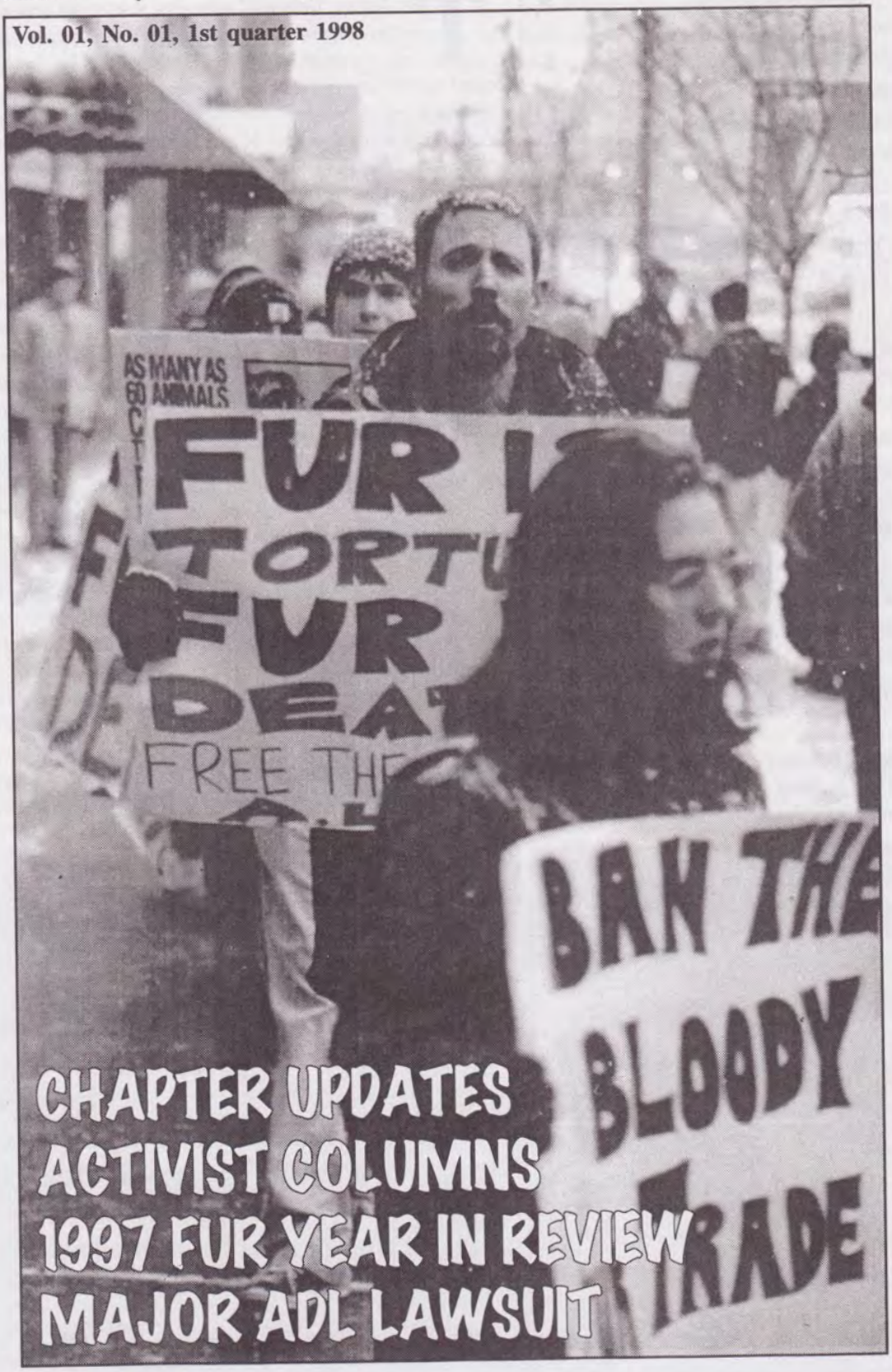
counter friction

The newsletter of the Animal Defense League and the Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade

Vol. 01, No. 01, 1st quarter 1998



CHAPTER UPDATES
ACTIVIST COLUMNS
1997 FUR YEAR IN REVIEW
MAJOR ADL LAWSUIT

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Contact any local ADL or CAFT to subscribe to *Counter Friction*.

Mission Statement of the Animal Defense League

The Animal Defense League is a strictly grassroots-oriented animal liberation organization, dedicated to exposing animal abuse in all of its forms. We believe in liberation as opposed to the awarding of rights, for a caged mink is concerned with nothing short of freedom -- of being liberated from the farm.

With this in mind, a goal of the ADL is to compel others to evaluate the mistreatment of animals, just as we have, and hopefully be persuaded to make changes in their lives by eliminating products that have been developed by means of animal exploitation.

If we are to progress as political activists, we cannot depend on the current system of checks and balances, for it does not even acknowledge the animals, much less encourage fundamental ethics.

The ADL strives to a new standard by working in our different communities and implementing conventional and non-traditional tactics. We believe in vocal demonstration and civil disobedience actions, as well as literature distribution. We encourage networking between groups and communication among activists.

Though the ADL is not involved in clandestine, illegal activities, we support underground direct action groups, such as the Animal Liberation Front, and often act as media spokespeople, justifying acts of economic sabotage against animal abuse industries.

The ADL believes in the "no compromise" ethic, meaning that when we are arrested at demonstrations, we do not, as a general rule, accept bail. We do not pay fines, court costs or related fees, as this would be rewarding the judicial system for arresting (and most often intimidating and harassing) activists.

Neither do we accept probation, as this is the court's way to silence political activity. Instead we frequently use the jury trial to our advantage, often encouraging the courts to dismiss the case.

Lastly, the ADL is, and will always be, 100 percent non-profit. We accept donations to benefit the organization, but we do not accept payment for our volunteer work; that money could be better spent furthering the cause of animal liberation.

"If the injustice is part of the necessary friction of the machine of government, let it go, let it go; perchance it will wear out. If the injustice has a spring, or a pulley, or a rope, or a crank, exclusively for itself, then perhaps you may consider whether the remedy will not be worse than the evil; but if it is of such a nature that it requires you to be the agent of injustice to another, then, I say, break the law. Let your life be a counter friction to stop the machine. What I have to do is to see, at any rate, that I do not lend myself to the wrong which I condemn."

--Henry David Thoreau,
On the Duty of Civil Disobedience

ADL files multi-million suit against Syracuse police

Animal Defense League members filed a civil rights action in federal court March 31, charging the Syracuse police department with multiple violations of their constitutionally protected rights.

There are 21 plaintiffs from ADLs all over the country, including from Indiana and California.

The suit covers actions between November 1995 and January 1997, when the Syracuse City police were out of control and violated the rights of activists on a regular basis.

Police deliberately and systematically interfered with the activists' ability to protest animal abuse by harassing them, subjecting them to unreasonable search and seizure, falsely arresting them and denying them their rights to free speech and due process.

Activists were followed, pushed around and jailed.

Police even broke one activist's wrist.

"This is our way of saying that we will not let the Syracuse police trample the rights of activists in our area," said Sean White, Syracuse activist.



Lawyer Richard Marris, left, speaks with a Syracuse City police officer outside Georgio's Furs. Marris filed a multi-million dollar suit against the Syracuse police department on behalf of ADL activists.

"There are animals being exploited in our society and we cannot waste any more time sitting in jail on trumped-up charges."

The suit, filed by Richard Marris of Marris and Bartholomae in Syracuse, will ask for damages of $1 million for the ADL, $500,000 for each activist wrongfully arrested and $100,000 for each activist subjected to police misconduct.

36 arrested at SeaWorld demo

Police arrested 36 of 48 activists at a SeaWorld demo April 4 in Orlando, Fla., during the last day of an animal rights conference.

Many of those arrested were protesting for the first time and were separated from each other in jail.

Thirty posted bail.

The six remaining activists, including Jeff Watkins of Maryland ADL and Joel Capolongo of Atlanta ADL/CAFT, were released on their own recognizance April 6 and paid nothing.

Two television stations were in the courtroom and the cameras were allowed to videotape the arraignment.

The prosecutor tried to contact SeaWorld, but representatives would not comment on the incident.

At the protest, the police warned everyone to leave, but the protesters refused, saying they had the right to be there.

> "Many of those arrested were protesting for the first time and were separated from each other in jail. Thirty posted bail. The six remaining activists ... were released on their own recognizance April 6 and paid nothing."

The police relented, and after two hours of demonstrating, everyone headed back to their cars.

After the media left, a single "photographer" approached the activists and asked if everyone would stand in front of the SeaWorld sign for a few more pictures. Some people went to their cars, but 36 agreed.

The police pulled up as everyone was waiting to be photographed and arrested the whole crowd.

Watkins and Capolongo began a hunger strike in jail and received media attention.

Fur industry PR scam exposed; sales decrease in spite of hype

By J.P. Goodwin

In fall and winter 1997, fur industry public relations experts managed to generate more than 700 media stories proclaiming the return of fur and its booming sales.

This was all a part of carefully designed plan to convince the public it was once again acceptable to wear fur. Though actual fur sales figures did not indicate there was more consumer interest in furs, reporters acted as if the word of the fur industry was absolutely true.

So what really happened? Despite all the hype, which surely should have increased fur sales, the sale of fur actually declined.

In the March 2 issue of fur industry trade journal *Sandy Parker Reports*, it was estimated that 1997 fur sales dropped by at least 10 percent.

So why the hype? The Fur Information Council of America (FICA) claimed fur sales increased by 5 percent in 1996. What they did not mention to the media is the average fur coat was selling for about 14 percent more that same year.

A worldwide decline in mink production pushed supply so low that the actual retail prices increased. Yet with coats selling for 14 percent more than the previous year, the retailers could only generate a 5 percent increase in dollar volume.

Obviously the number of actual coats sold declined, but the industry still touted its "sales increase" and "return to the fashion limelight."

The media fell for this hook, line and sinker. *The New York Times* started a media frenzy when its reporters took the scam and ran with it. Reporters just did not want to listen to the facts, even when anti-fur groups faxed them industry documents that contradicted the fur industry's press releases.

Even with all the pro-fur media coverage, sales did not increase. In fact, *Sandy Parker Reports* called the winter of 1997-98 "one of the most disappointing retail fur seasons in memory."



For the first 11 months of 1997 (December figures were not available at press time), fur imports were down by nearly 10 percent. Imports account for roughly 60 percent of U.S. retail fur sales, so this is a representative way to gauge the fur market.

Furriers, of course, are not happy about the decline. Many seem to be angry with the fur trade associations for making such boastful claims and getting hopes up. *Fur World* referred to the "heavy does of rhetoric served up by trade associations about the positive results due to come" in an angry article in the Feb. 23 edition.

One thing the fur industry refuses to do is credit animal rights activists with declining sales.

Yet, why else would people stop buying fur? As *Fur World* magazine pointed out in that same Feb. 23 edition, there was record high employment, a 24-year low in unemployment and a skyrocketing stock market.

Perhaps the answer lies in the success of anti-fur groups in convincing a majority of women that it is wrong to kill animals for frivolous luxury products. In fact, North America and Western Europe are not the major fur markets anymore. Fur farmers are being forced to dump their skins in developing nations, which are just now seeing the birth of anti-fur activism.

Perhaps the most telling sign of instability in the fur industry was the recent bankruptcy of Andriana Furs. Andriana had reportedly sold $22 million worth of furs in 1996, but that figure dropped to $10 million in 1997.

Andriana is a major fur retailer who had three stores in Chicago and did caravan sales in hotels and stadiums across the country.

Now they are struggling to survive and have already closed two of their three stores. It is doubtful they will be able to get the consignment merchandise to continue their caravan sales.

With Andriana's sales having reportedly dropped by more than 50 percent, one must ask how anyone can claim anything else than the fact that the fur industry is dying.

Ekco manufactures cruel traps, pet food

The Ekco Group Inc., maker of Ekco Housewares and other assorted products, has been exposed as the owners of the Woodstream Corp., the world's largest manufacturer of both leghold and body gripping traps.

The Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade has begun a campaign to force Ekco out of the trap-making business.

The campaign started on an ironic note when Ekco bought out the Denver-based Aspen Pet products.

"It is horribly ironic that a company which now manufactures toys and treats for companion animals also makes traps which capture, maim and even kill those very same companion animals," said CAFT director J.P. Goodwin.

Danielle Dore, a New Hampshire CAFT member, said, "It is bad enough that this company produces steel traps which crush the paws of millions of raccoons, foxes and beavers each year, but then to position themselves to take money from people who have and care for animals is repugnant."

Let Ecko know you have joined the campaign by writing or calling

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On March 1, CAFT activists canvassed Nashua, N.H., Ekco's home town, with thousands of flyers calling for an Ekco boycott.

Yosemite National Park has reportedly already pulled Ekco products from store shelves in response to the campaign.

To join the boycott, refuse to buy Ekco Housewares, kitchenware and bakeware; Bakers Secret; Wright-Bernet cleaning products; Havahart cage traps; Victor pest control products and VIA kitchenware; all owned by Ekco.



Coordinate campaigns for impact

By J.P. Goodwin

Long-time supporters of the Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade will notice we have always organized actions with certain campaigns in mind. We've organized hundreds of actions as part of campaigns to stop fur sales at department stores. We even did a campaign to stop federal mink subsidies.

Outside of CAFT I've organized campaigns against vivisectors, etc. It is important to focus energy for maximum impact.

Many groups will just do a random protest at Burger King or Wendy's. The point is to raise awareness about vegetarianism, and to a point it does just that. It would be more effective, however, if the protests were part of a coordinated campaign.

Wouldn't we have more impact if we increased our activities, but carried them all out with a specific goal in mind, such as to shut down a specific fur salon, deer hunt or research lab?

I support any animal rights activism that helps further the cause. But we need to choose targets around campaigns that will lead us to animal liberation in the shortest amount of time possible.

A big civil disobedience action at McDonald's will generate some media, but a major civil disobedience campaign against Federated Department Stores has led to the closure of many fur salons in their various stores.

Some people will use this as an excuse to do less. They will point out that a random protest at McDonald's may not have a lot of impact and instead of replacing the McDonald's demo with a Macy's demo, will opt to do nothing.

Please do not choose this path. We must carry out action and we must do it regularly and vigorously.

But let's make our actions count for maximum impact. The animals don't have any time to spare.

Politicize the grassroots

By Joel Capolongo

The grassroots animal liberation movement has completely overlooked a vital aspect of every successful social movement – politics.

We, in the United States, live in a federal republic that is supposed to be democratically governed. A democracy is supposed to be run by the people it serves – you and me.

There are many factors which go into our political system that we do not see or have control over, but this does not mean we have no influence in what laws we are told to obey.

Rationalizing away non-involvement in our government is exactly what those in power would like us to do. Just simply being involved and voting is no cure to any of society's diseases, either.

What the animal rights movement needs is a strategy.

The strategy of politicizing the grassroots is based on ownership – owning up to and accepting blame for the laws and the system that keeps animals oppressed and allows the persecution to continue.

After all, it is our government that views animals as a commodity without feelings or deserving of rights.

It's our taxes that finance the government's abuse of animals.

It's our choice to go to work every day to pay the bills that prevent us from taking serious and determined action against the animal abusers.

No matter how many demonstrations we attend to change the system, when we leave the protest and continue on with our lives, we become part of the problems we were just trying to change.

Up until this point, the grassroots animal rights movement has always shifted the blame onto the animal abusers or society itself. We blame everyone else to protect ourselves from the hard reality that animal abuse exists because we allow it to.

By this process, we "own" the problem of animal exploitation and are in position to correct the problem because it is ours.

Of course, correcting the problem is not an overnight process. Any socially progressive movement takes years or even centuries of groundwork before the goals were achieved.

This does not mean we should rationalize away non-involvement, but just the opposite.

It means we need to work even harder now so our goal of animal liberation will be achieved sooner.

A group of young adults protesting an establishment that abuses animals does not necessarily amount to much. Protesting and demonstrating alone will never end animal exploitation. We have greatly underestimated the power of the political campaign; it is possible to achieve gains for animals through legislation.

"We blame everyone else to protect ourselves from the hard reality that animal abuse exists because we allow it to."

We need more people to be a political force and rally for political objectives. That is something our movement does not have, and we are the reason.

From what I've experienced, most of my peers' idea of doing public outreach is setting up a table of information at a hardcore music show. Indeed, we have reached some people this way, and we should continue to recruit and educate people from this scene, but we have not reached the millions who do not go to hardcore shows.

We need to take our sincere message of compassion and respect for all life to the average person so animal liberation will become an issue with the public.

One of the best parts of civil disobedience actions and Animal Liberation Front actions is these actions reach the public and serve as a notice of the animal rights movement.

Opponents of the ALF will say the discussions promoted by the Front's actions are always negative amongst the public and the media, but that is not the point. People are terrible at remembering details about news stories. Very often the only thing they do remember is the topic of the story, which in our case is animal rights.

In attempting a political campaign and lobbying for legislation that protects animals, there is much to gain in trying to achieve a definite goal – animal liberation.

The grassroots and entire movement sometimes conducts protests and demonstrations just to do them. Protests are planned out of habit, without any definite goal that extends beyond that one demonstration.

When protests become part of a structured campaign, they become more effective. The media will also be more likely to cover events as they are presented with a new angle on the old, boring sign-holding demonstration story. Demonstrations become more newsworthy as they are connected to a political agenda that has the potential to affect the laws that govern the public.

These types of campaigns also give much-needed credibility to grassroots activists. News stories often portray the younger, hardcore activists as social misfits with nothing better to do with their time than anger the public.

But once again, we are the ones to blame. When we dress like we are ready for a music concert and display obnoxious behavior at demos, what else is the public supposed to think?

However, if we appear dignified, and we *are* dignified, respectfully dressed and mannered, the focus turns away from our looks and onto our important message, which is critical if we hope to ever change society. In the process of campaigning and lobbying for goals, a whole new group of people will hear a message they may never have considered before.

The grassroots movement needs to broaden its range in tactics and become smarter about using those tactics in the most effective way possible. We have the intelligence, energy and the power to achieve substantial gains for the animals. The strategy that has the potential to bring our movement to a whole new level is taking animal liberation into the political arena.

Group works to ban trapping

By Joel Capolongo

The Atlanta Animal Defense League/Coalition to Abol ish the Fur Trade has two major campaigns planned for 1998 – most importantly, the passage of legislation to ban fur trapping in Georgia.

The goal of the chapter is to make Georgia the third state in the country, behind Massachusetts and Colorado, to impose a total ban on all fur trapping. ADL/CAFT is proposing state legislation that would make it illegal to catch wild animals in any trapping device such as the leghold trap, comprised of two sets of steel jaws; the conibear, a body gripping device designed to cripple and suffocate the animal; and the snare, consisting of a steel wire that acts as a noose.





Georgia is a minor trapping state; 500 trappers sought licenses in 1996. ADL/CAFT is seeking the support of local humane societies, mainstream animal rights groups, environmental groups and veterinary associations. With these groups endorsing the proposed bill, legislators in the Georgia House of Representatives may be more likely to sponsor the bill if they think a large percentage of the population is behind such measures.

The chapter has not yet found a sponsor in the House to introduce the bill to the Georgia Game, Fish and Parks Committee, which examines all bills relating to hunting, fishing, trapping, license fees and state parks. Only after it passes through this committee may it be introduced to the House floor for more hearings and a vote.

The ADL/CAFT is forming a coalition of groups in Georgia, the Campaign for the Protection of American Wildlife, to spearhead the campaign in 1998. However, the Georgia legislative session is only 40 days long and much of that time has already passed. If the group cannot get the bill introduced before the session ends, the members will try to convince county legislators to ban trapping in individual counties in Georgia.

ADL/CAFT will continue to focus heavily on educating the public about the horrors of trapping and the fur industry.

The chapter also plans extensive public outreach projects, such as setting up tables in areas where the group members think they can enroll new members, like health food stores, pet supply stores, college campuses, coffee houses, etc. ADL/CAFT is also seeking to host educational forums about trapping and fur in local libraries and college campuses.

Since Atlanta is the biggest fur market in the Southeastern United States, with seven department stores that sell fur and seven independent fur salons, the second major focus of the ADL/CAFT Atlanta in 1998 will be the campaign against the Rich's/Lazarus/Goldsmith's company. RLG operates almost 80 stores in nine states in the Eastern United States, and many of those stores feature fur salons.

Federated, a publicly owned parent company based in Cinncinati, Ohio, owns RLG and other stores with fur salons like Macy's East and Bloomingdale's.

Since the RLG headquarters is in Atlanta, the Atlanta ADL/CAFT is leading the campaign against the company. Aggressive demonstrations and leafletting in front of stores are planned for the three Rich's locations in Atlanta.

ADL/CAFT will also target the corporate headquarters building for demonstrations throughout the year. The chapter is attempting to establish contact with grassroots groups in the cities that have either a Rich's, Lazarus or Goldsmith's store to coordinate days of action.

ADL/CAFT has also made RLG-specific flyers to be used in those locations and will send original copies to any grassroots groups in their campaigns against RLG.

Boston ADL builds stability

Activists increase communication for more effective organization

By Bryan Hall

Boston is an excellent example of a city where the grassroots animal liberation movement has gone through (and continues to go through) some growing pains and transitions.

Over the years, the Boston chapter of the Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade has had many dedicated leaders.

However, many have either left the movement or have suffered legal setbacks due to other animal-rights related activities.

Because of the high population of college students and the geographical dynamics of Boston, those who have attempted to start or restart an organization have run into many problems.

This lack of stability has led to lapses in animal liberation activity in Boston and the organizational structure has fallen into disrepair.

Fortunately, this year, many new people are becoming active in Boston and are ready and able to turn the Boston chapters of CAFT and the Animal Defense League into two very powerful and efficient grassroots animal liberation organizations.

The key to reviving this group was to build stability.

Simple things that many long-standing groups may take for granted were missing.

The phone list was dated and unorganized. Protest tools such as banners, flyers and signs were either outdated or in poor physical condition.

There existed no system of communication between activists.

There was no web page, no pager number, no organizational structure, no literature resource base and no financial base.

We did not have fundraising tools such as T-shirts and pamphlets. Many groups still existed in Boston, however, that were promoting differing agendas and not communicating with each other.

The first goal towards building this group up was to set up a regular protest schedule. Fortunately, the New England Anti-Vivisection Society, a major anti-vivisection organization, exists in Boston and publishes a monthly listing of events.

Through this, we began to list protest schedules.

Word spread, and after combing through the phone list of activists, a core group of activists started to form.

> "Attempts to keep the group open to all interested has at times failed because potential activists were turned off at the seemingly cliquey 'militant teenager' structure of the group."

From this, ideas surfaced and a small organizational structure was created. We created and copied new literature and new signs. Activists began to gain protest experience.

The randomness of past years began to disappear.

Despite the group's willingness to grow, at times it has been painful.

Activists quickly found out what happens when 75 people say they will attend the protest and only five actually show up; two stick around for more than one protest.

Communication has also been difficult because separate organizations will often schedule protests at conflicting times.

Attempts to keep the group open to all interested has at times failed because potential activists were turned off at the seemingly cliquey "militant teenager" structure of the group.

We have seen the consequences of assuming others will show up and of putting enough organizational time and effort into a protest.

We have also seen the troubles of organizing large numbers of people for important nation-wide events such as Fur Free Friday.

An attempt at civil disobedience on Fur Free Friday in 1997 exemplified many of these growing pains.

Not enough organization, time or surveillance went into the attempted action, which eventually backfired, creating a very tense moment for seven activists and resulting in the arrest of another for alleged assault.

Despite the aforementioned growing pains, the group continues to mature and grow as more ideas emerge to improve the overall organizational stability of the group.

As more activists are becoming interested, we are organizing activist forums, creating a web page, opening more lines of communication between activists and organizations, creating more campaigning, and as a result of the failed CD attempt on Fur Free Friday, we are educating ourselves as to what it takes to organize a large scale CD.

Growing pains still and will always exist, but the time has come to turn CAFT and ADL into powerful, mature, efficient grassroots Boston animal liberation organizations.

Boston

Boston groups target Harvard, Ekco

The Boston Animal Defense League/Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade are major participants in the nation-wide anti-Federated campaign.

The group holds weekly protests as the members are working to establish ideas for more effective and efficient campaigns.

Currently, Boston CAFT protests at only one Macy's – Downtown Crossing – but due to the location, four surrounding fur retailers often feel the effects of the activism.

The Boston ADL, along with other local organizers, is continuing to target Harvard because of its New England Regional Primate Center in Southboro, Mass.

More than 1,500 primates are subjected to painful and invasive drug and medical experiments.

Media attention has been moderate, but police interest has escalated.

The group has organized different types of protests.

Anything, from bells and drums to marches through Harvard Yard, was used.

They are organizing future demos at the primate center and are planning more strategies to put pressure on Harvard.

Boston ADL and CAFT representatives, along with representatives from Connecticut and New Hampshire CAFT chapters, are working toward exposing the truth about Ekco Group Inc., in Nashua, N.H. Ekco Group manufactures common kitchenwares and housewares, such as Faberware.

Ekco, however, also manufactures leghold traps at the Woodstream Subsidiary in Lititz, Pa.

To compound the situation, Ekco recently purchased Aspen Pet Products, a company that makes companion animal supplies such as shampoos, toys and food items.

Boston activists are working to expose the hypocricy of Ekco in making traps which regularly catch companion animals such as cats and dogs, while manufacturing products to benefit these same animals.

Further protests are expected as is a protest at an Ekco shareholder's meeting in May.

Boston ADL's newest campaign is against a Boston University Medical School professor who uses rabbits as a part of the medical school curriculum.

Boston University Medical School is the last medical school in the state to still use live animal labs.

CAFT PRESS RELEASE

WEST COAST GROCERY STORE DUMPS EKCO HOUSWARES

Ekco's Involvement in Fur Trapping Cited as Reason

San Francisco -- Rainbow Groceries, a San Francisco based food retailer, has notified their customers that they will no longer be carrying products made by the Nashua, NH based Ekco Group Inc. In a note posted in their stores, it was explained that Rainbow made this decision because the Ekco company continues to manufacture cruel traps used by the fur industry.

Through their Woodstream division Ekco manufactures leghold traps and body gripping traps. Ekco has come under fire from animal rights groups, but so far has refused to respond to letters and phone calls from the organizers of the anti trap campaign.

"Study after study shows that these traps mutilate animals. One type of leghold trap produced by Ekco has been shown to cause bone fractures in 90% of the animals it catches," stated J.P. Goodwin, executive director of the Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade.

"Ekco is losing housewares customers because they make traps for the less than 1% of Americans that partake in that particular bloodsport. One must wonder when Ekco will make the wise business decision to leave the trap business." Goodwin added.

Goodwin pointed out that several people who had lost their companion animals to traps had written letters to Ekco as well. Goodwin claimed that "We thought that if Ekco didn't care about wildlife perhaps they would care about peoples dogs and cats. We'll see if they respond."

Bloomington

ADL protests university vivisector

The Bloomington Animal Defense League has narrowed its focus to a campaign against vivisection at Indiana University.

The project includes plans to educate the university's academic community and the citizens of Bloomington regarding animal abuse and neglect that occurs in IU laboratories.

The group also hopes to see an end to the wasted tax and tuition dollars consumed by animal "research." The long-term goal is to end to all animal experimentation on Indiana University campuses.

From Feb. 2 to Feb. 6, the Bloomington ADL distributed flyers about vivisection in general, the animal experiments of assistant professor Preston Garraghty and the number of animals used in experiments on Indiana University campuses.

Garraghty's experiments include removing portions of three squirrel monkeys' skulls and experimenting on three-week-old kittens, later using a muscle hook to separate their muscles and cut their tendons. His experiments are funded by Indiana University.

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On Feb. 9 and Feb. 10, the ADL set up information table at IU dining halls and showed a video about animal experiments in labs. Activists distributed 2,500 informational leaflets about Garraghty's experiments from Feb. 16 to Feb. 24.

The group has also started its next vivisector campaign and will be targeting Joseph Steinmetz, chair of the psychology department at Indiana University, who performs tests on rabbits.



Erik Woodworth of the Bloomington ADL holds a candle at a vigil protesting vivisection by Preston Garraghty at Indiana University.



A member of the anti-ADL group, Student Alliance for Responsible Research, holds a sign at a counter-ADL protest advocating the use of animals in medical testing.

Group demonstrates against ADL

About 25 people have formed an Anti-Animal Defense League organization at Indiana University, advocating medical testing and research of animals if it proves to help and save the lives of humans and other animals.

The Student Alliance for Responsible Research believes animal research is just and necessary for medical progress.

The group began as a support for psychology professor Preston Garraghty's research and consists of mostly psychology graduate students. They think the agenda and ideals of the ADL are extreme.

SARR's first protest was Feb. 25 and occurred simultaneously with an ADL protest. SARR members used flashlights instead of the ADL's candles to call attention to their cause and to advocate technology.

About 40 ADL members were protesting Garraghty's research the same day and gathered a few hundred feet from the counter protesters before driving to Garraghty's neighborhood.

ADL member Seth Stevens, who was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Disease, a form of cancer, said it is difficult to extrapolate evidence from animals and apply it to humans.

"Besides that, I think it's unethical," Stevens said. "Hodgkin's Disease has really helped shed light on how much of trial and error Garraghty's research really is."

Some protesters were angry because their tuition money is funding Garraghty's experiments.

"Some of the money I'm paying is going for that, and the population doesn't know about what's going on," said ADL member Kurt Schroeder.

Anti-fur activists choked, arrested at Macy's demo

Police choked three activists and then arrested them during an otherwise peaceful protest against the fur industry March 15 at Macy's in Danbury Fair Mall, Danbury, Conn.

Daniel Chard, Bryan Hall and Seth Wood locked themselves together with bike locks at the entrance to the store. Police dragged the nonviolent activists by their feet, which choked them because they were locked together by their necks. Witnesses reported the activists' faces were red.

The three were charged with trespassing, interfering with an officer and breach of peace.

About 15 minutes after nearly 50 activists from Connecticut, Boston, New Jersey and New York City began to assemble at the exterior parking lot entrance to Macy's, the three activists locked themselves together by their necks with bicycle U-locks in the store's interior mall entrance.

Chard, Hall and Wood locked themselves together by each locking a kryptonite bicycle U-lock to his neck. These three locks were then attached in the center, behind their backs, to a kryptonite snake lock, used for locking up motorcycles, which can be locked without a key. When police officers asked the three activists to surrender a key to the locks, the men replied that they did not have one.

As security guards and police officers began to gather around the three locked activists, other CAFT members spoke to mall shoppers about the torture and killing that Macy's supports by selling fur. As more people began to congregate in the area, Chard, Hall and Wood began to chant, "Boycott Macy's! Fur is Murder!"

After being locked down for only fifteen minutes, police officers moved the activists from the Macy's entrance to a nearby fire exit corridor, by grabbing each of the activists by the ankles and dragging them into the alleyway.

After three and a half hours of lying on a cold concrete floor and being harassed and ridiculed by the police officers, a locksmith unlocked the three.

Police then drove them to the Danbury police station with individual U-locks still around their necks. At the police station, the locksmith drilled open the remaining U-locks.

Meanwhile, more than a dozen other activists assembled in the police station's lobby, talking with reporters and demanding the release of their comrades.

Chard, Hall and Wood spent the night in jail hunger striking, with bonds set at $15,000 each. Overnight, the bonds were lowered to $2,500 each.

In court the next morning, Chard's bond was lowered to $500, while Hall's and Woods' were reduced to $1,000. The three men were then bonded out of police custody by fellow activists. They appeared in Bridgeport Superior Court on March 23 and pled not guilty. A trial date has not been set yet.

Almost a dozen activists have been arrested at Macy's locations in Connecticut since 1997 for acts of civil disobedience or for practicing their freedom of speech.

Macy's is part of Federated Department stores and is the largest fur retailer on the east coast.

Members strive to maximize efforts

The Connecticut Animal League has made an effort to maximize its effectiveness as a grassroots organization by striving to maintain a positive public image and concentrating activism on the most commonly and socially unacceptable form of animal exploitation – fur.

ADL-CT has also realized the importance of strengthening ties with other local animal rights organizations and has been combining efforts with other groups.

The group continued to oppose fur and receive media coverage throughout the winter by protesting almost every weekend at Macy's and other independent furriers.

When the notorious animal-testing company, Procter and Gamble, made student recruitment efforts at Yale University in February, the ADL responded by posting "Boycott Procter and Gamble" fliers and posters throughout downtown New Haven and by extensively leafleting the Yale campus on each of the five days that Procter and Gamble was present.

ADL educated many Yale students and New Haven residents about the horrific animal torture involved in the production of Procter and Gamble products.

While leafleting on campus, ADL activists met members of Yale Friends of Animals, a newly formed Yale student animal rights group, who seemed very eager to get involved with aggressive, grassroots activism.

Although the fur season is nearly over, ADL-CT plans to persist in its struggle against Macy's and the rest of Connecticut's furriers throughout the spring and summer.

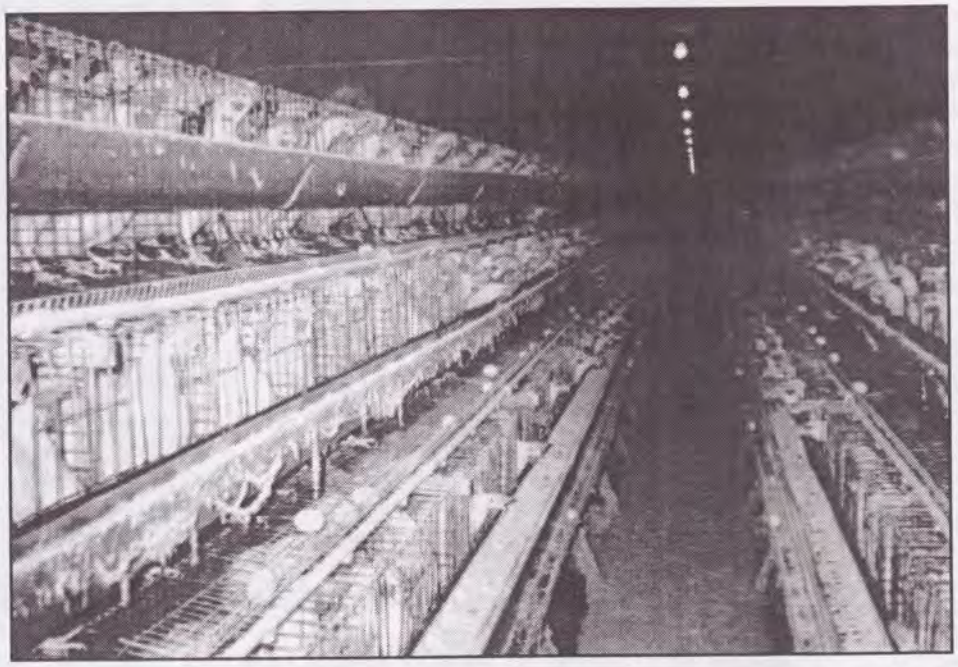
ADL members plan to continue targeting this vulnerable industry until Macy's East joins Macy's West in discontinuing the sale of fur, and until all Connecticut's fur stores close their doors.

Ithaca

Ithaca activists visit factory farms

The Ithaca Animal Defense League has been focusing most efforts toward Cornell University, which vivisects, dissects, consumes and allows the hunting of thousands of animals every year.

Most of the agricultural research for New York State is conducted at Cornell, which also has national and worldwide ramifications.



One current campaign involves paying undercover visits to local factory farms and relating the conditions to the research occurring at Cornell.

Recent footage obtained reveals laying hens crammed six in a cage the size of a milk crate, their beaks removed, near piles of dead hens laying in the corner.

Much of Cornell's research is directed toward intensifying these conditions and increasing productivity through genetic engineering.

The dairy industry is also particularly strong in the area; the Monsanto Corporation developed Recombinant Bovine Growth Hormone at Cornell.

The Cornell Student Assembly recently passed a resolution that mandates professors to provide students with alternatives to dissection. It must now pass through the administration.

The Syracuse and Ithaca ADL chapters recently teamed up to infiltrate, disrupt and protest a dairy farmers' convention in nearby Auburn, which was hosted by Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Millions of dollars of National Institutes of Health grants are also pumped into Cornell so researchers can perform invasive biomedical experiments on all types of animals, and ADL has singled out a few of these most offensive projects.

The current campaign is against Dr. Peter Nathanielsz, who inflicts birth defects and premature labor in rhesus monkeys and sheep. The ADL held a candlelight vigil at his home in the fall, plastered Cornell University with posters about his misdeeds and is working closely with Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine to file an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee complaint against his research on grounds that it is blatantly cruel and scientifically worthless.

The University also invests heavily in companies which perform animal research, including Procter & Gamble, which is fourth in its stock portfolio.

The group is working with the Cornell Greens, a university environmental group, on a divestment campaign, which would create an institutional mechanism so students could have a say in which companies the university invests in.

Since the formation of the Ithaca ADL, the animal rights movement in the area has become energized and focused.

The group serves as a bridge between groups at Ithaca College, Cornell and the greater Ithaca community.

The organizing skills and resources have bolstered the number of activists and the amount of public attention animal liberation is receiving through the media.

Jury finds three of four innocent

By Rachael Astrachan

An almost perfect victory in the Syracuse trial of Animal Defense League protesters added fodder to the developing civil suit against Syracuse police officers.

Of four defendants arrested for a Jan. 2, 1997 protest, the jury found only one guilty of disorderly conduct in the trial, which stretched from Jan. 5 to Jan. 12, 1998.

Judge Sandra Townes dropped charges of disorderly conduct and obstructing government administration against Adam Weissman of New Jersey because there was no testimony to convict him.

Townes also nullified the obstructing government administration charge against Amy Theel of Syracuse. The six jurors decided she was guilty of disorderly conduct and sentenced her to 25 hours of community service, but Theel will appeal the charge.

The jury decided Seth Stevens of Bloomington, Ind., and Jerry Vlasak of Los Angeles, were innocent.

During the trial, Sgt. John Brennan of the Syracuse Police Department testified he did not allow ADL members to protest in front of Georgio's Furs, an often targeted store.



"Picking a spot for us to protest is against our First Amendment rights," Theel said.

Previous altercations with the Syracuse Police Department and other trial testimony will also serve as evidence.

Brennan testified that when the group, which had been marching for about a mile to protest the fur trade, neared Georgio's, he told the protesters to go across the street to protest peacefully on the sidewalk.

He said the sidewalk across the street was wider.

Anthony Nuzzo, investigator for the District Attorney's office, measured the sidewalks in front of Georgio's and across the street. He testified the sidewalk across the street is wider.

Wider by eight inches.

Brennan said he approached the group alone but Theel, Stevens and Vlasak said four or five police officers neared the group.

"Brennan came over and grabbed me and pushed me onto the pavement," Stevens said. "He had three to four police officers with him. They shoved me down and cuffed me from behind."

Theel said the police started grabbing ADL members without provocation.

"They did not obey my rules," Brennan said. "They did not stop. I was knocked off balance and I fell back. I got back up and advised the other officers that this was no longer an orderly crowd and to make arrests."

Syracuse Police Officer Melvin DeBottis said the protesters attempted to walk through Brennan but said Brennan did not fall.

Brennan said Stevens was out in the middle of the street and refused his order. Brennan arrested him and charged him with disorderly conduct and obstructing government administration.

"Brennan grabbed (Stevens) first and threw him on the ground," Vlasak said. "That pulled the banner down."

Brennan said he then told Vlasak he was under arrest and a struggle began. "(Vlasak) began to fight. We both fell on the ground in the middle of the street," Brennan said.

Vlasak said Brennan grabbed him by the shirt and threw him down.

"I'm a pacifist," Vlasak said. "I've never hit anyone. I went limp because I was not going to assist in the illegal arrest. I was dragged through slush and water to the paddy wagon."

Vlasak was arrested for disorderly conduct, obstructing government administration and resisting arrest.

Brennan said after he arrested Vlasak, Theel, attempting to protect her friend, Tracey Cavanaugh, from being arrested, continued to step into the street and block traffic.

"I grabbed her arm and escorted her onto the sidewalk," Brennan said. "She pulled her arm away and refused to get out of the street.

In his cross examination, Richard Marris, lawyer for the defendants, reminded Brennan that he cannot stop people from protesting because of the First Amendment.

"Jan. 2 was an attempt to exercise our civil rights in Syracuse because of previous problems," Stevens said. Vlasak testified he attended the demonstration to protest not only the fur industry, but also the previous police treatment of Syracuse ADL members.

Marris said there was no problem until Brennan told the protesters to stop.

Syracuse

ADLs combine, protest dairy farm convention

Ten members of the Syracuse ADL protested Jan. 28 at a dairy farmers' convention at a Holiday Inn in Auburn, N.Y.

The protesters observed a workshop at the convention for a few minutes.

They then walked into the middle of it holding anti-dairy signs.

Security escorted them out of the hotel, so they continued the protest outside on the sidewalk.

"Some of the dairy farmers in attendance laughed at us and some were nervous," said Chris Tarbell.

It was the first time this particular convention had been targeted to protest the exploitation of dairy cows by the dairy industry.

The police showed up and made no arrests, but they told the protesters they needed a permit to stand on the sidewalk and protest.

"We argued with them about it, but eventually left," Tarbell said. "I don't think that hotel will have them back because of the commotion we caused."

The Syracuse ADL also protested an area McDonald's on Feb. 14 to make people aware of the environmental destruction, animal exploitation, worker exploitation and health risks the restaurant causes.

About 20 people showed up for two hours and stood in front of the restaurant with leaflets and signs.

This McDonald's had been protested before.

"The manager didn't come out, but he called the cops," Tarbell said. "I'm sure he wasn't too happy about us being there."

No arrests were made and the ADL distributed about 100 anti-McDonald's leaflets.

Campaign to target S.U.N.Y.

The Syracuse Animal Defense League has been keeping a fairly low profile the past few months but is again emerging as an active group with specific campaigns.

After a victory against Bonwit Teller, a department store that sold fur, the group has been slow to start up a new campaign.

However, a campaign against the State University of New York (S.U.N.Y.) Health Science Center at Syracuse is now a major focus.

Members are researching the facility's experiments and plans for the new Biomedical Research Facility that is being constructed.

The group has names and addresses of about 20 vivisectors and will begin a Vivisector of the Month campaign.

The ADL has scheduled a community forum for April 17 about vivisection at S.U.N.Y.

The first demo at the construction site will be two days later.

The emerging Syracuse Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade will take over the ongoing campaign against Georgio's Furs.

C.A.F.T. Syracuse was only formed recently, but members are already working to ban trapping in Onondaga county. The county legislators contacted are in full support of the bill. An informational forum is in the works and is slated for the middle of May.

Syracuse refocuses, reorganizes

By Chris Tarbell

Until very recently, the Animal Defense League in Syracuse was virtually non-existent.

Protests, which had typically been staged several times a month, were occurring once every month, if that. Events that had been in the early stages of planning, set into motion by a meeting in early September that was supposed to get things back on track, fell to the wayside as other ADL members and I never finished what we started.

There was no focus, no plan of attack.

A fur protest happened here, and a McDonald's demonstration happened there.

The ADL was a collective group that was collectively doing nothing.

Finally on Feb. 21, a handful of us, who had been the group's main organizers over the course of the last eight months, got together to finally get the ball rolling again.

That meeting was a huge success.

The ADL is back in action for good this time.

The excitement and commitment felt and expressed by several of our core members seems to be evidence of this. We have something now we haven't had in a long time – focus.

With our campaign against vivisection and the others to follow, we have set specific goals we will meet before moving on to other issues.

Perhaps the key to ADL's rebirth is the newfound and renewed willingness of its core members to communicate effectively. A lot of the problems of the last several months were the result of lack of any communication between members.

Many people tried to organize events, protests, etc., but they weren't telling each other about them.

There is a lot of work ahead for us but we now have the tools necessary to complete it.

New Jersey

Three N.J. fur stores to close

The New Jersey Animal Defense League recently underwent a radical revision period where it was decided its goal would be nothing more than to achieve animal liberation.

Presently, the only campaign is the anti-fur campaign, which is under the Fur Action Task Force that decides how, where and when the group will protest the fur industry.

Also, at the beginning of January, three New Jersey fur shops announced their closing.

One of those shops is a monthly target of the NJ ADL.

Oscar Loewy Furs announced Jan. 13 that it would be going out of business in direct response to the pressure exerted by the NJ ADL, although the group protested there only four times.

Knauer Furs of East Brunswick and Millburn Furs of Millburn also announced their closing.

The schedule is now focused on two fur shops in the area – Marriane's Furs of Highland Park and Furs By Guarino in East Brunswick.

Twice a month, activists will attend demonstrations in front of Marriane's Furs before attending the weekly demonstrations at Furs By Guarino.

Both fur shops endure the presence of signs and leaflets, while Guarino's must also listen to chants for two hours each week.

From Feb. 7 to Feb. 14, the NJ ADL held a week-long demonstration in front of Furs By Guarino.

Every minute the shop was open, there were protesters present. This tactic is one that has been used in Vienna.

Because FBG is located on a highway, the mass public reacted to the anti-fur message positively.

The support, not only in the form of honks, waves and cheers, but also in donations of food and money, did not match the value of new activists who appeared during the week.

The week-long protest was also convenient for people who could not ordinarily attend Saturday demonstrations.

During the week-long at FBG, however, there was one unpleasant event.

An 84-year-old man threw the skinned carcass of an unidentifiable animal at those protesting.

He later apologized, saying he did not really mean it The issue will be pressed in court.

Western New York

WNY ADL attempts to stop dissection at local colleges

The Western New York Animal Defense League, drawing po tential strength from scattered colleges throughout the area, is working on a campaign to stop animal dissection and testing at local universities.

Because Western New York is a fragmented, rural area, students and other potential activists are not united. Therefore, the WNY ADL is comprised of factions at area schools.

Organized for the first time in January and run by no more than three activists, the WNY ADL must also work to interest students in animal rights and veganism as a starting point.

The home base of the WNY ADL is St. Bonaventure University, a small Catholic college that does some animal dissection and experimentation.

Members wanted to focus their energy on halting the dissection of cats and shark, and the deprivation of mice of water in psychology experiments.

"So far, we've met with the woman who is in charge of regulating the animals and have written letters to the biology and psychology departments, asking them to stop this cruel practice," said Scott Garzione, activist.

The group wrote a letter to the editor of St. Bonaventure's newspaper and educated students about the occurrences in the lab classes through tabling. Members are now working on a widespread literature distribution campaign to inform students about the cruelty.

Following the hopefully outraged response from students, the ADL will hold a vigil in protest of the experiments during Earth Week.

The group has also set up anti-fur and informational tables both at hardcore shows and at universities.

For the Great American Meatout Day, the St. Bonaventure faction and the S.U.N.Y. Fredonia members set up tables. Fifty people pledged to avoid meat for the day.

Tabling efforts and vegan outreach workshops are also frequent. Members of the WNY ADL also assist Syracuse ADL members in campaigns and outreach efforts.

"Many local college students do not want to get involved with animal rights because they do not see it as necessary," Garzione said. "The WNY ADL is trying to show people that it is important to be concerned, aware and active."

The WNY ADL will host fellow ADL activist Jeff Watkins of Maryland as a speaker for Earth Week. Tara Tubbert and Amy Theel, both of the Syracuse ADL, will also speak to students about the benefits and nutrition of a vegan diet.

NYC-Long Island

Chapter targets fur stores, builds links to other groups

Since the expansion from the Long Island Animal Defense League to the New York City/Long Island ADL in July 1997, the group has been steadily building a solid foundation of activists in both areas.

The activists have been helping to further the cause of animal liberation through demonstrations, educational outreach, tabling and civil disobedience.

So far, the group has held more than 35 protests in 1998.

Members have also attended events organized by other animal rights groups in New York City.

They have tried to support other ADL chapters by promoting and attending their events whenever possible.

The current target of the ADL is the Macy's at Herald Square in Manhattan, "the largest store in the world," which recently reinstated its fur salon this winter.

The group has also continued to pay monthly visits to smaller furriers in New York City, such as Zamir Furs in Huntington and Village Furs in Long Island.

Other targets have included the traveling fur sale that visits the St. Moritz Hotel and the Big Apple Circus.

NYC/LI ADL has also recently begun to hold educational anti-meat outreaches at a McDonald's in Manhattan by distributing literature and passing out free burgers and "chicken" nuggets to the public.

The group also uses the Faunavision, a van equipped with a full media center, to show slaughterhouse footage.

In the following months, the group's goals include continuing to execute outreach to build its ranks amongst more diverse populations, building links with other social justice groups in the area and trying to find more ways to reach the public through means other than demonstrations.

On a public level, the ADL will continue to target Macy's, the Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus and local furriers, and hopes to hold educational forums for the public about animal liberation issues.

Meanwhile, many members of the group are dealing with ongoing court cases.

Activists protest atop Macy's

On Feb. 8, two animal rights activists used U-locks to attach their necks to poles atop Macy's second floor awning, moments after dropping a banner which read, "Macy's: Have A Heart. Stop Selling Fur."

Both were arrested for trespassing and resisting arrest.

Despite sub-freezing temperatures, Djenni McGowan and Sarah Blum of the New York City/Long Island ADL remained on the awning from 4:30 a.m. until the media and 50-person support demonstration arrived at approximately 11:30 a.m.

After the signal, both activists sprang up from their reclined position and dropped the banner.

Then, with the media cameras rolling, both locked their necks to the awning.

Emergency Services arrived on the scene and cut the activists from the locks.

They were carried down in stretchers and arrested.

The activists were held in jail for 25 hours until their arraignment, where both were given a six-month ACD.

Lehigh Valley

LV ADL builds membership, raises money

Although small, the Lehigh Valley Animal Defense League is working to raise money and increase membership.

Members have been stickering at grocery stores and placing literature in schools.

The group has also been working with two local groups, Our Voice is Their Sanctuary and the Lehigh Valley Animal Rights Coalition, on a circus demo and setting up a benefit concert.

Another goal of the group is to start a small distribution of animal-rights-related stickers and patches.

ADL members hope it will benefit those who are not interested in being active can support the ADL by buying items.

The LV ADL tabled for the Great American Meatout Day at Penn State.

The group also plans to table at shows, malls and health food stores to educate and gain new members this summer.

Members also created a vegan guide for the Lehigh Valley area, with health food store locations, what's vegan at the supermarket, recipes and armchair activism ideas.

The LV ADL often helps NYC/LI members at protests and demos.

San Diego

CAFT disrupts Neiman Marcus

The San Diego Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade has targeting all furriers throughout Southern California with constant protesting and civil disobedience.

The group started protesting at the beginning of the fur season in October, and continued at Neiman Marcus weekly throughout the winter months.

Thirty CAFT activists caught store personnel off guard at the first Neiman Marcus demo.

Activists tried repeatedly to enter the Federated store, so store officials locked the doors from the inside, only allowing customers access through back entrance of the mall.

As many as 20 police officers and the whole entire staff of security stood in silence.

No arrests were made, despite the attempt to outrun police and security to reach unattended entrances.

This particular protest received wide media coverage.

CAFT's next attempt to protest was impeded with paperwork and an application to protest.

Members ignored the paperwork and have repeatedly tried to get on the property. After numerous failed attempts, CAFT members passed out hundreds of leaflets at each demo and antagonized security guards and police officers.

Although CAFT now protests on the sidewalk, police still managed to make arrests and pass out citations. Police arrested two activists arrested for leafleting on cars in a mall parking lot.

Although winter is over, CAFT protests against Neiman Marcus, Macy's and Saks Fifth Avenue are continuing.

Their actions to combat the fur industry continue year round; they will not make this struggle to abolish the bloody fur trade a seasonal tradition.

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Amsterdam

Dutch activists to assist international conference

Although still in its first stages of establishment, the Dutch chapter of the Animal Defense League has been quite active.

Most events take place in Amsterdam, the nation's capital and home base of the Dutch ADL.

Between January and March, actions included monthly anti-McDonald's protests, including leafletting, blocking entrances and arranging media coverage.

In Amsterdam, police must give activists three warnings before arresting them.

Dutch ADL members enter one of three McDonald's in the city, order food and not pay for it and occupy seats so customers cannot sit down.

When police arrive, activists wait for the third warning and then move to the next McDonald's. Because three warnings must be issued at each new location, activists target each McDonald's more than once.

Members visited the biggest fur stores in the city and leafletted, blocked entrances and held extensive protest marches.

The group also organized anti-butcher marches, protesting against these establishments using signs, chants and literature.

The ADL also organized hardcore and punk shows, with all proceeds aiding the struggle. They also set up tables at these concerts about veganism, direct action and animal liberation to network activists and recruit people for protests and demos.

The group is also assisting the organization of an International Animal Liberation Gathering held in Leiden, The Netherlands, in the spring.

The gathering is intended to assist, encourage and unite grassroots animal rights groups to network on an international as well as on a local level.

Revolution necessary to save animals

By Sergio Franco

Since humankind began its fight for survival many thousands of years ago, humans think they have the right to dominate every other living being. I don't know if humans think they are God, but animals are directly affected by this superiority.

Besides the direct consumption of animals and their byproducts, vivisection is another cruel act toward creatures who should be treated equally as humans.

This lack of education isn't the main motivation to merciless actions; the growing desire to earn more money makes people and companies take cowardly and heartless measures.

Even though people take a stand in the name of our fellow animals, some questions still remain without an answer.

How can we change the population's point of view and make them respect animals' lives?

How can we become stronger than greedy multinational corporations, such as McDonald's, Procter and Gamble and Colgate? These companies aren't worried about animals' feelings nor peoples' feelings.

They're worried about income, regardless of other more important issues.

This isn't fair.

We can't just sit and wait until these miserable people slaughter animals according to their needs and wills.

It's time for people who are really engaged in animal liberation to declare war against animal oppression and start a vegan revolution.

It's up to the real revolutionaries to show them alternatives to the established unjust system.

Politicians can be useful if we pressure them.

The government can end animal holocaust if enough people want it to.

Many well-known scientists have already demonstrated that vivisection, besides being cruel, is totally useless. Laboratories still use excuses to carry on tests because they need research money.

If politicians created new animal protection laws, vivisection could be left in the past.

Animal cannot pay for our mistakes. If humans used natural medicines, animals would be left in peace.

People would benefit from the strengths of herbs, leaves and roots.

There are infinite alternatives to every possible animal ingredient, but because they are more expensive, companies would rather continue to kill innocent animals.

Don't wait to see where we're headed – start working for the animals.

Saving them will help the planet and ourselves to start living a fair life. Fight in the name of all innocent lives and free yourself from this enslaving world.

Animal liberation now!

Brazil ADLs to press benefit CD

The three chapters of the Animal Defense League in Brazil, in addition to protesting animal abuse, must also deal with a government that punishes outspoken political activists and dissenters.

In December 1997, the three ADL chapters -- Salvador, Sao Paulo and Cuiaba -- organized a meeting in Sao Paulo to discuss the results of 1997 and to organize strategies for 1998.

The conference was successful in that many important decisions were made and experiences were exchanged.

The members also held a sizeable McDonalds protest.

In January, the Brazilian chapters decided to abandom anti-abortion issues in the name of the ADL.

This resulted in an increase in interested activists, since many people saw the ADL as a pro-life organization.

Militante Vegan, the first fanzine with articles from every ADL activist in Brazil, was published in January as well.

The Salvador ADL, after acquiring the most recent newsletter from the ALF Supporter's Group, created a vegan prisoners' support pamphlet.

The Salvador ADL also received material from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and the American Vegan Society.

The group also contacted the Syracuse and Bloomington ADLs to exchange materials regarding animal liberation.

Members are composing a form letter to send to companies that test on animals.

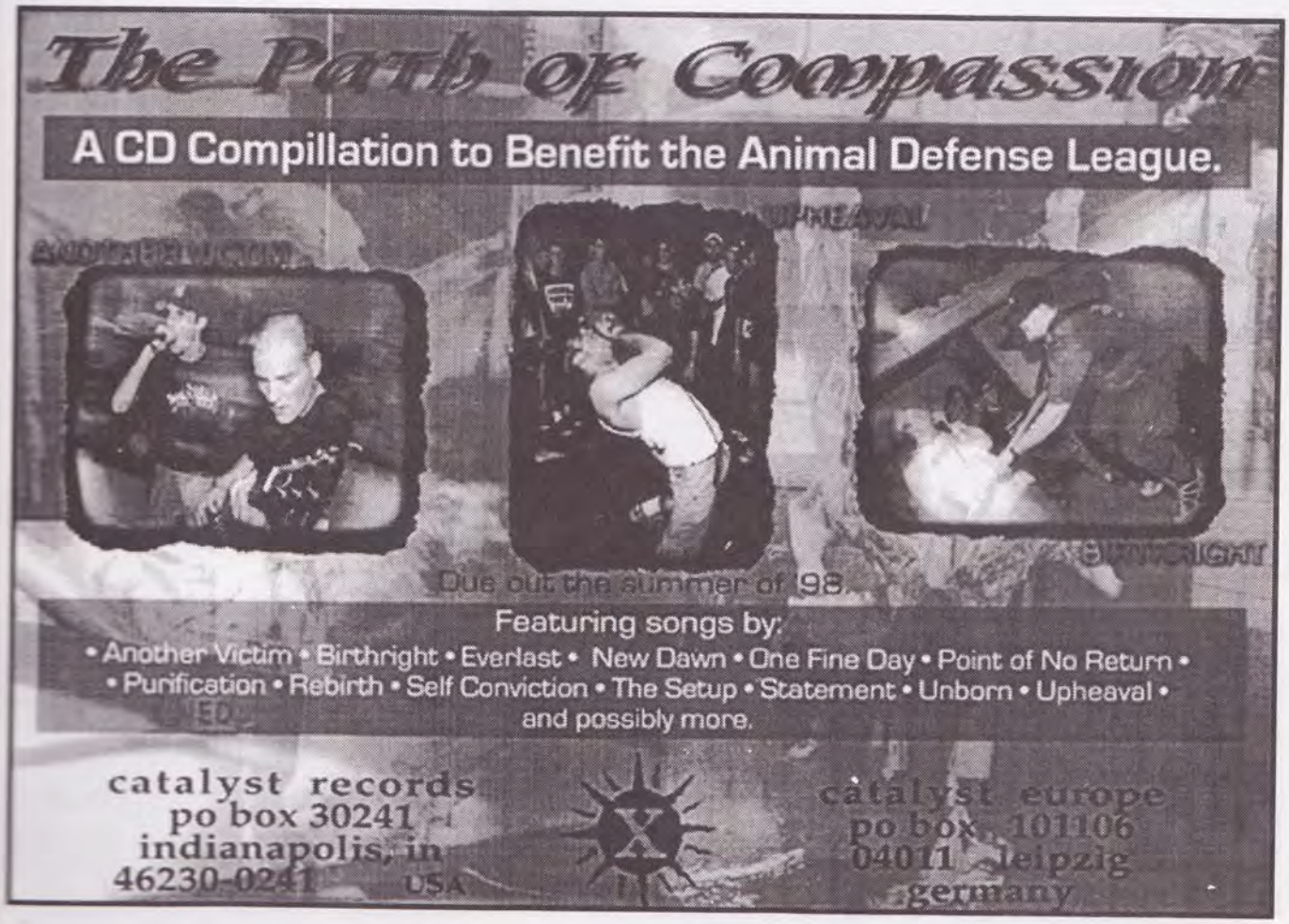
A compilation featuring 10 bands is being organized for the benefit of the Brazilian ADLs, and will be out on CD in August 1998.

Prayer for a Fallen Angel, Day of Suffering and X Acto from Portugal have accepted the invitation to be included on the compilation.

The other seven bands have yet to be determined.

However, all the bands must be composed of vegan or vegetarian members; the remaining seven bands will be from Brazil.

Activists in Rio de Janeiro are trying to organize another ADL chapter.



Eugene

Eugene ADL works to stop vivisection

Although formed only recently, the Animal Defense League of Eugene, Ore., has already begun a major campaign.

The major focus of the Eugene ADL has been stopping the animal experimentation at the University of Oregon, specifically primate behavior experiments involving tobacco done by Richard Marocco.

Eugene police arrested two ADL members March 7 for asking a vivisector questions at a public forum he was hosting.

When asked to leave, the protesters peacefully started towards the door when their path was blocked.

They were thrown into a wall and then onto the ground, and arrested for physical harassment.

Police arrested another protester for trespassing, although the forum was held on public property.

A day earlier, the Eugene ADL and Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals occupied a building containing multiple animal labs at the University of Oregon.

When the police demanded the students leave, they refused.

No arrests were made and the students remained in the building for an additional 20 minutes, causing a massive disruption.

The Eugene ADL is also working to produce a video magazine, which will be available twice a year on VHS format.

"Breaking Free" will feature footage of direct actions from all over the United States.

Tactics featured range from civil disobedience to rioting and arson.

The Eugene ADL promises to be a very active, very militant group.

The group hopes to increase membership as Earth First! activists in the area become increasingly interested in veganism and animal liberation.

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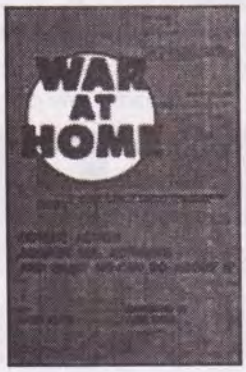
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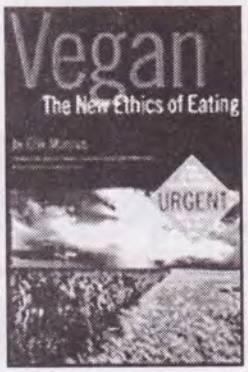
To contribute to CAFT and/or the ADL, send a check or well-concealed cash to any of the above addresses. Yearly subscriptions to *Counter Friction* are $10. All chapters are established and run by grassroots activists who rely on your assistance, whether that be financial or hands on, to continue fighting for animal liberation. Please help us, so we can help abused and neglected animals in need.

ADL
The Animal Defense League

MAIL ORDER

WAR AT HOME by Brian Glick [$7.]
A 92 page history of COINTELPRO and covert action against US activists. This book is a must read for every political activist, and tells how we can deal with government harassment.





VEGAN - The New Ethics of Eating by Erik Marcus [$12.]
The newest vegan bible covering the health and environmental aspects of an animal-free diet. This 211 page book explains the animal agriculture industry and the suffering it propogates.

ALF VIDEO [$8.]
'ALF: The Movie' and 'Angels of Mercy' are both included on this 1 hour video of actual footage of ALF raids. Also are interviews with relatives of current ALF prisoners.

FACTORY FARM VIDEO [$8.]
Stockyard and slaughterhouse footage of the ugly side of livestock marketing. This video will likely make anyone go vegan. All footage shot by Farm Sanctuary and shows 'downed' animals being dragged to slaughter.

HANDBOOK FOR NONVIOLENT ACTION [$2.]
A 36 page magazine originally distributed by the War Resisters League. Topics include civil disobedience, nonviolent resistance, jail solidarity, representing yourself in court, and working together for change.

THE FEDERAL GRAND JURY: The War on New Social Justice Movements, and the Bill of Rights [$2.]
A 21 page report on how you can protect yourself from government harassment and COINTELPRO type tactics.

ADL T-SHIRTS [$13.]
Our original 'Freedom is never voluntarily given...' t-shirt with a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and a picture of an ADL activist being brutalized by police.



ADL STICKERS [$1.]
Our green and white vinyl bumper sticker says, 'One Struggle, One Fight; Human Freedom, Animal Rights.'



All checks payable to 'ADL'
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CAFT DISTRIBUTION

(Resources for the Committed Anti-Fur Activist)

Inside the Fur Industry - $18 annually
Exclusive newsletter, produced quarterly by CAFT. The inside story on the bloody fur trade, information you will not find anywhere else, unless you're a furrier. Read about what the furriers are afraid of, and what we are doing to stop them, what's working and what is not. Not just in the U.S., but all over the world. Gleaned from the fur industry's very own publications and files.

The Fur Industry: An Ecological Nightmare - $5
This is a report prepared exclusively by CAFT which details the environmental destruction caused by fur production. This a very important resource for countering fur trade claims that they are environmentally friendly.

Animals in Distress Tape - $5
Perfect for blasting outside of stores that sell fur. Side 1: sound of a red fox in distress. Side 2: Cries of baby mink in distress.

T-Shirts - $15
New anti-fur shirt with a picture of a fox with anti-fur slogans. 2 sided. Specify M,L, or XL, as well as white or natural colored shirts.

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CAFT Membership - $15
One year and is a crucial source of our funding.

The Final Nail & Supplement - $3
This booklet explains how the ALF is trying to stop the slaughter of fur animals with a combination of sabotage and live animal liberations. It contains a list of fur farms, with complete addresses, etc. so that these animal concentration camps cannot remain hidden from the public any longer.

The Holland Reports - $8
Holland became the first nation in the world to ban fox farming. This is a collection of reports that were submitted to parliament when the ban was being debated. It contains a report that is sympathetic to mink farmers, and is then followed by 12 letters refuting its statements. This is an excellent resource for anyone who wants in-depth knowledge of the horrors of fur farming. Most of the focus is on mink. The mink ban failed by just a few short votes.

Living With Beaver - $3
Trappers are known for using beaver control as an excuse for their continued killing of animals. This booklet argues that trapping does not control beaver populations, and provides non-lethal methods that are effective. It also details the environmental benefits of having a strong beaver population.

Jaws of Steel by Thomas Eveland - $8
This is the most comprehensive anti-trapping book ever written. It covers the suffering of trapped animals concisely and refutes all common pro-trapping arguments.

Fur Farming in Finland - $2
Finland produces nearly 70% of the world's ranch raised fox skins. This report details the problems inherent on Finnish fox farms.



ONE STRUGGLE

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"If the injustice is part of the necessary friction of the machine of government, let it go, let it go; perchance it will wear out. If the injustice has a spring, or a pulley, or a rope, or a crank, exclusively for itself, then perhaps you may consider whether the remedy will not be worse than the evil; but if it is of such a nature that it requires you to be the agent of injustice to another, then, I say, break the law. Let your life be a ***counter friction*** *to stop the machine. What I have to do is to see, at any rate, that I do not lend myself to the wrong which I condemn."*

--Henry David Thoreau, On the Duty of Civil Disobedience