, covered only with chicken



Laying eggs in the nest boxes

wire. On dark days additional lighting comes on automatically.

Egg collection is automatic too, and a massive stream of eggs can be seen rolling past Mme. Rannou who is checking to make sure no cracked eggs go into packing boxes. A second quality check is made with strong illumination.

The Rannou eggs command a higher price than battery eggs because they taste better and are more wholesome since routine medication is not used by Rannou as it is in battery houses.

Three times as many hens could be kept in this space were they confined to battery cages, but the Rannous are not willing to treat hens in such a callous way, no matter what pressures are exerted on them.

France is the only country that follows an EEC ruling to the letter, insisting that the egg cartons cannot be labelled to indicate the conditions under which the eggs are produced.



Hens can perch and fly

Rannou has been taken to court and even threatened with imprisonment for having put such information (now removed) on his cartons. Even so, he has a loyal and admiring clientele—but it would be bigger if he were allowed to tell the truth about his eggs. A German firm wanted to buy his entire production if the cartons were clearly marked to show they were not battery eggs.

France II, the nation's second

television channel, showed a documentary on the Rannou production contrasted with a battery hen system. It was aired three times in France and once in Belgium.

The battery egg producers are in trouble because of overproduction. But instead of following Rannou's good example, they have taken to the streets to protest at the low prices their eggs bring, and dumped millions of eggs onto roads. Worse still, they threw out truck-loads of the hens themselves on a busy street where they were painfully crushed. No further proof is needed of the total lack of compassion of these French factory farmers.

These are the men who three times demanded that Rannou contribute to the dumping of eggs. On his third refusal, they threatened to burn his buildings.

There is one building on the Ferme St. André that would be hard to destroy by fire: a beautiful stone chapel. The farm has been in the family for 300 years. It should serve as a model for humane, effective, profitable farming the world over, combining the newest automation with traditional values, foremost among them respect for the creatures who provide us with food.



Hens in the sand litter



Madame Rannou with moving belt of eggs

## Paving the way to panther's extinction

Florida's panther, down to a total population of only 20, has lost another battle in its fight for survival. Despite the pleas of conservationists the oil company Exxon has won the right to push a paved road through the panther's lair in the Everglades, the rapidly shrinking swamp-and-grass wilderness close (too close) to Miami. Exxon has, however, agreed to put up \$30,000 towards a study of this sorely threatened beast.

The tiny panther population received a further blow when a female was accidentally killed. A drug-filled dart pierced an artery as wildlife officials tried to capture her to change the radio collar she was wearing.



## Brown pelican killings

In southern California reports of the killing or mutilation of brown pelicans, an endangered species, led to a joint investigation by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game. As a result a Mr. Dull was fined \$1200 in State Court on a criminal prosecution. The Fish and Wildlife Service is now filing a civil action against him.

Any future charges arising out of maltreatment of this bird are likely to be referred direct to Federal Court. It is believed that this move—involving stiffer penalties and more “visible” protection—will help protect other endangered species as well as the pelican.

## A bouquet

I write to express my appreciation of the *Quarterly*. It consistently brings me articles which are penetrating, informative and authoritative — and cumulatively these build into a most reasonable and civilized philosophy regarding man's relationship and obligations to his fellow creatures. Certainly the *Quarterly* has greatly influenced my own thinking and that of my colleagues with whom I have shared it . . . It is even possible that the greater consciousness of the rights and needs of other species for which the *Institute* strives, may engender also more sympathy for the fairer treatment of fellow men.

Charles S. Hanes, Professor  
Emeritus of Biochemistry, University of Toronto.

## Periodical pleasures

by John Gleiber

Chuck Davis, circulation manager of *Life* magazine, is so proud of the “Whales vs Nets” coverage in the October 1983 issue that he not only sent copies to us, but telephoned to make sure they had arrived. (They hadn't, and he had to send more.) It tells about Dr. Jon Lien of the Memorial Hospital in St. Johns, Newfoundland, who can apparently be routed out of his routine at any time to come to the aid of whales entangled in fishermen's nets. It's a fascinating story, well told, and explains how Lien not only saves the endangered humpbacks, but saves the embattled fishermen's expensive nets and, incidentally, helps them gain a new awareness of their marine environment.

The photographs are in the classic tradition of great *Life* pictures. There's a double-page spread of a humpback in a net before being rescued that should lift you right out of your rocker.

On the way to page 60, you pass Robert Vavra's coverage of “the ubiquitous unicorn.” That is a subject on which the Animal Welfare Institute has not yet taken a position.

## Indian children protest cruelty

Last August thousands of Indian school-children wearing animal masks marched through the streets of New Delhi, India's capital, to arouse public opinion against cruelty to animals. Camels, horses, donkeys and bullock carts carrying bears and monkeys were part of the procession.

## HEALTH AND ANIMAL WELFARE . . .

*There should be no conflict*

## Research Officials Convicted of Fraud

Three former officers of the now defunct Bio-Test Laboratories once one of the largest chemical testing concerns in the country, have been found guilty of the fraud of covering up inaccurate research data. Until Bio-Test closed its doors in 1978, it conducted more than 22,000 tests, half for firms using the results to gain federal approval for such products as drugs, pesticides and food additives.

Flaws in the Industrial Bio-Test procedures meant that nearly 15% of the pesticides used in the United States were called into question, while chemical firms had to retest hundreds of their products for safety. The company falsified their reports to cover up such procedural failures such as incomplete routine testing. A former company technician testified that quantities of mice died because of negligence. Many starved simply because their feeding trays were buried under hardened feces. Mice being kept in cages designed for rats were able to get out and laboratory workers were unable to “tell which cages they came from”.

They concealed the deaths of thousands of laboratory rats who perished because of unsanitary laboratory conditions. Very few animals survived until the end. The mortality rate was so high among the rats that two years after the experiments had begun, replacements were still being ordered from suppliers. Bio-Test records showing rat deaths did not appear in other records.

Erstwhile officials, Moreno L. Keplinger, manager of toxicology, Paul L. Wright, section head for rat toxicology, and James B. Plank, senior group leader for rat toxicology, have all been convicted and face prison terms up to 30 years and fines up to \$42,000. Because of the likelihood of appeals, sentencing will not take place until March of 1984. Dr. Joseph C. Calandra, former President and a Professor of Pathology at Northwestern University's school of Medicine, has not yet been tried. Dr. Wright, now works for Monsanto, a firm that estimates it had to spend \$12 million for new tests as a result of the suspect work at Bio-Test. The federal attorney said during the trial “. . . the defendants met to discuss the problems and how to deal with the sponsor, Monsanto . . . Dr. Calandra didn't want Dr. Wright exposed in front of the other people from Monsanto.”

The defense attorneys argued that there were errors, but that “these men are not criminals.” The prosecution said “What these defendants were doing was gambling, rolling the dice, playing Russian roulette . . . There is no room in science for gambling.”

## UK: fewer tests on live animals

In Britain some 4,220,000 live-animal experiments were reported in 1982 — 125,000 fewer than in 1981. Cosmetics-testing on animals was down 23%, following a similar drop the previous year.

## Cancer researcher sues Charles River

The following piece is based on an article which appeared in the 12 August issue of the magazine *Science*.

A cancer researcher at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, has sued Charles River Breeding Laboratories. Brenda Kahan is claiming that Charles River supplied her with genetically impure mice, and that as a result several experiments were wrecked and her career has been set back.

During a period beginning in 1979 and lasting until 1982 researchers at the National Institutes of Health also received mice from Charles River, allegedly of the same BALB/c strain as Kahan's, but which were so genetically contaminated that NIH banned further receipt of these mice for several months. During these months Kahan had several shipments of supposedly BALB/c mice from Charles River. Neither Charles River nor NIH notified her of the ban.

To double-check their findings Kahan and her colleague Robert Auerbach asked two researchers from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, independently to test this strain of mice. The results confirmed those of the Madison team. A report, signed by the four scientists, concludes that mice from several Charles River facilities were "incorrectly identified" and differed "significantly from the standard phenotype . . . The seriousness of our findings cannot be overemphasized."

Several suits similar to Kahan's are being planned — by the University of Wisconsin, for one. Says Assistant Attorney General Robert Repasky: "Lots and lots of work went down the tubes. The University had some correspondence with Charles River to see if they'd make some accommodation. but it was unsuccessful."

At least one other scientist, Alvin Warfel, is considering suing Charles River for supplying him with genetically contaminated mice while he was associated with Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. He says: "If they can't guarantee they're selling BALB/c mice when they say they are, why are they in business?"

Other investigators also found they had genetically contaminated mice during the 1979-82 period. Some of those mice were obtained by NIH researchers as part of a National Cancer Institute production contract, held by Charles River.

Charles River is a major beneficiary of

NIH contracts. And NIH is the source of the breeding stock for animals in contract programs. So did these genetic mix-ups originate with the breeding stock sent out by NIH or with Charles River's handling of the colonies?

The answer is unclear because checking and monitoring by both parties during the period concerned was somewhat slack. In the words of Joseph Mayo, chief of the National Cancer Institute's animal and breeding protection branch — "There's no way to trace it out."



### Also rats

Even before the mice episodes began several former Charles River customers had had problems with genetically impure rats. They are still angry over their dealings with the company and several of them say they came very close to suing. One of them, Hinrich Bitter-Suermann, then at Georgetown University, Washington D.C., was particularly incensed. He received a letter from Sumner Foster, executive vice president of Charles River. It said: "I wish to express my sympathy to you that the Charles River Wistar/Lewis rat was not the appropriate animal for your study, but obviously we cannot guarantee successful results to any investigator."

Bitter-Suermann says it has taken "many years for me to swallow my anger. We wanted them to guarantee the rats, not our research."

## Cruelty to kittens

At Ohio State University some 40 kittens intended for laboratory use had lesions on their necks and, in many cases, identification tags embedded in their flesh. These injuries resulted from chains being placed around their necks when young and left there unaltered. Prosecuted under the *Animal Welfare Act* the University agreed to a fine of \$500 without admitting or denying the charge of failing to provide proper veterinary care. They also consented to a cease-and-desist order against future violations.

## Hog raising can be hazardous

Be warned: raising hogs can damage your health. In a farewell editorial the managing editor of *Hog Farm Management* explained why he was changing jobs. *AWI Quarterly* readers with a particularly tenacious memory will recall the reason (see spring 1982 issue). He said: "I don't smoke but picked up a smoker's hack. The hack stayed with me as long as I was near hog buildings."

Now if a journalist can be made ill by just occasional visits to these unwholesome places where pit gases combine with dust from animal feeds, hair, dander and dried feces, what are the prospects for a farm worker breathing this foul air day after day? The short answer is: not good. The Institute of Agricultural Medicine interviewed 11 such people. All had respiratory problems: chest tightness, coughing, wheezing, stuffy nose and so on.

Women, who form a large portion of the hog-farrowing work force, are particularly at risk. The safe carbon monoxide level for human beings has been set at 55 milligrams per cubic meter of air. Research has shown that a trebling or quadrupling of this level — as happens too often in hog confinement units with their fossil-fuel heating systems — can cause pregnant sows to abort.

When testing the conditions in 13 hog units with waste pits, the Institute of Agricultural Medicine also found that safe levels for ammonia were exceeded in 12 of them and for carbon dioxide in 10.

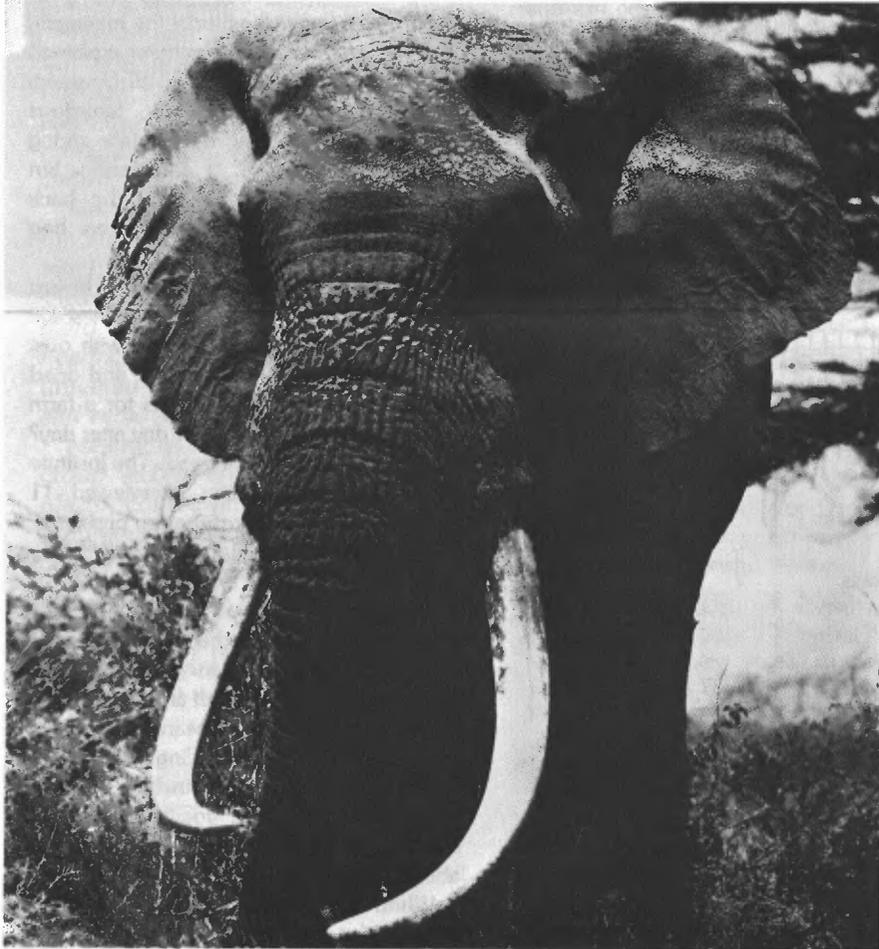
But how about the animals cooped up in these buildings all their lives? Respiratory problems leading to retarded growth are a notorious feature of hog units. This is hardly surprising. Air so contaminated that it is hazardous to men and women — who are at least free to come and go — can hardly be healthy for beasts who enjoy no such freedom.

## Albert Schweitzer

The state of Massachusetts has passed an Act "providing for the annual observance of **Albert Schweitzer's Reverence for Life Day.**" The date chosen is the fourteenth of January.

## Elephant crisis deepens

The huge wilderness area of southern Sudan and the adjacent grasslands of Zaire and the Central African Republic are now littered with the bones of tens of thousands of slain elephants, victims of Africa's most intensive ever poaching campaign. Since 1980 gangs of elephant killers, ranging far and wide across this thinly populated territory and armed to the teeth with automatic weapons (Russian AK-47s and West German G-3s), have been on the rampage. The herds are now decimated.



Norman Myers for World Wildlife Fund

### **How many magnificent tuskers like this are now left in Africa?**

In the 4-year period 1979-82 the tusks of some 107,000 elephants left Sudan by one escape route or another. Although this figure represents

about 80% of Sudan's elephants, much of the ivory bearing a Sudanese label almost certainly originates from across the border in Zaire or the Cen-

tral African Republic or, further afield, Tanzania. Two well-connected traders have no apparent difficulty in obtaining "legitimate" export documents from the Sudanese government.

Elsewhere in Africa the situation is not much better. Elephant expert Ian Douglas-Hamilton says that indiscriminate slaughter is on the increase nearly everywhere. From trade statistics, IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) estimates that *at least* 194,000 elephants—or close to 20% of Africa's total population—were killed during the three years 1980-82.

That the scale of the slaughter is fast leading to the extermination of the elephant is shown by the rapid fall in tusk weight as measured in Hong Kong and Tokyo, the two main centers of trade. In Hong Kong the average weight is down from 18.17 pounds in 1979 to 11.85 pounds in 1982: in Tokyo, where larger tusks are preferred for carving, the comparable drop has been from 34.83 pounds to 21.34. It is clear from these figures that older elephants—those mature enough to breed—are becoming increasingly scarce.

With ivory ("white gold") now commanding a price of around \$35 a pound—as against \$3 a pound in 1970—corruption at *all* levels is widespread. In many countries, including Sudan, the anti-poaching squads, however brave and dedicated, have small chance of finally defeating the highly organized and "highly protected" gangs of poachers.

"It's a disaster; the only thing left is to put the elephants in parks and sanctuaries," says Douglas-Hamilton. But will even this be enough to staunch the flow of precious life-blood from the species *Loxodonta africana*?

## The fishermen's "accidental" harvest

*The following article is extracted from Caught by Accident—the Fishermen's Unwanted Harvest by Felicia C. Coleman and D.H.S. Wehle in the July 1983 issue of the magazine Oceans.*

Virtually every fishery in every ocean contributes to the deaths of nearly a million marine birds and thousands of turtles and marine mammals each year. Although purse seines, trawl nets and cod traps all contribute to incidental capture, gillnets, which hang like invisible curtains in the water, kill by far the most animals.

During the 1960s over 500,000 sea-

birds were killed each year in Norwegian, Danish and Greenlandic salmon gillnets operating off Greenland, and an additional 25,000 birds died in Canadian gillnets set off Newfoundland. In the North Pacific incidental catch has also been high, with around 500,000 seabirds, 9000 Dall porpoises, several hundred northern fur seals and smaller numbers of

leatherback turtles, sea lions, killer whales and other marine mammals drowning each year. Much of the blame falls on Japan's high-seas salmon fishery.

Seabird casualties in gillnets occur, for the most part, among species that feed by diving and pursuing their prey underwater. In 1980 and 1981 22,000 diving seabirds washed ashore in Monterey Bay, California. Thousands of common murrelets, attracted inshore by the presence of large schools of anchovies, were caught in gillnets placed to take halibut

spawning in shallow waters. Not only did the adult murres fall victim to the nets but the young chicks, still dependent on their parents for care, died as well.

In 1972 the Soviet Union, Norway and several other nations began intense year-round fishing for capelin off Newfoundland, thus drastically reducing capelin stocks. After only six years the fisheries had forced themselves out of business. As offshore fishing wound down, Newfoundlanders started taking capelin inshore and soon wiped out those spawning stocks as well. Local seabirds, particularly the puffins, murres and other alcids which rely heavily on capelin for their young, suffered serious breeding failures as chicks starved to death in their nests. The problems was compounded by a fivefold increase in the inshore cod and salmon fishing effort. The incidental catch of thick-billed murres, razorbills, dovekies and Atlantic puffins far surpassed (and still surpasses) the birds' reproductive capacities.

## Entanglement

Thus far our emphasis has been on incidental capture. But entanglement warrants equal concern. 50,000 northern fur seals die each year through entanglement in lost or discarded fishing gear in the North Pacific. Japanese and Soviet trawl fisheries in the Bering Sea annually lose or deliberately throw overboard three million pounds of fishing-related debris, including damaged nets, lines and strapping bands. The nets are particularly dangerous because they continue to "fish" indefinitely at sea.

In 1978 a Japanese research vessel found a 3500-meter gillnet ghost-fishing in the North Pacific. Entangled in the first 1500 meters of the net were 99 seabirds (including albatrosses, fulmars, shearwaters and puffins), 75 salmon, one ragfish and two salmon sharks. "The most

startling thing," notes Anthony DeGange, a US Fish and Wildlife Service observer on board the vessel, "was the number of animals in the net. The state of decomposition of the bodies and the appearance of the net indicated that the net and its catch had been adrift for at least a month."



Northern Fur Seal entangled in discarded netting

National Marine Fisheries Service

## What to do?

There is considerable research under way to find suitable means of keeping mammals, birds, and turtles out of nets. Well-established is the backing-down technique required by the National Marine Fisheries Service to free dolphins in tuna purse-seines. The technique involves running the vessel in reverse long enough to allow the far end of the net to sink below the surface and the dolphins to escape.

Several years ago NMFS tested a Turtle Excluder Device (TED) for trawl nets which works well. TED not only decreases the number of turtles and other large animals caught in the nets, but it is reasonably inexpensive, requires limited modification of existing gear and apparently increases the shrimp catch. However, TED is used by fishermen only on a voluntary basis. Although its popularity is said to be increasing, its use is still far from universal.

A third type of gear modification, still in the experimental stage, is the sound device. It may be either reflective or sound-generating. Both kinds act to increase a net's detectability and avoidance by sea mammals.

Virtually no effort has been made to protect birds. A small first step was taken when Japan and the US agreed to undertake a joint study to determine the effects of incidental capture on North Pacific seabird populations.

International efforts are essential to reduce incidental catch and entanglement: for the fishermen to go their way, and the birds, reptiles and mammals of the sea to be left alone.

- In the tuna fleets a combination of "backing down" and gear improvements has reduced dolphin kills from an estimated 300,000 to about 20,000 a year. More intensive research on the use of aggregating devices and "log fishing" to attract tuna could soon put an end to setting on dolphins. The result would be a zero incidental catch.
- Dall porpoise casualties in Japanese salmon gillnets were halved when hollow netting was used, because the animals' "sonar" warned them. Its use should be mandatory.

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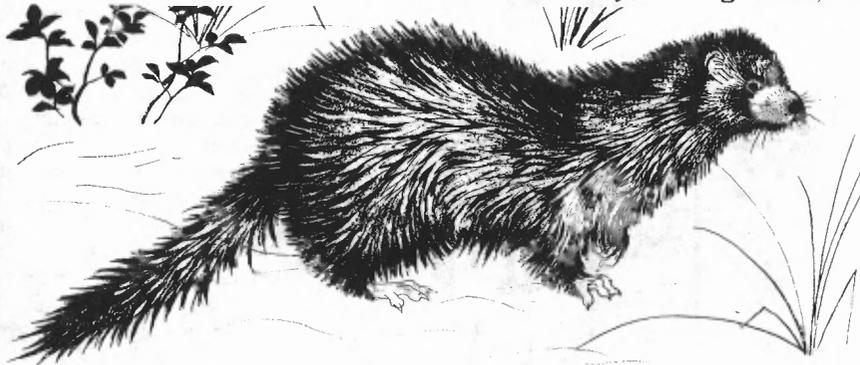
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## THE DOOMSDAY BOOK OF ANIMALS

By David Day, Viking Press, New York



Sea Mink — the beauty of whose fur led to its extinction in 1880 by the fur trade.

Reviewed by the *New Scientist* and described as a masterpiece, Colin Tudge, Features Editor wrote that the book is of course a catalogue of gloom but is much more than that. Instead of anger and rhetoric David Day writes natural history of rare quality, and the paintings and drawings are supreme. There is also an implicit message of hope in that no one would publish such a book unless a great many people cared — which few did, apparently, 100 years ago.” This superbly produced book first appeared in hardback in 1981. It has now been reissued in paperback, price \$14.95. Get it!

## Save the world's “green gold”

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature and the World Wildlife Fund have urged a United Nations meeting on tropical timber to give full weight to conservation in any finalized Agreement on trade. Specific recommendations include:

- limit felling to lands capable of sustaining timber production — and only at a sustainable rate;
- assess environmental impact where appropriate;
- protect interests of indigenous people;
- develop and implement less destructive methods of extraction;
- establish a fund to reforest logged lands, preferably with native species.\*

\*Aware that reforestation must be increased 5-fold to balance logging, UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) is hoping for a new deal between producers and consumers. But will it go far enough in the conservationist direction? Or come fast enough? Ivory Coast has already lost two-thirds of its forests and Gambia 96%.



### Common Ground—a new approach

The following article is by Angela King, a member of AWI's International Committee and one of three Britishers to have started the new group, Common Ground. A conservation group with a difference, it has now received funding from the UK Countryside Commission.

Is there room for yet another group concerned with conservation? We believe there is because we feel there is strength in diversity: that different approaches to wildlife and landscape conservation are essential because they widen the audience and spread the work-load.

We differ from most conservation groups in that one of our two main tasks is to promote the cause of the common, the animals and plants we tend to take for granted; and the ordinary, everyday landscapes and local places. In other words we are starting from fundamentals —from the supposition that if we take care of and have pride in our immediate surroundings, our own back-yards, then we are less likely to have problems with species becoming rare.

Oscar Wilde once said that the mission of art is to make us look twice at the ordinary things about us. *Common Ground's* second aim is related to this. We hope to encourage people in all sides of the arts to explore with us the conservation message and to put it across in new ways. One of our first projects is to commission work from a number of writers, artists and photographers on the theme of art, nature and landscape. This anthology will be published next year.

We are also putting together a Parish Conservation Guide which we hope will give people the information, confidence and inspiration to look after their own surroundings. It will emphasize common wildlife and familiar landscapes, while including vernacular architecture, archaeology and cultural landscapes.

*Common Ground* is not a membership organization. We prefer to be regarded as a catalyst or agency which promotes ideas and puts people and ideas together. We are a company limited by guarantee and are a registered charity.

## Thor Heyerdahl opposes his countrymen's use of the cold harpoon

As reported in a previous *Quarterly* (Fall 1982) the Norwegian Animal Protection Society is campaigning against the country's continued use of the cold harpoon. The Society cites Norwegian legislation which states: "The killing of animals shall be done in such a manner as not to cause them unnecessary suffering. . . ." The law specifies that this also applies to hunting and fishing.

Norway's eminent seafarer and author,

Thor Heyerdahl, has come out strongly in support of the Society's stand. He says: "I can without reservation confirm that I totally share the Norwegian Animal Protection Society's opinion on the cold harpoon. I know, after having heard the peaceful breathing of whales beside me both day and night while on the world's oceans, that it isn't simply a zoological phrase to say that the whale is a warm-blooded mammal as much as any dog or

horse.

"It is quite clear that a whale struggling with a cold harpoon in its body suffers just as much as an elk or a bear would. If Norway wants to be considered a modern, civilized country, we had better show the large and growing number of people who oppose the cold harpoon that we are as humane toward warm-blooded fellow creatures in the sea as we are toward those which live on land. . . ."