NO. 3 WINTER 1986

~~40p~~

BLACK BEAST

The Animal Rights Magazine



Inside:

Livestock Markets • Animal Experiments – Medical Fraud • Trapping for the Fur Trade • Invertebrate Vivisection • Pirate Whaling

BLACK BEAST

Box 1,
Earth'n'Wear,
15 Cowley Road,
Oxford.

All correspondence should be sent to the above address. We welcome items and articles on any aspect of animal rights but may have to edit some contributions. Opinions expressed in BLACK BEAST are not necessarily those of the editors.

Subscriptions (4 issues)
UK £2; US $7.
Single copy: 40p + large s.a.e.

Bulk orders:
2-9 copies
-40p each + 30p p&p
10-25 copies
-35p each + 50p p&p
26-49 copies
-35p each + £1 p&p
50+ copies
-30p each + £2-50 p&p

Printed by Dot Press.

Cover Photo:

Sheep awaiting auction at Banbury livestock market. See centre pages.

Bête Noire (bāt nwar) (Fr. black beast). The thorn in the side, the bitter in the cup, the SPOKE IN THE WHEEL, the BLACK-SHEEP, one's pet aversion.

We would like to apologise to all our readers for the late publication of this issue of the magazine. We will do our best to get the Spring issue out by the end of March.

CONTENTS

The Price of a Pelt 4
The barbaric trapping of animals for their fur.

Violence-Free Science 9
A campaign to give students the right to refuse to abuse animals.

Stockyard 12
Black Beast takes a look at Europe's largest livestock market.

Spineless Research 14
Experiments on invertebrate animals are conducted with no legal restraint whatsoever.

Pirate Whaling 17
The illegal slaughter of whales for profit.

Animal Experiments - Medical Fraud 20
People's health will never be improved by vivisection.

Black Beast would like to thank: Animal Liberation Front, Central Animal Liberation League, Dudley Animal Rights, Earth'n'Wear, Southampton Animal Rights Group, Southern Animal Liberation League and everyone who has contributed to or helped distribute the magazine.

BLOODSPORT

Shotgun Fired at Hunt Saboteurs

On Saturday 26th October 1985, hunt saboteurs from Cannock, Wolverhampton, Rugby, Telford, Birmingham and Warwick universities, Coventry, and Leamington met up for a 'retaliation hit' on the Albrighton Hunt. A couple of weeks earlier, several hunt saboteurs had been injured by members of the hunt while disrupting the day's 'sport'.

The sabs arrived at the hunt's kennels at Whiston Cross, Shropshire, in 3 vans and 2 cars, with the intention of blocking in the hound van for as long as possible - thus reducing their time in the field and therefore the chance of foxes being killed.

On arrival at the kennels, one of the vans was driven straight across the gateway and the other vehicles parked nearby. A burglar alarm was set off and within minutes the Albrighton Huntsman appeared. On seeing the sabs, he went into one of the houses and emerged with a double-barrelled shotgun, which he brandished at the protestors. One sab who tried to take his photograph narrowly missed being smashed over the head with the shotgun when the Huntsman took a swipe at her, another received a blow across the hands. To the shock and disbelief of everyone present, the Huntsman then discharged the gun into the front grille of one of the vans making a 3" hole in the grille and 1½" hole through the radiator - making it impossible to drive the van. At the time of the shooting, at least four people were inside the van and four or five others were within three feet of where the blast hit. After discharging the gun, the Huntsman quickly put the gun away. Whilst this was going on, a neighbour - 60-70 yards from the kennels - brought out a pump action shotgun, which he discharged over the heads of the sabs to intimidate them.

The police were on the scene within minutes of the shooting and several of the sabs made statements. Two van loads of sabs managed to sabotage the hunt when it eventually got underway about an hour later.

The Huntsman has made one court appearance, when he pleaded not guilty to a number of firearms charges. He is due to appear again on 17th January 1986. Damage to the van was estimated at £284.



Kevin Smith

Albrighton huntsman threatens hunt saboteurs with a shotgun.

FROGS' LEGS

An estimated 400 million frogs' legs will be consumed this year and India, Bangladesh and Indonesia have quickly cashed in on the boom in market demand. These countries export hundreds of thousands of tons of frogs' legs each year.

This barbaric trade is having dire effects on the ecological systems in these countries - frogs play a very important role in controlling the numbers of mosquitoes and other pests that either spread malaria or attack crops. This has meant, of course, that the farmers are liberally using DDT to control the insect population. So, not only is this trade causing an incredible amount of animal suffering (the legs are sliced off the live animals) but, say the World Wildlife Fund, it could lead to an ecological disaster.

QUAIL

In June last year the Animal Liberation Front rescued 800 quail in a raid on Fayre Game Quail Farm in Lytham St Annes, Lancashire. The birds were being kept in battery cages for eggs. The ALF filmed dead birds and disembodied limbs left in cages and birds with hardly any feathers and sore patches where they had been pecked.

More recent ALF actions have resulted in quail being rescued from cruel conditions in pet shops. It would seem that these unfortunate birds are becoming increasingly abused: their confinement to produce eggs for a luxury market, their sale as pets (to be unnaturally confined when they live quite happily in the wild in this country), their shooting for sport, and we have now heard reports that, because of their aggressive nature (something that can lead to problems when they are kept in battery cages), they are now made to fight for 'sport' in the same way as cocks.

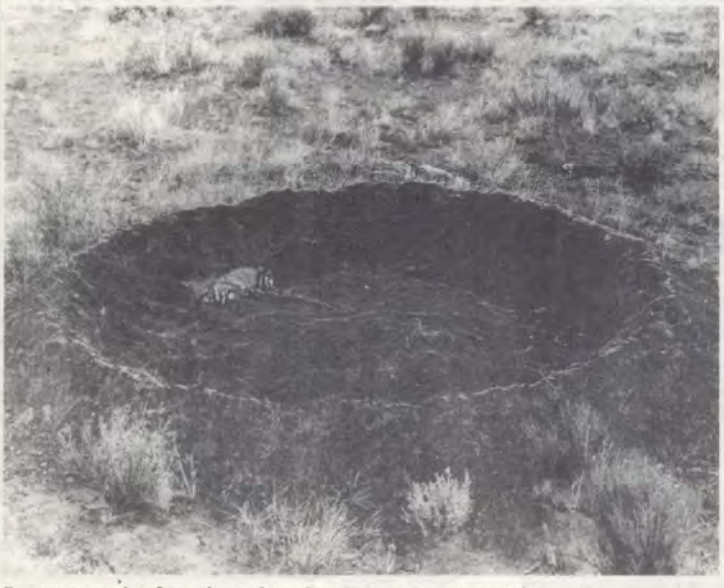
The same company that markets Fosters lager - Elders IXL - also provides the meat for McDonalds' hamburgers in Hong Kong and handles over a third of the world's traded wool.

The Price of a Pelt

The fur trade is desperately trying to conceal the fact that at least 15% of the pelts it uses come from the wild. Here MARK GLOVER of LYNX reveals the horrifying suffering that trapping for the fur trade entails and that this 15% represents millions upon millions of animals.

Eighty-five per cent of pelts entering the fur trade come from fur farms, or so the fur traders proudly claim - as if that was a defence of their profession. The first issue of Black Beast contains an article describing the miserable conditions to be found in a modern fur factory farm - conditions that ensure that countless millions of animals each year suffer a deprived, completely unnatural and insane existence.

Complementing the glibly quoted '85%' is the 15% of skins that emanate from wild animals. The very fact that the fur traders choose to advance the information that the majority of skins come from reared animals implies that the others are obtained by means that are in some way distasteful, or that even involve suffering.



Immense hole dug by badger attempting to escape from leg-hold trap.

The plain facts are that the 15% represents tens of millions of animals that are trapped (often by methods banned in the UK), left to suffer for days on end at the mercy of the elements or other animals, and then trampled or clubbed to death far from any human observer. The largest supplier of wild furs is the US, accounting for between 16 and 20 million animals every year. The main method of capture is the steel jawed leg-hold trap. Because of its utter barbarity, the use of this device is now banned in 60 countries including the UK, where it is better known as the gin trap.

Despite the ban that exists on the trap in this country, we continue to allow the importation of millions of skins that have been obtained by its use elsewhere. Indeed, London is one of the major centres for the fur trade worldwide with imports into the UK in 1983 alone representing 36 million animals.

The main targets for the trappers include beavers, raccoons and muskrats as well as the more lucrative wolves, coyotes and lynx. One of the inherent factors in the use of devices such as the leg-hold trap is that such implements cannot discriminate: they cannot consciously decide whether or not to catch an animal because it is of the right sex, fur quality or even species. Thus trapping is, by its very nature, wasteful and many millions of animals are caught and die in traps each year only to be discarded. These are known to the trappers as 'trash animals'.

Trapping regulations in both the US and Canada are virtually non-existent and the few laws that do exist are ineffective because, in practice, they are unenforceable. So, by and large, anyone in North America can trap anything they want to at any time and almost anywhere. Trapped animals often face days held in the devices in extreme agony - commonly with shattered limbs. Once the trapper finds an animal in a trap there are no laws or regulations covering how such a creature must be destroyed - animals are usually bludgeoned or trampled to death since protecting the fur is now uppermost in the trapper's mind, and any blood would decrease the value of the pelt. Many states in the US do not require those under the age of 16 to hold licences for trapping and yet in some areas such individuals are forbidden to carry firearms unless a family member (18 or older) is present - the mind boggles at the levels of cruelty dealt out by these 'under-age' trappers. Such trapping is commonplace.

The UK fur traders conveniently neglect this side of their supply when defending their bloody business. In fact, the defences they do advance are riddled with such inconsistencies and contradictions that their case would be laughable were it not for the trade they are attempting to maintain and promote. We are told that furs from the wild are merely the by-product of either pest control programmes or wildlife management schemes and, furthermore, that the fur dealers are conservationists and that it is in their interests to maintain animal populations so that a 'renewable harvest' may



Coyote caught in steel jaw leg-hold trap.

be taken. The contradiction is obvious: it is not possible to be at the same time both conservationist and pest/predator controller. The nonsense of their argument is equally apparent when one considers the methods used. Traps do not discriminate so anything that triggers them is caught and killed. It is



Coyote in leg-hold trap being despatched by trampling.

not possible to trap specific species for specific purposes using leg-hold traps. Indeed, one study in the US concerning the use of leg-hold traps to control coyotes that were supposedly worrying sheep, revealed that at the end of the programme more sheep than coyotes had been destroyed (as well as a great many members of other species).

So who are these trappers, who is it that is responsible for so much cruelty and why do they do it? The fur trade makes great play of the fact that for a number of Inuit communities in the North of Canada trapping provides the only source of cash income available. Yet at the same time, the traders are squeezing the Inuit out of the fur business by relying more and more on animals raised in factory farms. In fact, the native peoples' contribution in terms of numbers of skins supplied is negligible. Not that this in any way vindicates them - if something is cruel and immoral it has to end, whoever is perpetrating it. The vast majority of trappers are part-time, 'recreational' hunters, the very people who have no professional interest in what they do - in other words, those most likely to cause unnecessary and severe suffering. The trapping lobby, particularly in the US, is very well organised, maintaining a large infrastructure and communicating information to the 2,000,000 or so trappers via numerous monthly magazines.

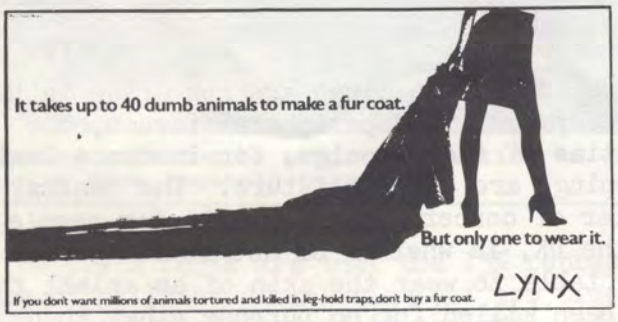
That is why it is vital that the fur campaigns being run in countries such as the UK succeed. It is unrealistic to think that the American government is, in the short term, going to ban leg-hold traps or to end trapping, just as the Canadian government are never going to ban the Newfoundland seal hunt. It is entirely feasible, however, that we can dissuade people from wearing fur coats and, indeed, for bans to be introduced on products obtained by methods that are illegal in this country. This is why Lynx has been formed - to continue the campaign initiated, and then dropped, by Greenpeace, using the same (and more) hard hitting advertising material to shame the wearers of fur coats off the streets and potential buyers away from their frivolous and bloody desires.

Thus the battle lines are now drawn in the fur campaign. The peripheral issues, the minutiae of the campaign, for instance Inuit trapping, are for the future. The central matter of concern, particularly for people in the UK, is whether or not it is acceptable to wear the skin of an animal that has been killed for no purpose other than luxury or fashion; it is our job - our duty - to ensure that public opinion adopts the position that it is not. When this goal is achieved, another important milestone will have been reached on the road to a more compassionate and humane treatment of our fellow creatures. For this is the

The Price of a Pelt

importance of the fur campaign - in achieving a shift in society's perception of what is and what is not an acceptable way of treating animals. Once it is won, all other animal issues will be viewed from a different stance and will, therefore, be that much easier to win. As the 'Save The Whale' campaign was once the flag-bearer of the environmental movement, the anti-fur campaign could focus the energies and efforts of the animal welfare and animal rights lobbies.

The other major factor of importance concerning the fur campaign is that it is winnable, and winnable within a relatively short period. The fur traders know this and we have recently witnessed examples of their efforts of counter-offensive such as the controversial appointment of Gwyneth Dunwoody and the large well publicised donation to the NSPCC. It is vital that too much effort is not deflected into opposing these deliberate side tracks, the campaign has to focus all its energies on the primary goal, ie that of undermining the market demand for fur products and thereby creating a climate of opinion that rejects the wearing of animal furs. This is exactly what Lynx intends to do - by making available the necessary advertising and campaigning materials to the existing network of animal rights groups and activists. Thus the efforts of thousands of people will be focussed on one issue and one industry - an industry that is inherently susceptible to this kind of campaign since it thrives by advertising and promoting a glossy image. It is a trade that is destroyed once its image is shattered - and that is our task.



LYNX can be contacted at PO Box 509, Dunmow, Essex, CM6 1UH.

BLACK BEAST

The recent spate of actions attributed to the Animal Rights Militia has gained national publicity - but at what cost?

Direct action against animal abuse has been going on for 10 years now and has escalated in frequency to its present level. Criminal damage and self defence against truly violent people is now acceptable to many and is certainly justified when animal abuse is still a multi-billion pound business.

Yet it seems that some activists see at the end of this line of escalating actions, intentional and premeditated violence against individual animal abusers. This conclusion fails primarily because we are struggling for a more caring society and any premeditated violence contradicts the philosophy of a compassionate way of life. Violence is not at the end of the line of escalation - it is in a different sphere of thought altogether.

The IRA turned to guns and bombs but where has this escalation in violence taken them?

The forces of oppression are experienced in the use of violence and have massive reserves to repress dissenters. The actions of the Animal Rights Militia give the government an excuse to repress all animal rights activities and make the ALF an illegal organisation.

The animal rights struggle will not be won overnight; we are part of a wider struggle for a compassionate society, which will alter the current suicidal state of the world. Bombs do not change people's minds but kill and maim individuals who may abuse animals, but are only a minute part of an uncaring world.

This society is based on intentional violence - do we have to add to it?

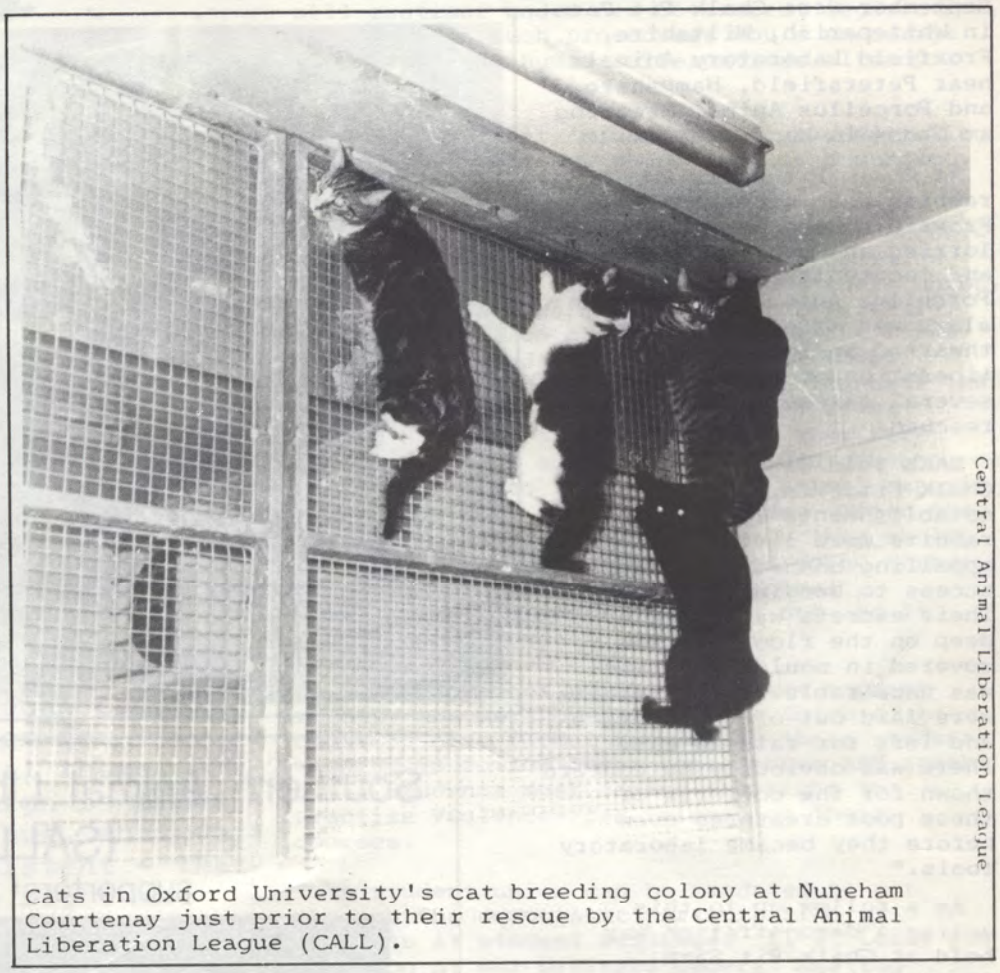
FREE RANGE FINES

In Tasmania, Pam Clarke has said that she would rather go to jail for 34 days than pay a fine for keeping free range chickens. She says, "The Egg Marketing Board comprises mainly battery egg producers and I do not see why I should pay a quota of up to $20 per bird and levies of 13 cents per bird per fortnight to them to perpetuate a system that is not only shockingly cruel, but has created a situation where the public has no alternative but to eat battery eggs or go without."

Kittens Blinded by Oxford University

Numerous cats are vivisected every year in the laboratories of Oxford University. Many are used in sight deprivation experiments in the departments of Human Anatomy and Physiology. The Waynflete Professor of Physiology, vivisector Colin Blakemore, specialises in depriving animals of their sight - usually cats and kittens but he has now graduated to hamsters and monkeys. In 1982 the Journal of Physiology reported: "Kittens were deprived of sight in one eye as part of research into the resulting brain cell changes. After visual deprivation, some of the kittens had the other eye removed surgically under anaesthesia. In another technique the eye was cut and removed by suction, a plug of cotton wool being put in its place to minimise bleeding. Brain cells were investigated using electrodes implanted into the brains of anaesthetised and paralysed kittens. They were finally killed."

On 16th September 1985, the Central Animal Liberation League (CALL) smashed their way into Oxford University's cat breeding centre and rescued 12 cats that were destined for vivisection. The University revealed that the cats that were rescued were being reared in artificial light in preparation for sight experiments. The cats were all heavily tattoed in both ears and included breeding stock. One cat gave birth to three kittens shortly after she was liberated.



Central Animal Liberation League

Cats in Oxford University's cat breeding colony at Nuneham Courtenay just prior to their rescue by the Central Animal Liberation League (CALL).

SHEEP EXPORTS

In Australia the Senate Select Committee on Animal Welfare has concluded that there should be an eventual end to the live export of sheep by aiming long term to substitute the trade with refrigerated meat. The Committee said that if the decision were to be made "purely on animal welfare grounds, there is enough evidence to stop the trade". They added, however, "the animal welfare aspects of the trade cannot be divorced from economic and other considerations."

New Medicines Act

Not only is this Government continuing to give carte blanche to the drug companies to carry out repetitive, irrelevant experiments on laboratory animals via its Animals (Scientific Procedures) Bill, but it is planning to enforce such activities on the natural medicine industry. In a review of the 1968 Medicines Act, the DHSS wants herbal and homoeopathic remedies to be subjected to exactly the same testing procedures as orthodox medicines - despite the fact that natural medicines act in a completely different way to allopathic drugs. The corollary of such changes is that many natural remedies will disappear from the market - manufacturers will be unable to afford the huge amounts of money necessary to carry out such testing - and yet more substances will be inappropriately tested on animals.

A new group called the Natural Medicines Society has been set up to fight the proposed Act. Contact them at:

Natural Medicines Society
97-107 Hagley Road
Edgbaston
Birmingham B16 8BR

Swiss Referendum

On 1st December 1985 Switzerland held the first national referendum ever to be taken on the total abolition of vertebrate vivisection. The proposal was defeated: 70.5% against 29.5% of those who voted. However, the turnout was only 37.5% of the population. It seems that a concerted effort was made during the campaign by the pharmaceutical and research industries to saturate the media with their propaganda - an easy task considering their great financial might. However, the campaign continues. In Italy, a similar referendum is on the cards for 1986.

Rabbit Breeder Under Siege

On the night of September 23rd 1985, the Southern Animal Liberation League (SALL) co-ordinated a night of action against three animal breeders - all of which supply Wickham Research laboratories. Details of the breeders had been obtained during the South East Animal Liberation League (SEALL) raid on Wickham laboratories in October 1984. The breeders targeted in September were Chalk Pit Farm in Whiteparish, Wiltshire, Froxfield Laboratory Animals near Petersfield, Hampshire, and Porcellus Animal Breeding at Cross-in-Hand, Sussex.

At Chalk Pit Farm, 20 rabbits were liberated. At Froxfield Laboratory Animals lorries and vans were damaged and documents taken. At Porcellus Animal Breeding an alarm was triggered, which thwarted an intended mass liberation of animals, but several guinea pigs were rescued.

SALL told Black Beast, "At Chalk Pit Farm, one of the establishments raided, the rabbits were living in appalling conditions with no access to bedding or comfort. Their excreta was piled 6" deep on the floor and was covered in mould, the smell was unbearable. Dead rabbits were laid out of their cages and left for rats to eat. There was obviously no concern shown for the comforts of these poor creatures even before they became laboratory tools."

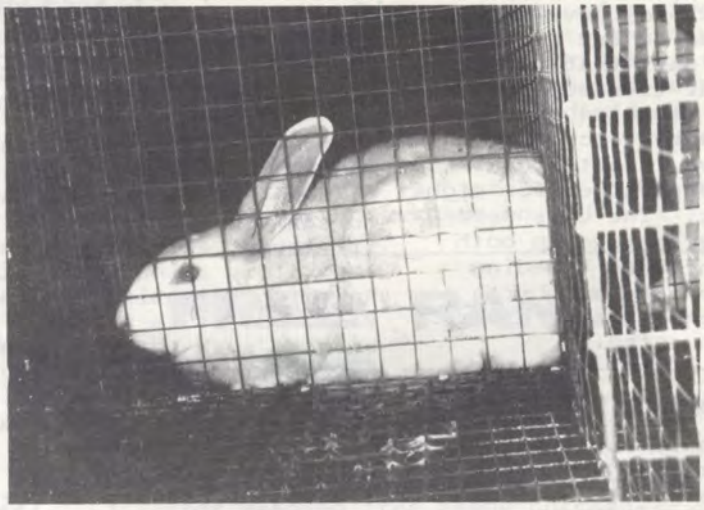
As a follow up to this action a demonstration was held at Chalk Pit Farm. Approximately 100 protestors marched through Whiteparish to the farm where they were met by the owner, Robin White, brandishing a rifle. A member of Southampton Animal Rights Group told Black Beast, "Realising our strength of numbers he proceeded to invite everyone in to take pictures, this invitation being readily accepted by the group. How he felt no shame we can't understand as the conditions were atrocious." The owner and others - also armed with pistols or rifles - then tried to evict the protestors forcibly. Two demonstrators were injured but three rabbits were rescued as the demonstrators left the area.

Two people were arrested following the demonstration and charged with the theft of a rabbit, handling a stolen rabbit and wilful obstruction of a police officer. No rabbits were recovered.



Southern Animal Liberation League (SALL)

supporters' group



This is one of 20 rabbits rescued by SALL, on September 23rd 1985, from an intensive farm where they were being reared for vivisection and the fur trade. A set of seven photographs of this raid is available from SALL for £3.

Please send donations to SALL to help us in the campaign against animal abuse.

SALL SUPPORTERS' GROUP, C/O BOX B, 4 ONSLOW ROAD, BEVOIS VALLEY, SOUTHAMPTON.

VIOLENCE FREE SCIENCE

In September 1981 in City Hall, Brussels, the World Charter of Students in favour of Violence-Free Science (VFS) was proclaimed. It was then, so it seems, promptly forgotten. Brought to light, adapted and improved by the National Anti-Vivisection Society (NAVS), the Charter for VFS has now been officially adopted by Leeds Student Union - giving it the credibility it needed.

On January 22nd 1986, the NAVS will be launching a national campaign for VFS - with the Charter for student rights its central theme. Broadly based, the campaign is aimed at students of all ages but, whatever age, the message is consistent - that students should have the right and opportunity to practise VFS without academic penalty. Here LORRAINE WALKER of the NAVS explains the aims of the campaign.

Young people facing dissection at school find it upsetting and disturbing, yet will often keep their feelings to themselves - not wishing to appear 'soft' in front of classmates or to question the teacher and be branded as 'the one who makes a fuss'. The pressure to conform is tremendous. Yet at both 'O' and 'A'-level, science can be taught by the imaginative use of charts, models and audio-visual aids. After all, human anatomy is taught at this level without dissecting a human corpse! Some exam boards no longer require practical dissection at 'O'-level but insist it be included at 'A'. Given sufficient motivation, examining bodies (excuse the pun) could ensure that these basic qualifications were attained without any animal exploitation. There is a very real danger that dissecting may desensitise the young and teach them to undervalue other life forms.

Later on, at university/poly level, many students will be expected to witness or participate in vivisection on living animals - experiments that are often trivial, repetitive, unnecessary and useless. The professor or lecturer will often fail to enlist more humane and sophisticated teaching aids such as computers/videos - preferring the habitual animal method. Thus vivisection is promoted to students at all levels, perpetuating the system and often, it should be said, giving validity to the lecturer's own animal research.

According to Home Office figures, in 1984 1166 experiments were carried out to demonstrate known facts. These experiments will continue under new Government legislation, yet a ban on such procedures would encourage the use of the humane alternatives already available.

Many university students, often undertaking courses in medicine, physiology or psychology - and by no means anti-vivisectionists - are voicing their growing concern over animal usage on the campus. The NAVS will be encouraging university student groups to campaign for the adoption of the Charter by their union. Judith Anstree, Leeds NAVS Branch secretary and Student Union contact, says of the Leeds situation: "Leeds University Union Animal Rights Society decided to try and persuade the Student Union to adopt the Charter after having had many students tell us they were being pressured by individual lecturers and departments into taking part in animal experiments that they didn't want to do. Often they were sickened by them, but mostly they would comment on the sheer futility of doing them. Students in departments doing animal experiments are afraid to speak out and it takes some courage to do so.

Student unions exist to protect student rights, and we thought that the Union at Leeds ought to give formal backing to those students wishing to follow their consciences and speak out. Students must demand the right to practise Violence-Free Science on their courses.

A student union can be mandated to act through the democratic participation of students at student meetings. We at Leeds put a motion at our Ordinary General Meeting asking that students vote for the adoption of the Charter. We felt that the Charter and the concept of Violence-Free Science adequately summed up the feelings of many students. Our motion was surprisingly amended by a medical student who made it more radical by requiring the Union not only to support students wishing to invoke the Charter, but also actively to pursue ways of getting the University to achieve reductions in animal experimentation. The motion was passed unanimously, which means that the Society now has the active support of the Union, which is obliged to follow the terms of the resolution. It is relatively easy to pursue a policy through your union. Familiarise yourselves with the procedures (either enquire at the union office or look in the handbook that most unions produce) and try to drum up support at the meeting by leafletting beforehand. Also, use the student newspaper to publicise the issue. Most students will be willing to support something which is trying to assert student rights. Once a motion is passed it is up to student campaigners to make sure that the union does help - officers of the union will need to be reminded of the motion and pressed into activating it. Student unions have representation (usually) on the governing bodies of academic institutions, and it is through this

representation that we can try and affect policies regarding animal experimentation. Once you have the backing of your union you can get them to pursue a motion through the committee system of your university/polytechnic/college. You will have to fight your way through bureaucratic procedures, so make sure that you know how the system works before you start.

Teaching procedures at Britain's academic institutions are behind the continuing acceptability of animal experiments amongst the scientific community, and we must act now to halt this desensitisation process. It is ironic that students who want to learn how to heal are forced to stifle their consciences and, instead, are taught to disregard life itself."

The NAVS hope that animal groups across the country will take up this positive and realisable campaign. To this end, campaign material (leaflets, posters, postcards, badges and T-shirts) will be available after January 22nd from our London offices:

NAVS, 51 Harley Street, London. W1N 1DD

Tel: (01) 580 4034

For full campaign details contact Lorraine Walker on (0742) 352860.

KARMA BADGES

C/O BOX I
EARTH 'N' WEAR
COWLEY ROAD
OXFORD

A wide range of animal rights badges are available. Send sae for catalogue.

"It would be useless for me to give a long emotional account of how I felt about doing them (animal experiments)....it is not the quantity of animals used that is the problem, it is the fact that the experiments are unnecessary and that students who do not wish to do them cannot pass the course without having been party to animal experimentation."

Statement by 3rd year medical undergraduate, Leeds University.



© BRIAN GUNN

Education or Butchery?

The Choice Should Be Yours!

VIOLENCE FREE SCIENCE

- cut here - -

I am a student at: ....(School/Poly/University)

Please send me a Violence-Free Science Student Information Pack.

Name: .... Address: ....

....Age: ....

Send to: Violence-Free Science Campaign. The National Anti-Vivisection Society,

51 Harley Street, LONDON. W1N 1DD

Letters

Dear Black Beast,

I am writing on behalf of myself and co-accused David Babington to thank you - Black Beast and animal lovers, both in this country and abroad, for the encouraging and loyal support that we've received throughout our sentence.

We regret that we cannot reply to each individual, but will try to make contact when released.

We have been granted parole and will be released on 3rd February 1986 - three months after our original parole date.

We would like people to know that after serving 13½ months we have not been discouraged and will continue the fight against animal abuse.

We were surprised to find out how many inmates agree with our beliefs. They disagree with the use of animals in experiments but not with the slaughter for human consumption.

We have had long and interesting conversations with fellow inmates over the subject of animal rights - two have actually become vegetarian and are interested in animal rights.

We would like to thank you all again for the support you have given us. A special thanks to animal lovers in Australia and Canada. Thanks to our support group NEALL for passing on all your letters and magazines. CHEERS! Keep up the good work.

We must destroy in order to create.....ALF

Yours for Animal Liberation,

Carlo Hanshaw,
David Babington,
H.M. Youth Custody Centre,
Everthorpe,
Brough,
North Humberside

Dear Readers,

This letter is aimed at any students who are concerned about the rough deal animals get in our society. The Student Campaign for Animal Rights (SCAR) exists to communicate between student groups and help students to set up animal rights societies. If you are a student and wish to start a group or have a problem, eg having to do a dissection for 'A'-level biology, drop us a line and we will try to help you out. If you belong to an established group, write to us and we will send you our contact mail-out.

Yours for Enlightenment

Duggs Carre,
SCAR,
PO Box B9,
Huddersfield,
West Yorks.

Dear Black Beast,

As an older person, my memory extends over two generations, and I remember reading in my youth, an anti-fur pamphlet, which outlined the same horrors which today's leaflets still describe.

When direct action campaigning first reached my attention and began to take off in the north, I joined the Hunt Saboteurs and Animal Activists and started a belated career in animal rights. During the last decade I have demonstrated both outside and inside a variety of fur establishments in different parts of England.

As far as I am aware, it is only since the advent of the Fur Action Group, two or three years ago, that an organisation has existed for the sole purpose of combatting the fur trade. Rumblings against the fur trade have been coming from the RSPCA for a couple of years, with an occasional bright publicity firework to brighten their otherwise twilight sky but, sadly enough, none of the bullets fired in their mail-shot campaign has hit me yet - even though I am a member. The entry of the Fur Action Group - David against the Goliath fur trade - was a monumental step forward, not to be viewed without considerable appreciation by those who cared. However, when the renowned and redoubtable Greenpeace entered the struggle, it seemed that the coup de grace was at last to be delivered against the evil monster fur trade. After attending a packed Sheffield City Memorial Hall to hear Richard Adams' excellent talk, and seeing the striking 30 minute fur film, it was indeed a sickening and unbelievable blow to find later that Greenpeace International had actually withdrawn from this campaign!

The searing question that must be asked about this amazing about-turn, is by what satanic and Machiavellian process does the fur trade manage to continue - and further, to incapacitate and silence over the generations, those of its opponents who appear to possess the energy and competence to strike it the mortal blow it so richly deserves?

I must say to Greenpeace International:

"Once I had faith in your integrity, but never will I have faith again. Once I viewed your deeds with admiration, but now I will view them with doubt. How could you turn your back on such evil after you had built up such strong hopes? I cannot imagine that any perceptive and genuine animal rights campaigner will ever see you in the same virtuous light again. You have built up our hopes, and immediately swept them away. Personally I feel very bitter!"

Very Sincerely,

John Watson,
Sheffield Animal Rights Group,
P.O. Box 205,
Sheffield S1

Dear Black Beast,

I'd like to thank Black Beast and its growing army of readers for supporting our campaign against the Glasgow University/Pennsylvania University primate research project.

We are now planning further campaigns against Glasgow University but are hampered due to lack of funds. If anyone wishes to help us out we would be glad to hear from them.

Yours for Animal Rights,

John F. Robins,
Organising Secretary,
Scottish Anti-Vivisection Society,
121 West Regent Street,
Glasgow. G2 2SD

PRIMATE TORTURE ENDS

In issues one and two of 'Black Beast' we reported on the joint project by the Universities of Pennsylvania and Glasgow involving horrendous experiments on fully conscious baboons. The work at the Pennsylvania Head Injury Clinic was temporarily suspended in July pending investigations but, despite denials by the vivisectors at Glasgow, the American group PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) uncovered evidence that the researchers had no intention of ceasing their barbaric activities. The campaign continued relentlessly and in September the University of Pennsylvania at last declared that all primate research at the head injury clinical research laboratory was suspended indefinitely. Following the incredible damage to its image, the University is also planning to tighten up its regulations on all animal experimentation.

STOCKYARD

BLACK BEAST mingles for a while with the meat traders and farmers and visits Banbury Stockyard, Europe's largest livestock market, to witness the beating, kicking and mutilation that animals regularly receive before they end up on the dinner plate.

A frightened and bewildered cow runs first one way and then the other. At every turn she is beaten with a stick to send her in the other direction. This grotesque and terrified dance goes on whilst men bid against each other for the price of her life. She is in the auction ring and this is her reward for years as a milk-producing machine. Eventually the bidding will go no higher and she is driven out of the ring to be loaded onto a cattle truck and taken on a final frightening journey to slaughter. Another cow blunders into the ring, prompted by the application of an electric goad to her flank.

Brutality towards animals is something that generally goes on behind closed doors, be it the high security of the vivisection laboratory, the bare wooden facade of the factory farm or the windowless slaughterhouse. The livestock market is one of the few places where man's insensitivity and brutality towards farm animals goes on public display. On visiting a livestock market, it becomes quite clear that animals are not regarded as sentient creatures, but as mere commodities to be bought and sold. In Great Britain every year 60% of all cattle slaughtered, 70% of all sheep, and 12% of all pigs pass through livestock markets. Every year 3,919,102 cattle and 15,067,727 sheep are slaughtered in this country, so a huge number of animals are passing through these barbaric institutions. Sadly, it is unlikely that significant numbers of the general public will visit their local livestock market and witness the beatings and kickings that their dinner receives before it ends up on their plates. So in a way even this most public brutality goes unseen.

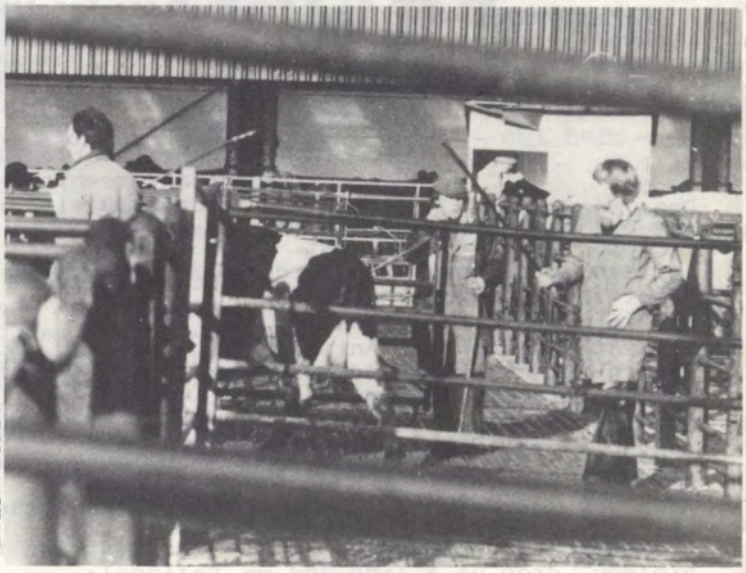
For a number of days this winter we joined farmers as they auctioned off their livestock to representatives from 'meat factories' at Banbury livestock market - the largest livestock market in Europe. The day on which all livestock sold goes for slaughter, Thursdays in the case of Banbury, is undoubtedly the most violent day. After all, why should the buyers care unduly about animals that are only hours away from death?

The first thing that stands out about the market is the horrendous overcrowding of the animals. Sheep are crammed into small pens as they await auction. Any animals at the



Black Beast

Note the punched hole in the right ear of this sheep.



Black Beast

Sticks are used to force cattle to move around the market.

market have already endured a harrowing journey and at the end of their brief stay will face another. (In a future issue of Black Beast we plan to feature an in-depth look at livestock transportation).

All animals that are going to be slaughtered are mutilated by having a hole - about the size of a penny piece - punched in their ears. As soon as the sheep are sold, employees of the market wade in amongst them and start punching holes. Blood flows in rivulets and forms in pools on the ground. Some sheep are missed in this initial carnage, but another market employee follows the others around dealing with any sheep that have been missed. Aware of their fate, these sheep tend to panic but there is no escape in the small pens and they become merely a source of slight irritation to the worker before he mutilates them.
irritation to the worker before he mutilates them.

Both cattle and sheep have their ears punched as a way of ensuring that they are not resold. Once they are marked in this way, they are loaded onto transporters. The animals are generally very frightened and reluctant to be loaded. The most common solution to this problem seems to be the use of a hefty stick. We saw sheep being savagely rapped on the head with a stick and even saw one worker lashing out at sheep with his feet - kicking them as if they were footballs. Cattle, too, are repeatedly beaten about their bodies, particularly during their loading onto a transporter - cattle are very heavy creatures and to make them move when While the workers who were mutilating animals' ears were quite oblivious to being photographed and even apologised if they got in the way, there was, on the other hand, quite an aggressive response when we tried to photograph people beating animals.

In many ways the livestock market illustrates everything that is wrong with animal farming: the clear desensitisation of those that handle the animals, the confinement, fear and mutilation of the animals and the fact that sentient creatures are regarded as commodities, as meat machines - as a source of irritation and anger if they don't do what they are supposed to do before being packaged off to slaughter.

If you doubt anything you have read here, you can easily go and see it all for yourself. We have not reported on the extreme cruelties of the markets: the touting of calves from one market to another (being shunted from auction to auction with no rest in between), animals being forced to stay overnight in cattle wagons, or the application of electric goads to animals' genitals. We have merely reported on what is standard day to day practice at the largest livestock market in Europe.



Black Beast

Once a sheep is sold it must have its ear punched.



Black Beast

Sheep with punched ears - the one in the foreground has both ears punched.

Spineless Research

In practice, the 1876 Cruelty to Animals Act offers little or no legal protection to those animals it is intended to protect. Invertebrate animals are not even covered by this Act and every year countless numbers suffer and die in British laboratories in horrific experiments which are only limited by the vivisector's imagination.

PHILIP CHURCHWARD, Scientific Adviser to the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection, explains why the campaign for animal rights should be extended to include the invertebrates.

"The great majority of those who have interested themselves in preventing and relieving the suffering of animals have concentrated their attention on mammals and birds, and chiefly on those species that make the most obvious appeal to human sentiment by reason of their affection for mankind or their beauty."
J R Baker, DSc (Oxon), FRS.

Within the last decade those concerned with animal rights have made a number of radical departures from the campaigning of yesteryear, such as the development of direct action and, equally significant, the abandonment of the cuddly toy mentality towards dogs and cats, which had previously hampered progress. This extended concern - beyond man's 'favourite' animals - initially encompassed rodents and more recently progressed to the cold-blooded fish, amphibians and reptiles - but many people are still hesitant in extending the concept of animal rights to the invertebrates.

The world contains an incredibly rich diversity of animal life - the vast majority of species being invertebrate. Of 1¼ million known species, over 1 million are arthropods (insects, spiders and crabs), of which 800,000 are insects. Molluscs (snails, squid and clams) form the second largest group with 75,000 species. Examining these figures it is disheartening to consider that if the abuse of all fish (20,000 species), amphibians (1,500 species), reptiles (6,000 species), birds (8,600 species) and mammals (8,000 species) were stopped, rights would have been attained for less than 4 per cent of all known species of animals.

For many people the alien appearance of invertebrates does not make them obvious candidates for compassionate concern. However, the fact that they make no direct appeal to our sympathy by their behaviour or appearance should not affect our ethical judgements. As J R Baker (who has experimented on lobsters and crabs while working on the development of a humane killing device) sees it: "The invertebrate animals appear superficially so very different from ourselves that there is a tendency to suppose that they may not possess consciousness and that we may therefore treat them as though they were mere machines. Many of them, however, have quite elaborate nervous and sensory systems, and their actual nerve cells, viewed under a microscope, appear very similar to our own." It is because the vertebrate sensory and nervous systems are only a continuation and further specialisation of those present in invertebrates that these animals are widely used in behavioural and neurological experiments.

Cephalopod molluscs (squid and octopus) and arthropods (insects and crustacea) are the most highly developed and extensively used invertebrates but no figures are available as these animals are excluded from the 1876 Act. Octopus, squid and insects are subjected to a wide variety of the painful neurological and behavioural experiments that are inflicted on mammals - including training to perform tasks using electric shocks as punishment, the direct electrical stimulation of the nerves and brains of conscious animals and the destruction of parts of their brain. For example, at Queen Mary College in London, bees were immobilised in modelling clay, a hole cut in their heads and cobalt chloride stain injected into the brain. One to two hours later, the bees were killed and their brains removed to examine nerve networks. (Journal of Insect Physiology, 1984, Volume 30, p43.) In experiments where octopus have been punished for making a response for which they are normally rewarded, the animals exhibit clear signs of mental and emotional conflict by adopting abnormal postures and rapid colour changes.

However, the greatest use of insects is in a rarely considered aspect of product development - the toxicity testing of pesticides. Before being released on the market, an insecticide's efficiency, mode of action and toxicity will have to be determined using thousands of insects or, in the case of molluscicides, slugs and snails, and will then be used to kill millions of invertebrates in the home, garden and countryside.

It is not only the more sophisticated invertebrates which become victims of the vivisector - as published work shows, amoeba and jellyfish are given electric shocks, flatworms are trained using light, electric shocks and poking with glass rods, and earthworms are trained with electric shock punishment. Vivisectors excuse their lack of concern for these animals by claiming that invertebrates live entirely by automatic responses and lack any feeling and are thus incapable of suffering. However, ideas relegating animal behaviour to this level of purely automatic response are gradually being abandoned and it is now more widely accepted that both learning and instinct can play a part in the development of all behaviour. Through largely pointless and barbaric experiments, it has been shown that squid and octopus are intelligent and capable of insight learning (ie they are able to solve problems without any previous experience). Additionally, these animals can learn the principles behind problems - a fact which rates them as more intelligent than fish.



Like the cephalopod molluscs, the social insects and decapod crustacea (eg lobsters, crabs) also display considerable learning abilities, for example, ants and rats show comparable speeds when learning complex mazes and the sentience of decapod crustaceans is acknowledged by their inclusion in Norway's animal experimentation legislation. Bees use a complex language (dance) to convey information between individuals and according to Volume 3 of "Invertebrate Learning" (Corning, Ryal and Willows, 1972): "There is no justification for regarding the bees' ability as inferior to most vertebrates..." and "...their learning ability is on the same scale as that of rats."

It is true that, because of their short life span, invertebrates are endowed with an extensive repertoire of innate behaviour patterns and associated reflex responses, but even the simplest exhibit some learning powers and, in the higher invertebrates, these capabilities are equal to those of many mammals. In his book "The Question of Animal Awareness" (1976), Professor D R Griffin virtually equates the capacity for learned behaviour with an animal's ability to suffer. Given this assumption, it is clear that invertebrates are capable of suffering and for the higher invertebrates this is likely to be comparable with the suffering of mammals.

Judgements on invertebrate suffering inferred from their learning abilities are supported by the animals' behavioural responses to unpleasant stimuli and some pharmacological evidence. Reports have indicated the existence of opioids (pain killers) in insects. When bee venom is injected into the leg of a spider, it causes the limb to be shed. American research has shown that three of the four ingredients of the venom that cause this also cause a sensation of pain when injected into humans. It is probable that the spider experiences a similar sensation as the sting alone does not cause it to shed a leg and if the venom were allowed to reach the spider's body, then the animal would die. These researchers concluded: "What is remarkable is that there should even be a substantial overlap in the pharmacological spectrum of what induces pain in us and what acts as if it were painful to the spider." (Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the USA, 1983, Volume 80, p3382.)

Leaving aside the widely held prejudices against "creepy-crawlies", it should come as no surprise that invertebrates feel pain and are capable of suffering because pain is of great biological importance, being associated with tissue damage and serving as the conditioning factor that teaches animals to avoid anything that is harmful.

Any open-minded person could have arrived at these conclusions by observing the animals in their natural environment. Indeed, as it is - and always will be - impossible to say with certainty what another animal or human being is feeling, the open-minded can give the animals the benefit of the doubt. Unlike the narrow minded vivisectors who have subjected thousands of innocent invertebrates to painful experiments and, as it cannot be "scientifically" proven that an individual is suffering, continue to regard them as unfeeling machines.

This attitude is to be expected from vivisectors, who for centuries regarded all animals as mere automatons, but their misinformation and the invertebrates' alien appearance must not be allowed to delay the extension of rights this 96% of all animals. On this issue, the animal rights movement must take the lead and ensure that the right to live free from exploitation, persecution and deliberately inflicted suffering is accorded to all animals - with or without a backbone.

FUR TRADE on the run

An amusing British Fur Trade Association (BFTA) circular has fallen into our hands. The document, 'Bulletin no.5 - August 1985' and headed "Confidential material: keep in your possession", gives an interesting insight into the state of play as regards the BFTA.

The bulletin informs us that the BFTA are looking for new members to support the fur promotion programme and the drive against anti-fur groups. It also gives tips on how to deal with anti-fur demonstrators, laying out the law as regards obstruction, handing out leaflets, trespass and injunctions. It also recommends the use of videos and cameras. A section headed "Anti-fur activists" details the case of a Bristol firm, M Michaels (Furriers) Ltd, which took out an injunction against animal rights campaigners. Another whingeing section entitled "Foiling fur fanatics" describes animal rights campaigners as "beards, badges and body odour".

The chairman of the BFTA in his report at their AGM in June told the meeting: "We had some anti-fur propaganda last year which, I must point out to you, had it not been for what I call bad management on the part of the antis, would have been far worse than it was. We now have a PR, Mr Brian Toon, who has much experience in fighting the antis. We also have a Parliamentary representative in the House of Commons, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, who is on the opposition front bench....we must not be lulled into a false sense of security because things may be a bit quiet on the shop front. We must be ready for them when they come at us next. There is a move afoot to get the banning of breeding of animals other than for use as food, especially animals bred for vanity."

Also included in the bulletin are reprints of various articles: "Learn to Burn" from the ALF Supporters' Group newsletter and reports of ALF arson attacks etc, and a copy of the article "Fur Trade on the Defensive" from 'Black Beast' Issue One. Needless to say we will be contacting a solicitor to see if copyright has been infringed.

CIRCUS VIOLENCE

Dudley Animal Rights Group mounted a persistent campaign against circus cruelty when Gandey's Circus visited their town in November. But despite the peaceful nature of their protests, the campaigners themselves experienced the vicious nature of the animal torturers.

Before the circus arrived, the group wrote to all the shops in the area that were advertising the circus - telling them about the cruelty involved in animal circuses and asking them to take down the posters - some of them did.

When the circus actually arrived in Dudley, the local group demonstrated with banners and leaflets at each evening performance and over the weekend. On the first evening the protestors were met by about six circus 'heavies' who began by pushing and shoving people about and then one of them started driving a van into the group. One girl was thrown to the ground and the van driven straight at her! This harassment stopped only when the police had arrived. The police attended for the rest of the week and none of the group were injured during the demonstrations. However, after each demonstration, circus thugs tried to follow people home - with the result that one girl was woken at 2am by them banging on the door - they left after daubing slogans on the windows of her flat.

Complaints to the police about such behaviour elicited the usual 'you're-asking-for-it-by-being-there' response, so the protestors could expect no protection of their rights to demonstrate peacefully.

It later emerged that the heavies had even tried to enrol the help of the local skinheads to "come and help out with some animal rights nutters".

On Sunday afternoon 30 of the animal rights group turned up at the circus - there were no police present. The circus heavies emerged immediately and began kicking and punching people - one was knocked to the floor and continually kicked. The police were called and, for once, arrived in time to witness the vicious attacks on people. One of the injured was taken to hospital with cracked ribs and a bruised face. Inexplicably, only three of the thugs were arrested - at least five others were involved.

The three were charged with causing actual bodily harm and will appear at Dudley Magistrates Court on January 28th.

SPACE FROG

Indonesian scientists are sending a giant Sumatran frog into space on a shuttle to be launched in June. They will carry out experiments on the frog to determine the effects of weightlessness on biological mechanisms.

SUPPORT THE

Central Animal Liberation League



CALL was one-year old on 18th November 1985. During that time, CALL has rescued 2 Guinea pigs, 1 monkey, 32 dogs and 13 cats, taken documents from and filmed in 5 Midland labs and breeding centres, and gained massive publicity, locally and nationally.

T-shirts, badges, videos, photographs, etc. are available. Please send sae for complete list of merchandise.

CALL needs funds to pay for campaigns and for the defence of arrested activists. Please send donations to:

C.A.L.L., P.O. BOX 45, BIRMINGHAM 1.

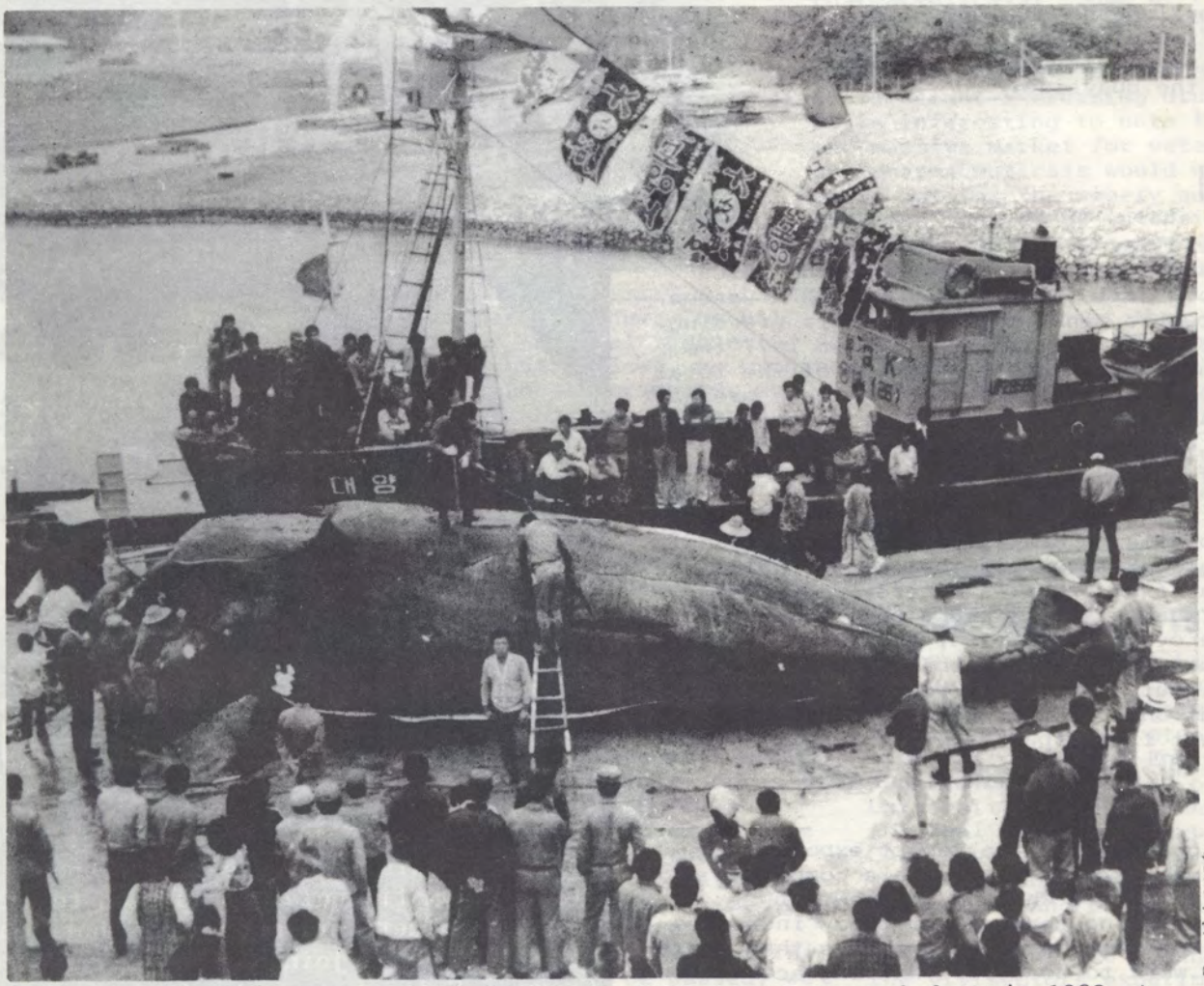
PIRATE WHALING

There is a fair amount of misunderstanding over the whaling issue. Many believe that whales have (or nearly have) been saved worldwide with the help of campaigning pressure groups and negotiations between whaling nations at the International Whaling Commission (IWC). This is definitely not the case and last summer the Environmental Investigation Agency produced an in-depth report entitled "Pirate Whaling 1985" - a history of the subversion of international whaling regulations outlining many cases of illegal catches.

The report contains detailed background information on pirate whaling vessels and their operations on behalf of nations such as Korea, Spain, Iceland, Japan, Russia, Norway, Peru, Brazil and others. The following occurrences are just a few examples of the ways in which whaling nations now try to find legal covers for their operations or just to dodge laws and agreements.

Iceland

"In 1974, a sub-committee of the IWC met in Reykjavik to discuss research proposals as part of the 'International Decade of Cetacean Research'. Mr Kristjan Loftsson, the owner of Hvalur HF (whaling company), was a specially invited guest. The scientists present recommended a detailed programme of scientific research on fin and minke whales exploited by Iceland because of the complete lack of data on these species - without such information population estimates were impossible to construct. The recommended programme included marking a minimum of 200 fin whales on the Icelandic whaling grounds each year for five years, and an extensive sighting programme prior to the opening of the hunting season. They also recommended that 100 minke whales from the population be marked each year for five years. However, no research was



A highly endangered right whale, illegally killed by Korean whalers in 1982 at Ulsan.

undertaken as Loftsson and his supporters in the Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries feared that any data might show that the whales were in decline, leading to a reduction in quotas." And yet, "On May 24 1985, Iceland announced that it would kill 200 whales each year between 1986 and 1989 for scientific research."

USSR

"At the beginning of April in 1985, the Soviet whaling fleet stopped hunting for several weeks for unknown reasons. Unusually, the fleet called in at Montevideo, Uruguay on May 20th 1985 - apparently on its return voyage. The visit raises questions as to whether there may have been catches of protected species in the South Atlantic."

Norway

"In 1982, Norway refused to accept a slight lowering of the minke whale quota, so no catch limits were set. Norway reportedly caught 1590 minkes that year, the quota it had sought. In 1983, the quota was reduced to 635, and in 1984, the quota remained at that figure despite a majority opinion that it should be further lowered. Norway maintains that it effectively monitors the 70 whalers still operating, but the reporting system for regulating the catch depends on an honour system as well as reports of landed catches, collected from over 30 different ports. Avoidance of proper control is easily achieved either by landing the meat with co-operation from a friendly source in one of the purchasing plants, or by selling the whale meat on the quayside."

Brazil

Present day Brazilian whaling is done by the Japanese controlled Companhia de Pesca Norte do Brazil (COPESBRA). COPESBRA seasonally exploits minke whales in their breeding area off north eastern Brazil. In 1977 two researchers established that 65% of the total catch were females, 80% of which were pregnant when killed. The proportion of pregnant females caught means that the quota is increased by an additional kill of over 50% more whales in utero.

Responding to Brazilian and international conservationist concern that minke whales may disappear from Brazil's waters, as did sei/Bryde's whales twenty years before due to Japanese overexploitation, Brazil has repeatedly announced since 1981 that it would give up whaling, but changed its position following agreement on a $400 million agricultural investment from Japan, tied to Brazil's vote at the IWC.

Many chapters in the report expose dates, events, quotas and ships. This combined history of pirate whaling and news of operations being carried out today indicates to everyone wanting to help whales that there is still work to do before whaling activities are cleared up and the whales really are saved.

The report reveals that IWC regulations on protected species have never been fully adhered to by any single whaling operation with regard to catch limits, size regulations, restricted areas, import of illegally produced meat, etc. Even the most endangered species of whale are still being hunted. And while Japan have claimed that they will stop whaling after 1988, their activities over the last few years show that they have no respect for the IWC rulings. Their declaration seems to be designed solely to stop the United States imposing sanctions on Japan - and, for their part, the US have acquiesced and thus led many to believe that the campaign is over, that whales are safe from extinction.

The report concludes: "A renewed effort must be made by conservationists to ensure compliance with the internationally supported cessation of whaling in 1986. Increased scrutiny of all known whaling operations is essential if the past subversion of whaling regulations is not to be repeated at the expense of whales already threatened by extinction."

The report is available at £5·50 including p&p from:

The Environmental Investigation Agency,
23B Highbury Crescent,
LONDON N5

All requests, enquiries and donations to the above address please.

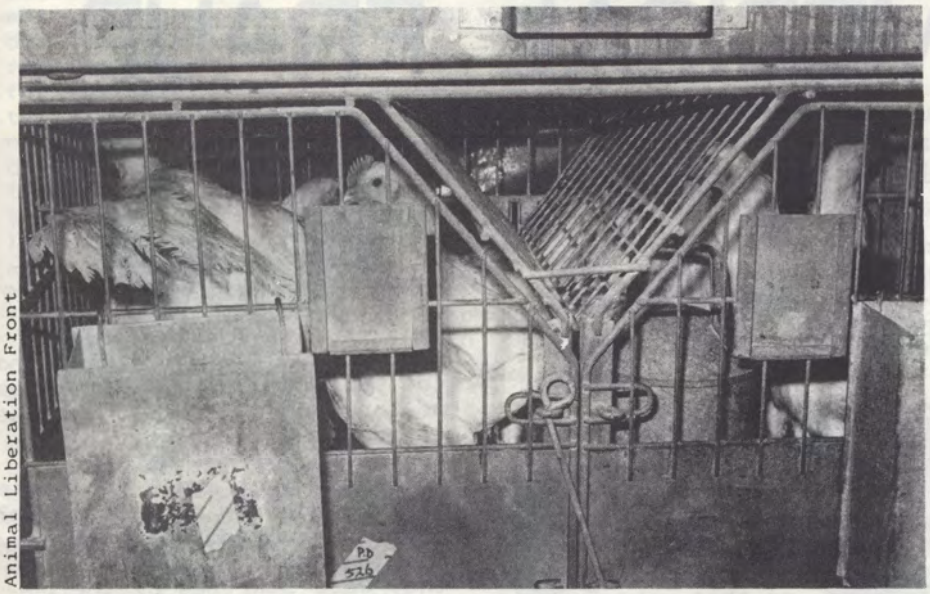
Animal Liberation Front Supporters' Group



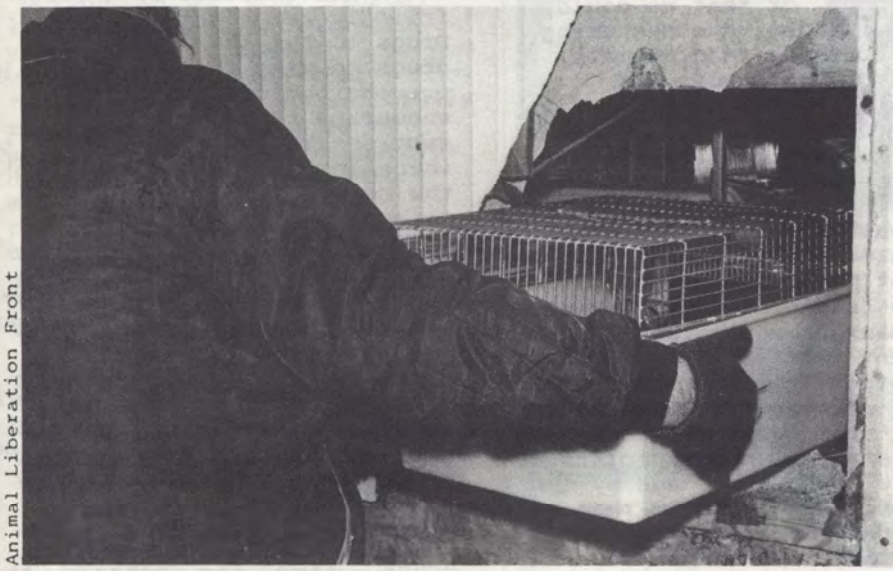
The ALF is committed to direct action to rescue animals from persecution and to cause the maximum financial disruption to animal abusers. There are many ways that you can help, including joining the ALF Supporters' Group. Write for further information to:

ALF, BCM Box 1160, London, W1N 3XX, England.

100 ANIMALS RESCUED



Animal Liberation Front



Animal Liberation Front

Animal Liberation Front raid pharmaceutical firm.

On November 6th 1985, 16 members of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) raided Brocades GB/ Mycofarm, Cut Hedge Farm, Braintree, Essex, rescuing 43 guinea pigs, 8 rabbits, 24 chickens and 25 mice. The ALF told Black Beast that they would have rescued more animals had homes been available.

A heavily alarmed building was entered by knocking a hole in a brick wall. Inside they found 400-500 hens and chicks, kept 12 to a small cage (24" x 18") and about 40 rabbits in small steel cages with no bedding. The main animal house was entered through a hole that the activists made in the wall and the animals were passed out. Offices were also entered and equipment and stationery damaged.

Brocades GB/Mycofarm is a pharmaceutical company involved in the manufacture and testing of vaccines and medicines and is also involved in veterinary pharmaceuticals. Some of the rescued rabbits weighed over 14 pounds and the activists believe that they may have been subjected to weight-increasing drugs. It is interesting to note that the massive market for veterinary pharmaceuticals would not exist but for the misery and sickness induced by intensive farming. In 1982 Brocades GB/ Mycofarm had assets of £768,525.

Government Fraud

On November 14th 1985, the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Bill received its first reading in the House of Lords and will probably reach the statute books by mid-May this year.

The Bill is being presented by the Government as a reform of the 1876 Cruelty to Animals Act that will alleviate much laboratory animal suffering. In effect, this is nothing short of fraudulent. The Bill will not prevent a single experiment that is currently permitted. The Home Office is making much of the fact that more licences will be needed by the vivisectors - project licences and personal licences - and also that breeding establishments will have to be registered. What this means is that life and death for laboratory animals will continue as before, whilst more pieces of paper change hands. The Bill offers no 'radical tightening up of the existing law', no prohibition of any experiments, no hope for laboratory animals.

The Animals (Scientific Procedures) Bill will be glibly quoted by MPs, coming under pressure from their constituents, as being a great step forward in the welfare of laboratory animals. Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, has welcomed the Bill - almost certainly because it takes the heat off the Labour Party from having to do anything for laboratory animals, and for this reason it is unlikely that there will be effective Labour Party opposition to the Bill. The Bill is a political con designed to give the impression that this Government cares about laboratory animals, while at the same time, it in no way infringes the activities of the vivisectors. Should this Bill be passed, we will see an increase in laboratory animal torture, not a decrease.

It is important that you write to your MP. Since party political opposition cannot be guaranteed, individual MPs must be lobbied.

For further information: Mobilisation For Laboratory Animals, 51 Harley St, London, W1N 1DD.

STOLEN PETS

The Central Animal Liberation League (CALL) have presented evidence of Oxford University's involvement in pet stealing for vivisection to the Environmental and Ecology Committee of Oxford University Students' Union. An internal enquiry is expected. CALL have also sent the evidence to Oxford University's Vice Chancellor and David Mellor at the Home Office and have demanded that the licences of the vivisectors experimenting on dogs at Oxford University be revoked until the issue is cleared up.

ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS — MEDICAL FRAUD

Following the Swiss referendum for the total abolition of vivisection, SOUSLIK DAVIES, the G.B. representative of anti-vivisection author Hans Ruesch, says why fighting all out for the abolition of vivisection is as much a human as it is an animal rights issue.

December 1st, 1985 was the most important day in the history of the anti-vivisection movement, for on that day the people of Switzerland went to the polls to vote for or against the total abolition of vivisection. This, you might think, was a momentous occasion enough in itself, but when one learns that it took place in the heart of drugland where all the big poison pushers hang out and one realises that it was based not on totally useless ethical grounds, but on scientific and medical grounds, and when you consider that the drug companies spent $8 million on advertising prior to the initiative, then you realise what an enormous tour de force this really was. When I went to Switzerland in October to represent Great Britain at a large pre-referendum rally held in Basle (delegates converged from all over the world, even Peru), I was told that two thirds of the population of that town alone are employed by the drug companies.

This referendum which took five years to come to fruition was centred around Hans Ruesch's book "Slaughter of the Innocent". Through his work, Ruesch has done more to inform people about the truth of the vivisection fraud-racket than anyone else. The Swiss initiative was a huge step forward for the anti-vivisection movement worldwide because, though it did not win, the very fact that it was brought about at all was a victory. This should prove to anyone that to attempt to tackle vivisection step by step is actually playing into the hands of the vivisectors, since, as Hans Ruesch writes "If it (the vote for abolition) were based on ethics then we would be confronted by the ethics of vivisectors who say it's their duty to protect people's health, and that's the politicians' and legislators' duty as well. At the moment we are squarely back to the old sophism: "It's either a dog or your baby Ma'am". Medical facts prove that not one single baby was ever saved by a dog - except in the cases where the child was drowning and the dog carried him/her to safety. Supposing that surgeons admitted exercises on dogs couldn't teach them the trade, and that this were officially recognised by official medicine and such exercises outlawed, then all the money, resources and animals now sacrificed in futile surgical experiments on animals would just shift to some other field - vaccination, for example. If it were finally admitted that vaccinations cause more harm than good, or that we could develop safer vaccines using other methods than animals, then all the funds (and animals) would again be shifted to some other branch: diabetes (which is on the increase despite Banting and Best), cancer (on the increase in spite of 200 years of animal experiments), the latest medical gimmick eg organ transplantation or one of the various new maladies presently in public attention eg AIDS."

No, we must finally realise that 'step by step reform is advocated only by hypocrits, by the misinformed and by infiltrators who know that this method is one of the most effective ways of keeping vivisection going. We must realise that vivisection is far and away the greatest evil in the world today because it harms everyone, human beings as well as animals, since human beings are poisoned by their drug pushing GPs and mutilated by their surgeons as a direct result of vivisection, preventative and alternative methods of treatment are ignored because there is no money in them, and before anyone says, "But I don't care about human beings", I would reply: "Then it's about time you started caring, mate, since compassion cannot be relegated to watertight compartments, some for one species and none for another."

So called 'alternative' means of testing drugs are another diversionary tactic; what this really means is: "Let's pay lip service to finding alternative methods of testing while we go on vivisecting as before". The fact is that we do not need any more drugs, and we actually need only a tiny fraction of the ones we already have. Testing of any sort is therefore unnecessary but there is money in it, jobs for the boys and vast profits for the drug companies. And while we are on the subject of drugs, it makes me laugh when I read about the drive the Government is launching against heroin pushers - what about the masses of drug addicts all around us? Medical drug addicts high, or low, on drugs doled out as if they were Smarties by their friendly neighbourhood GP. Drugs to put them to sleep, drugs to wake them up, drugs to prevent babies, drugs to encourage them, drugs to suppress the appetite, drugs to increase it, drugs to 'dry up' the common cold so that it poisons you, drugs for the natural grief of bereavement, drugs for the least headache, not to mention drugs for drug-induced cancers, diabetes, heart disease, etc, etc ad nauseam. If we had an honest government, they would direct their concern towards the effects of medical drugs on people who are driving, for example, instead of concentrating on drinking and driving, since nearly all of the population are on medical drugs - like, for instance, the enormously prescribed Valium which is highly addictive. How many accidents are caused on the roads as a result of medical drugs ? No-one knows because the question has never been raised. Big Sister is too busy concentrating on diversionary drinking and driving tactics and heroin addiction. Apart from this mass addiction, the ultimate price is being paid for medical drug taking - death. Hans Ruesch says: "And the cause of death cannot always be ascribed with certainty to a single factor. Drugs don't necessarily cause sudden death. Usually they upset the organism's balance and gradually harm vital organs, eventually leading to a precocious death, often in conjunction with other causes." (from "Slaughter of the Innocent" page 284).

It is absolutely vital to be properly informed in the anti-vivisection business. This was brought home to me the other day when I was leafletting in Central London and got into

conversation with a young man who came up for a leaflet. In the course of the conversation I referred to "Slaughter of the Innocent" as the bible of the anti-vivisection movement. "I don't need any bible" he replied. "But what do you say, for instance, if a vivisector tells you that vivisection is necessary for, for example, cancer research?", I enquired. "Oh well, I just argue!" said the idiot. Well, with friends like that, one is tempted to ask, do the animals need enemies? Ruesch's books "Slaughter of the Innocent" and "Naked Empress" are packed with f[illegible]igures, they are works of reference and to read them is the best way to arm oneself with the right answers based on scientific and medical evidence against all comers. Alas, this cannot be said of other anti-vivisection books which are mainly pussy-footing "philosophical" and "ethical" let's-go-on-for-another-100-years works.....former vivisector Richard Ryder's book "Victims of Science" especially springs to mind - in it he actually states: "It cannot be denied that out of all the millions of experiments performed on animals, some useful knowledge has been gained."!! Which ones? A case of vested interest if ever there was one.

And an interesting note to end on - heart transplants. The husband of a friend, a [illegible]ndly man who loves his pet cats and dogs and would do anything for them, said to me recently that though he was against vivisection, surely transplants were a good thing ? Well, actually no, old son, as Hans Ruesch explains, "After it had taken decades of experimenting and nobody knows how many calves and other animals to develop that first artificial heart, it took less than 48 hours to discover that it wouldn't work for long in a human being and therefore could never - repeat, never, bring a solution to heart problems for reasons that anyone possessing elementary notions of biology could easily have foretold. According to published reports, the first mechanical heart patients not only suffered such pains that they implored to be allowed to die (a favour that was denied them by their heroic surgeons hardened to animal sufferings) but, furthermore, they experienced severe "mental confusion". Why? Because a natural heart reacts to emotions and other influences from the nervous system. Fear or anger, for example, will immediately accelerate the heartbeat, rest or sleep will gradually slow it down. A natural heart is also sensitive to the subtle interaction of physical and chemical processes (metabolism) constantly taking place in every living organism. But a mechanical heart keeps pumping away at a constant rhythm, regardless of the impulses coming from the nervous system, and that hard biological fact is not to be changed by future, more "sophisticated" man-made hearts."

It would also be interesting to know what happens to the unfortunate little infants who are subjected to any sort of transplant torture as a mechanical organ cannot grow as they do - but obviously such a trifle is not a matter for concern to those who continue performing these atrocities, blinded by their blood lust for power.

"Slaughter of the Innocent" - £3.50 (inc. P & P) and "Naked Empress" - £7.50 (inc. P & P) both by Hans Ruesch, are available from "CIVIS", PO Box 338, London, E8 2AL.



2.





3.



4.

MYSTERY CASE No. 13

One more monument to human greed, idiocy and sadism.

(1) The *Comparative Pathology Bulletin* (May 1982) ran this photo as "Mystery Case No. 13" and asked readers to guess what brought the monkey, who was so deformed as to be unidentifiable, to such a sorry state. One clue was given: "environmental pollutant." Readers were invited to turn to page 5 for the answer.

It turned out that the monkey had been exposed to Dioxin by James Allen and fellow researchers at the Wisconsin Primate Center, Madison, Wisconsin, USA. Dioxin was an ingredient of Agent Orange, the notorious pollutant used by the U.S. Air Force in the chemical defoliation programs in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. Its "side effects" entailed widespread massacres of men and beasts that died hideous deaths, spitting out tatters of their lungs. Survivors suffered gruesome burns, like the boy Bao (1966) here shown "before and after" in photos 2 & 3. Photo 4 shows a child damaged by Dioxin vapors that leaked out of the Givaudan (Hoffmann-La Roche) plant at Seveso, Northern Italy, in the '70s.

Despite all these well-known effects, the pseudo-scientists at the Wisconsin Primate Center decided to duplicate them many years later on, mainly on rhesus monkeys – at the expense of the taxpayers and primarily for their own amusement and benefit. James Allen managed to receive over $300,000 annually for these experiments, but payments to him were suspended in 1979 after it was revealed that he was using Federal grant funds to take his girl-friends on skiing trips to Utah and Colorado, while the monkeys rotted away in Wisconsin.

From "Vivisection is Scientific Fraud" by Hans Ruesch.

IN THE COURTS

In December 1985 seven people were found guilty in Winchester of conspiracy to burgle Wickham laboratories, Cottage Patch Kennels and APT Consultancy - premises which the South East Animal Liberation League (SEALL) believe are involved in the theft and supply of pet dogs for vivisection. The trial of the original 19 accused of the break-in attracted a good deal of publicity. The fact that at Wickham laboratories, a contract testing house, Draize eye irritancy tests using rabbits are carried out for British Petroleum was publicised as was the evidence that led the SEALL to believe that the three places are involved in pet stealing. Had the SEALL obtained the evidence that they set out for on the raid, then we might have seen Wickham laboratories, APT Consultancy and Cottage Patch Kennels in the dock instead of 19 animal rights campaigners. Eleven of the 19 were acquitted, another had the charges against him dropped, and the remaining seven were found guilty. All seven are now in prison.

By supporting defence funds you can help animal rights activists who risk imprisonment and fines to help animals - be it by damaging equipment used to torture animals, rescuing animals or merely by exposing the establishments that torture animals for gain. Travelling to court everyday can mean expenses for campaigners - the Wickham trial lasted over eight weeks and people who do not get legal aid will have to pay for legal advice. At the end of this they may be fined or imprisoned. Funds are often needed to buy radios, etc for animal rights prisoners. It is important that they are not forgotten as soon as their trial is over. For this reason we print their addresses - please write to them. Judges are currently dishing out stiff sentences to animal rights activists in an attempt to demoralise and crush their spirits - it's up to you to ensure that this does not happen.

DEFENCE FUNDS

Eastern Animal Liberation League: 41 people face charges of conspiracy to cause criminal damage and to commit burglary after a raid on the Unilever laboratories. Send donations to: EALL, PO Box U, Grapevine Bookshop, 25 Gwydir Street, Cambridge.

Central Animal Liberation League: One person has been charged with burglary following the rescue of over 30 dogs from an Oxford University vivisection holding unit. Send donations to: CALL, PO Box 45, Birmingham 1.

6 campaigners from the Exeter area charged with criminal damage to butchers' shops, lorries etc. (over £20,000 damage). 5 others are charged with damage to the roof of Exeter University Psychology laboratory during an anti-vivisection protest. Donations to: Devon Animal Rights, PO Box 79, Exeter, Devon (mark defence fund).

Two people are awaiting trial on various charges in connection with the digging up of the Duke of Beaufort. Donations to: Bristol Defence Fund, c/o BCM 1160, London, WC1N 3XX.

Animal Liberation Front:
4 activists due to appear before Gloucester magistrates on charges of damaging butcher butchers' shops, a fur shop, Boots and Gloucester cattle market. Donations to Cheltenham Animal Rights defence fund.
An animal liberation campaigner charged with conspiracy to cause damage to butchers' shops.
Animal rights activist from Tonbridge, Kent charged with theft in connection with the rescue of a dog being kept in a cage.
Several activists from Leicester face charges in connection with the damaging of butchers' shops and meat lorries.
The ALF northern press officer is charged with breaking the windows of a Merseyside travel agents selling tickets for an animal circus. He is also on bail on a charge that he threatened that criminal damage would be caused at Rackhams store in Sheffield because of the fur department there. 13 face charges of conspiracy to cause criminal damage during a night of action in the Huddersfield area.
2 campaigners charged in connection with actions in the Preston area.
Donations for all of the above to: ALF SG, BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX.

2 people on bail in connection with criminal damage to Brian Furs and a butcher's shop in Leamington. Donation to: Box 7, The Other Branch, Gloucester Place, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.

PRISONERS

6 activists were sent to prison following the South East Animal Liberation League (SEALL) raid on Wickham laboratories, they are:
Sue Baker (D22862)
Sally Miller (D22865)
at HM Prison, East Sutton Park, Sutton Valence, nr. Maidstone, Kent.
Gordon Briant (J92309)
Mike Nunn (J92297)
John Quirke (J92284)
Kevin Williams (J92279)
HM Prison, Romsey Road, Winchester, Hants, SO22 5DF.

GOAT MEAT

Goats and goat carcasses were displayed for the first time ever at the Royal Smithfield Show in December. The organisers said, "We see no reason why it should not become a popular meat, in line with current healthy eating trends. Rising sales of goat milk have meant that there are more animals on the market for slaughter."

HUNGER STRIKE

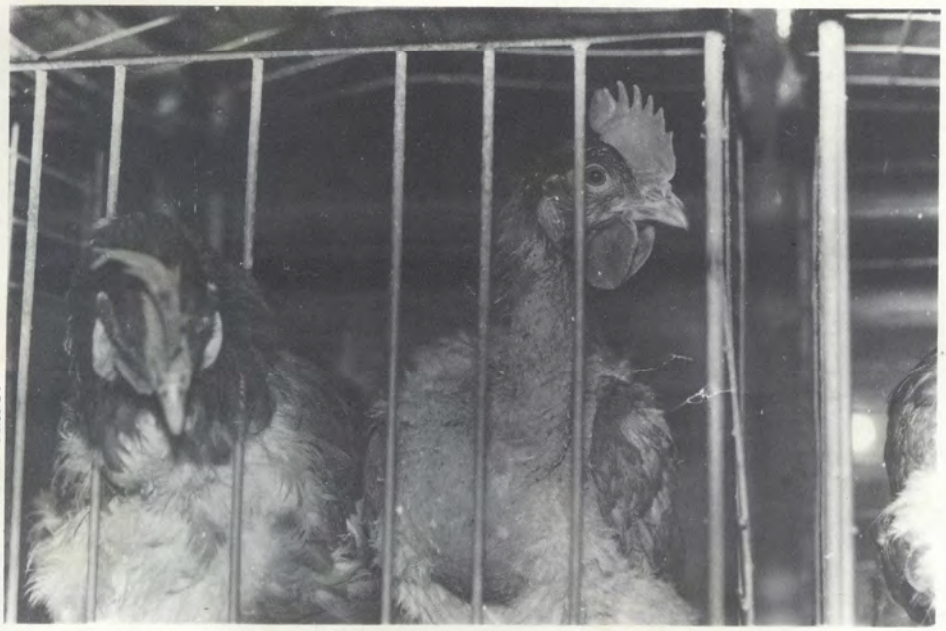
Helen Delmont of the Campaign Against Farm Animal Abuse (CAFAA) went on hunger strike for a full 14 days over Christmas in protest against the killing of foxes at Cocksparrow Farm. At the farm in Warwickshire, 1300 arctic blue foxes are reared in appalling conditions for their fur. The hunger strike ended when the owner of the farm, Amrik Gill, said that he would consider closing the farm down if he were to receive compensation.

RELIEF FUND

A disaster relief fund has been set up by the World Society for the Protection of Animals to organise relief for animal victims of the volcanic eruption in Colombia. WSPA has been co-ordinating relief operations in droughts, floods and earthquakes (including the recent Mexican earthquake) for over 20 years and needs funds to buy food, veterinary supplies and rescue equipment. WSPA Disaster Relief Fund, c/o WSPA, 106 Jermyn St, London SW1Y 6EE.

In Queensland, Australia live chickens are used to blood greyhounds. Live chickens are tied to a lure, which the greyhounds chase before eventually catching and savaging the chicken.

A.L.F. CLOSE DOWN BATTERY UNIT.



ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT.



ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT.

In October members of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) raided a battery unit owned by Warriner School in Bloxham, Oxfordshire, and rescued the entire stock of 98 battery chickens held there. The battery unit was part of a 'rural studies unit' run by the school and first year students were forced to work there - no matter what their feelings about this type of animal husbandry. Disgusted pupils informed the ALF who, on the evening of October 24th, 1985, entered the battery unit to find 98 balding chickens crammed two or three to a tiny, sloped floor cage. Every single battery chicken was rescued and then ALF activists set to work dismantling the cages. The slogan "cluck cluck - bye bye" was sprayed on the door through which the chickens made their exit. The ALF informed the school that should the chickens be replaced, they would return. Following the raid, we have heard that the farm unit manager actually told some pupils that the ALF had taken along their own chickens and crammed them into the cages before taking photographs to make conditions appear worse! This ridiculous suggestion was not taken seriously and he soon gave up on this particular lie.

Banbury Animal Rights Group followed up the action with a demonstration outside the school. When the school governors met to discuss the fate of the battery unit in late November they decided, by 13 votes to 2, not to restock the unit. "The threat to break in again should be taken seriously," said the governors. "Although 95% of eggs sold in this country are produced in batteries, there is a strong tide of public opinion running against such units and it is only proper to acknowledge this."

It is hoped that any other schools with such units will follow this example and begin to teach compassion rather than cruelty.

In the late summer of 1985 the ALF rescued over 200 chickens from cruel conditions in Britain. On 12th October in Mainz, West Germany, 208 rats and 12 rabbits were rescued from an animal holding unit. On 7th August in Brisbane, Australia, 200 mice and 4 rabbits were rescued from vivisection.

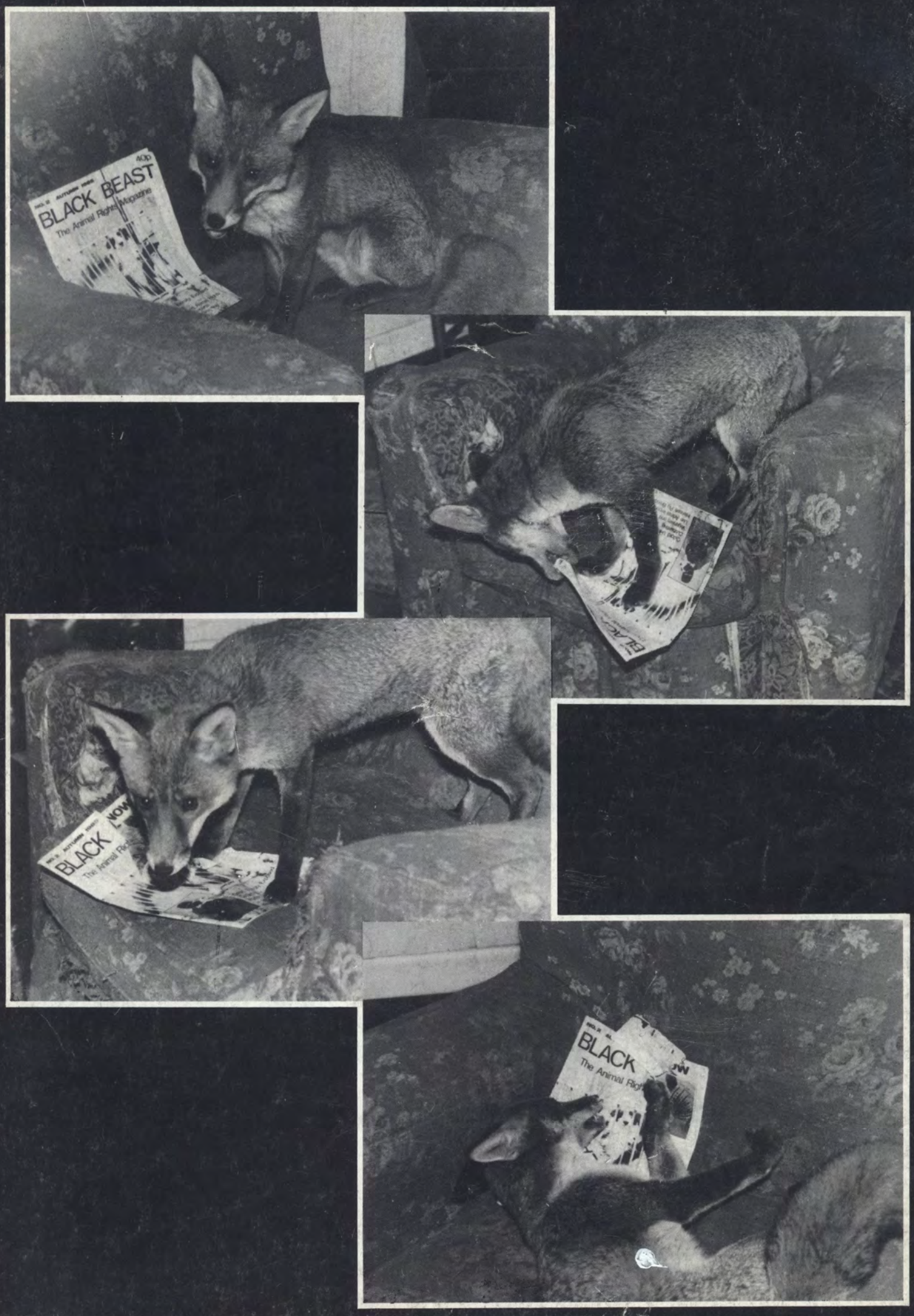
NEW POLICE SQUAD

At the same time as the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Bill received its second reading in the House of Lords, it was announced that a new police squad is going into action. The squad is a special Metropolitan Police unit to co-ordinate the police campaign against activists nationally.

Lord Melchett said that he opposed violence against humans and animals, but some of the non-violent, but nevertheless criminal, activity against institutions using animals in experiments, had revealed gross abuses. If such activity was to be stopped, the law would have to lift the secrecy surrounding such experiments (Times 29/11/85).

Readers should note that Clause 23 of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Bill "prohibits the unauthorised disclosure of confidential information obtained by a person during the exercise of his functions under the Bill and provides the penalty for the offence on conviction, on indictment and on summary conviction".

Secrecy is on the increase.


40p
BLACK BEAST
The Animal Rights Magazine