winter edition

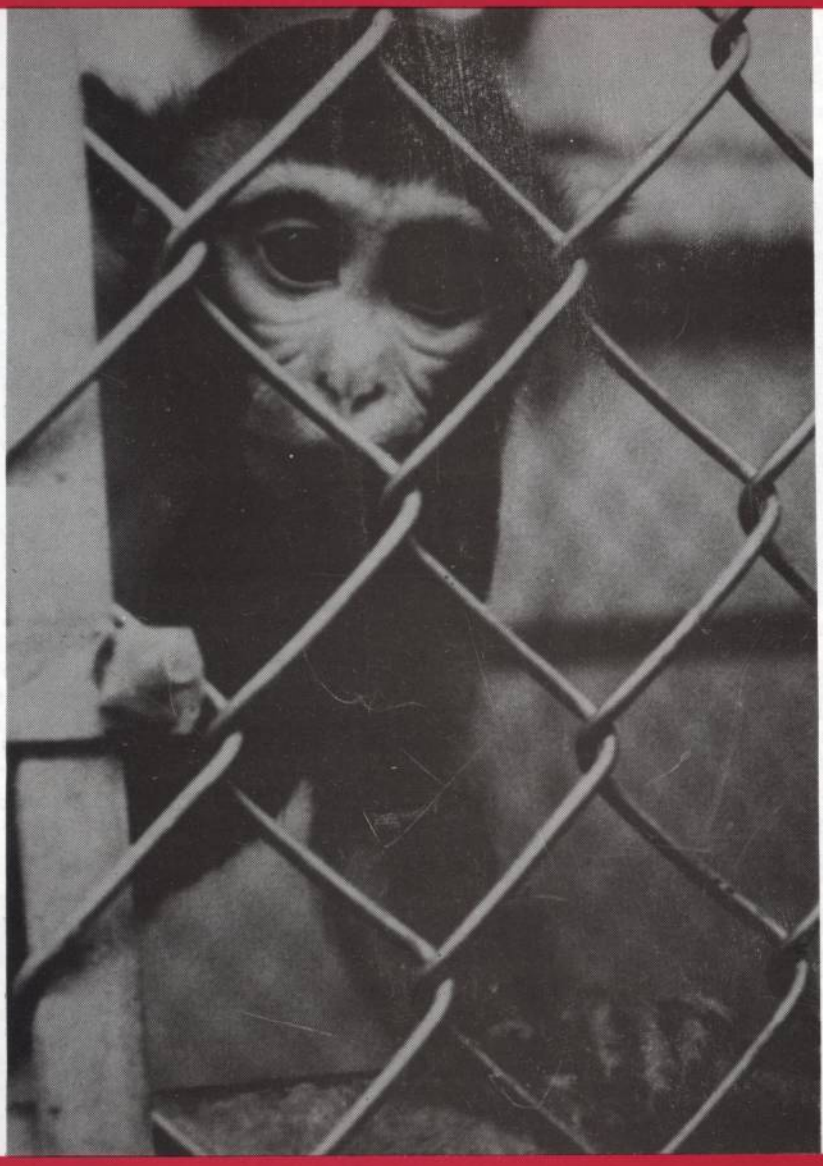
ISSUE SEVEN

60p

flesh and blood

the voice of exploited animals!

ZOOS: Prison or Sanctuary?



SEAL WAR CONTINUES

ANIMALS IN POLITICS

International News
Animal Views

Government's White Paper
— Business as usual for laboratory animals

Help Stop LD50 Test

Flesh and Blood magazine

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We think the animals need *Flesh and Blood*, although Governments won't agree. Our survival lies in the success of our raffle, therefore can we please ask all readers to make a special effort to sell as many tickets as possible. Please write or phone if you require extra tickets. Thanks must go out to Sue for handling our advertising and who has had to leave us and to Maureen for taking over on a temporary basis. We need someone to fill the void! If you can help please contact us, you should have access to receive incoming phone calls during the day, have some knowledge of advertising and if possible be prepared to sell space!

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GUEST EDITORIAL

Stefan Ormrod – Chief Wildlife Officer
Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

ZOOS: Prison or Sanctuary?

"A robin redbreast in a cage
Puts all heaven in a rage".

For a very many people, William Blake's famous verse sums up their distaste of the zoo concept. Zoos are barbaric places where wild animals, torn from their native habitat, are incarcerated behind bars to vegetate their lives away. Nowadays, I feel uneasy whenever I visit a zoo, but I think this idea of "prison" is far too simplistic and I will endeavour to explain why.

When considering the vexed question of zoos, I have always tried to break it into two parts. The first aspect of which is, should zoos exist? This is merely a matter of opinion, which clearly depends on your own personal view. It is also a somewhat fruitless question to pursue, for zoos have been in existence for over 3,000 years and, with public opinion about equally divided as to their validity, they will doubtless continue for a further 3,000 years.

The second question, and in my view the important one, is do zoos cause suffering? To try to answer this we have to define captivity and determine, as far as possible, what captivity means to the animal. Some years ago a toad moved into my greenhouse and spent several months contentedly plodding about my plants, feeding on some of the rather unwelcome guests who constantly invaded the building, and burying itself in the thick, moist peat during the heat of the day. For a relatively long

period the toad was to all intents and purposes, a captive animal. Yet I think few people would venture to suggest that "my" toad suffered. He lived in a warm, moist environment which was full of lush vegetables and an abundant food supply and, being rather low on the scale of "intelligence", he clearly had no concept of being captive. In addition, although the toad would not have appreciated it, he was protected from the dangers posed by predatory species. You will find that regular food supply and safety from predation are arguments that many zoos put forward in their defence and those are superficially attractive propositions although they are open to abuse being precisely the "welfare" justification for battery cages.

toad, chimpanzee and dolphin if they were to continue to survive in the ecological niche they are physically and mentally adapted for.

Nonetheless, we can determine many facets of the animal character with a fair degree of accuracy. At a basic level we can use simple logic. Ducks need water, they are physically adapted to it and it provides them with plant and animal life for food, a breeding area and sanctuary from predators. We can go further than this, thanks to the advancement of wildlife biology, and state that predatory species are more "cunning" than herbivorous species; omnivorous species are more active and investigative than either of the other two. You only have to think about it. The

and insectivores you can measure these in square metres) but, in general, their movements are governed by food availability, suitable mates and the presence of rivals of their own species. By laying on food and suitable mates, you will naturally reduce the spatial requirements of the animal.

Because of the limited space in an Editorial I have, of necessity, oversimplified these examples, but the point I am making is that we do have sufficient information, on many species, to create zoo environments that are relative to the physical and mental requirements of the animal. This is not a hypothetical point, it is a fact. In the better zoos of the world I have seen such achievements, but regretably they are in the minority.

What really puts all heaven in





Naturalistic Environment

Of course my toad is a simplistic model: the point is can the model be applied to a species that are higher on the evolutionary scale? I believe it can, but the problems of creating a naturalistic environment will naturally increase with the creature's curiosity, inventiveness, intelligence and size.

It is difficult, if not impossible, to determine intelligence, for the only criterion we can use is human intelligence. Using this yardstick we put my toad well down the scale, chimpanzees high up the scale and dolphins – well, everyone is still arguing about dolphins!

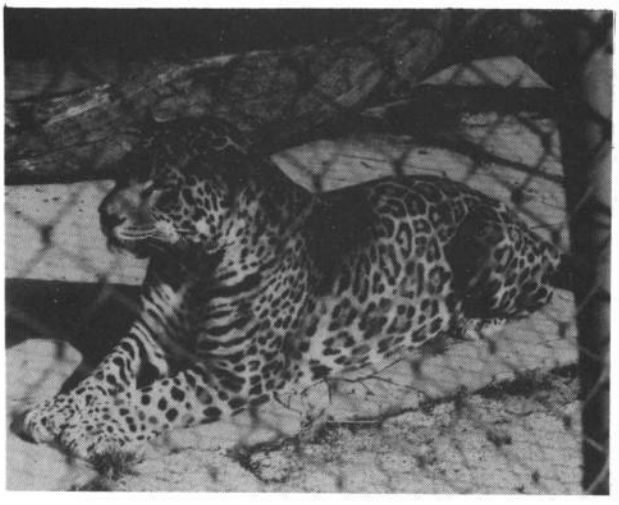
The problem with using this type of criterion is it misses a fundamental point – "intelligence" is relevant only to the creature and its relationship with its conspecific environment and so on. Human intelligence would almost certainly be totally useless to the grazing animal spends a large part of its day doing just that, the remainder of the day is spent chewing the cud and sleeping. The predatory animal too spends a large part of the day resting, but when hungry it has to use skill, quite often learned skill, to obtain that much needed meal. The omnivore, who eats almost anything from grass to flesh, is usually "on the go" for much longer periods.

Territories

We also know that most animals are confined by territories. Tigers have been known to travel sixty miles in a day in search of food, but there is no evidence to suggest that the animal fancied a country walk. Indeed when food is locally abundant, few species will bother to move any great distance. As you would expect, larger species tend to have larger territories, smaller species smaller ones (in the case of some of the rodents

a rage is not the cage, it's the environmental quality of that cage.

In Britain that rage is inflamed by the fact that a large proportion of our zoo owners are totally ignorant of their animals' psychological requirements and, if the truth be known, they couldn't give a damn about the mental well-being of their charges anyway. So long as the animals live for a good period (which, with modern nutrition and veterinary care, is usually greater than longevity in the wild) they are satisfied. That reminds you of battery cages as well, doesn't it? That is why, in my capacity as Chief Wildlife Officer of the RSPCA, I still come across creatures like chimpanzees living in ones and twos in bleak, barred cells with only a suspended tyre for amusement. Considering that the chimpanzee is an investigative and, dare I say it, "intelligent" omnivore, is it any





wonder that many of these animals are reduced to dull-witted, moronic apologies in contrast to wild relatives?

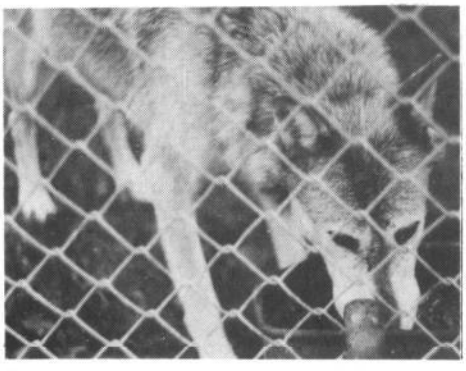
If this is true, I can hear many of you say, why don't you prosecute? Sadly, the only protection afforded the zoo animal is the 1911 Protection of Animals Act and this covers what I would term overt forms of cruelty. Deprive the animal of water, starve it, beat it, or severely confine it in cramped, wet, insanitary accommodation and the Act can be used. Drive it insane and the Act is ineffective because of the difficulty of establishing that type of cruelty "beyond reasonable doubt" which is the standard required.

Self Mutilation

Abnormal behaviour in captivity is a common phenomenon, it is well documented in both zoo and circus animals. Vices range from excessive sex drive to self mutilation and I have seen monkeys that, over a period of time, have chewed off their own fingers. Incidentally, you may say that a case of that kind is overt cruelty but it is in fact just a symptom of mental deprivation. If you can't prove mental suffering I'm afraid there is no case against the zoo owner for its physical manifestations. The fact that these vices do not appear in the wild is, in my opinion, reason enough to suggest much is wrong. Unfortunately many experts accept that these abnormalities occur, but argue that it cannot be proven that the animal suffered in the transition between normal and abnormal. Being a humanitarian, I am on the side of doubt and afford the animal the benefit that it may well have suffered.

Early in 1984, the Zoo Licensing Act will come into force. I am optimistic that the Act will make sub-standard zoos dramatically improve, or close them down. However, I am not naive enough to think that the Act will be an immediate panacea solving all the problems. For my part I will continue to fight for the well-being of all captive wildlife, by constantly monitoring the effects of the Zoo Act and continuing to press for improvements in the 1911 Act. For those of you who are concerned about the welfare of captive wildlife, I urge you to contact me whenever you see a situation that causes you concern. Your complaint, whether it proves to be well founded or not, will be dealt with sympathetically and with understanding and your communication may well provide information that is invaluable.

Finally I would ask readers not to condemn zoos out of hand, that is an entirely different moral issue, just condemn the slum zoos that proliferate in Britain today.





They said it...!

"If fox-hunting was abolished tomorrow, the whole countryside would be filled with foxes holding placards wanting it to be brought back.

Victor Lownes, Playboy

"By learning to love and respect inferior creatures, man will also learn to be more human with his equals".

Pope John Paul II

"What we are defending is man's age old practise of pursuing live quarry for pleasure. This needs no further moral justification in my view for it is as natural to man and woman as the air they breathe".

Stephen Hastings, Chairman, B.F.S.S.

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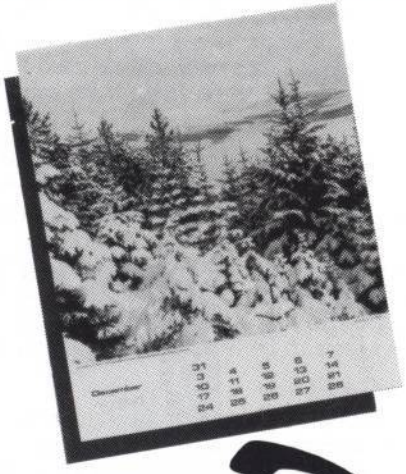
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The calendar is high quality litho printed, measures 11.7 × 9.7 inches and is supplied in a cardboard envelope suitable for posting. And it's offered at the same price as last year. Buy several for friends and **SAVE £££s** – see order form for details. Altogether, an inexpensive and most acceptable gift for all who treasure the richly varied and ever changing beauty of our trees.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

AMERICA
A disgusting plan to use live dogs as targets for shooting experts has been disclosed recently. The idea is to give student doctors practical experience in treating wounds. A spokesman for the U.S. military medical school in Bethesda, Maryland. said "The dogs would be shot with high-powered guns while anaesthetised and would be put to sleep afterwards without ever waking up. About 80 dogs a year would be involved in the scheme, however there is mounting opposition to the idea and a number of welfare organisations are organising protests.

SPAIN
Every year in the Spanish town of Carpio De Tajo, near the popular resort of Toledo, live geese are strung up by their feet, on a line, and "brave" horsemen ride up to the terrified birds, at speed, and try to pull off the animals head. The horsemen can have up to ten attempts while large crowds gather to watch. Each time a rider attempts to decapitate the bird a large cheer comes from the mindless crowd. Spain has few animal protection laws. If you would like to stamp out this barbarism, write letters of protest, stating that you and your friends will boycott Spanish holdiay resorts to: Spanish Embassy, 24 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QA.

AUSTRALIA
On February 16 "Ash Wednesday", bushfires ravaged large areas in South Australia and Victoria. Animal Liberation nationally raised almost $3,000.00 to aid animals injured or made homeless by the fires. This money was distributed to the Australian Wildlife Protection Council, the Cape Barren Geese Rescue Centre and the Great Ocean Road Rescue Centre.

BRITISH COLUMBIA
The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals has achieved a significant victory in securing a partial ban on the use of the leghold trap in British Columbia. No longer will the trap be legal for racoons, weasels, wolverines, squirrels, martens, skunks or fishers, nor for beavers, otters, muskrats or minks when trapped on land. Although the leghold trap may still be used for other animals, about half of all animals in British Columbia as a whole will be freed from this abuse.

NEW MEXICO
Stubborn lab animals at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico have foiled the repeated attempts of researchers to give them cancer. The animals remain obstinately healthy in spite of years of forced inhalation of glass insulation fibres. The failure comes as a distinct disappointment to the researchers, who initiated the experiment in the hope of simulating a situation which could conceivably apply to humans.More than ten years ago scientists established that surgical implantation of the fibres causes cancer in lab animals. Since that situation could obviously not occur outside of the laboratory, however, the next logical step was to try to reproduce a situation in which it *could* occur. The scientists' efforts continue, but so far there seems to be little prospect of success.

ICELAND
The world-wide slave trade in Orcas—killer whales— centres on a shabby private zoo near the Icelandic capital Reykjavik. Greenpeace's campaign to end the Orca trade will now focus on plans to have this so-called zoo closed once and for all. The zoo, which is called Saedryasafnid, keeps its animals in squalid conditions and, indeed, only keeps up its front as a zoo so that it can pursue the lucrative trade of selling captured Orcas for a reputed 50,000 dollars each. Licences to capture live Orcas are permitted by the Icelandic Government on condition that part of the profits from their sale is used to subsidise the zoo as a public amenity.

Moves are now afoot among animal welfare groups in Iceland to have the zoo closed.

TASMANIA
The Tasmanian Government, which received international recognition in 1982 for the mass rescue of stranded pilot whales beached near Strahan, has made budgetary provision for whale rescue this year. The National Parks and Wildlife Service, and the Department of Education have joined forces to train volunteers and park wardens in whale rescue procedures, and arrangements have been made for equipment to be rushed to the site of a whale stranding. (*IUCN News Service*)

TURKEY
Partly as a result of the Peoples' Trust for Endangered Species' campaign to stop the slaughter of dolphins in the Black Sea, the Turkish Government has stated that the hunt has been suspended as from 1 April this year, until scientific investigations into the area's declining dolphin population have been carried out.

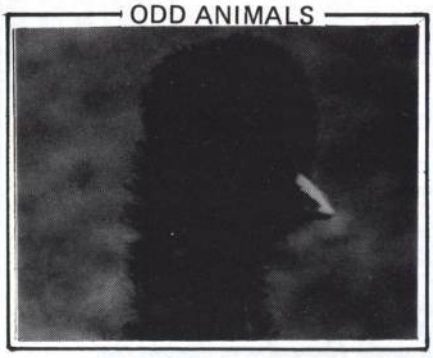
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ODD ANIMALS



No it's not the Editor–but what is it?

(answer at foot of page)

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RAGS



We called him Rags. He was just a cur,
but twice on the Western Line,
That little old bunch of faithful fur,
had offered his life for mine.
And all that he got was bones and bread,
or the leavings of the soldiers grub.
But he'd give his heart for a pat on the head,
or a friendly tickle and rub.
And Rags got home with the regiment,
but then, in the breaking away –
Well, whether they stole him or whether he went,
I'm not prepared to say.
But we mustered out, some to beer and gruel,
and some to sherry and shad.
And I went back to the Sawbones School,
where I was still an undergrad.
One day they took us budding MD's to one of those institutes,
where they demonstrate every new disease by means of bisected brutes.
They had one animal tacked and tied and slit like a full dressed fish.
With his vitals pumping away inside as pleasant as one might wish.
I stopped to look like the rest, of course, and the beast's eyes levelled mine.
His short tail thumped with a feeble force, and he uttered a tender whine.
It was Rags, yes Rags! who was martyred there,
who was quartered and crucified.
And he whined that whine which is doggish prayer –
then he licked my hand – and died.
And I was no better in part nor whole than the gang I was found among.
And his innocent blood was on the soul which he blessed with his dying tongue.
Well! I've seen men go to courageous death –
In air, on sea, on land!
But only a dog would spend his last breath in a kiss for his murderer's hand.
And if there's no Heaven for love like that, for such four-footed loyalty–well
If I have any choice I tell you flat –
I'll take my chance in hell!

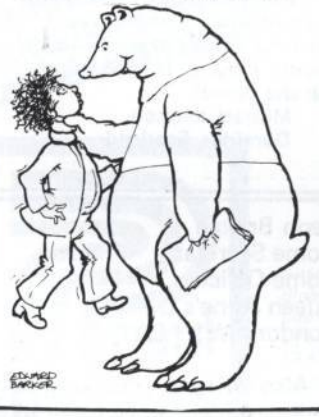
EDMUND VANCE COOK



After reading Animal Views (Page 9 *Flesh & Blood,* issue 6) I thought I would send the enclosed photograph, which was taken a few years ago in Edinburgh Zoo. I was pleased to see *most* of the animals had plenty of space and on the whole quite a good environment but I was saddened to see this bear. The poor animal was in a very small cage, as you can see in this photograph. The cage was also very smelly and dirty. After visiting this zoo I had the same opinion as Anne Brooks (issue 6), that some animals are happier in captivity than others. My personal view is that there should be generous minimum sizes of enclosures for captive animals, laid down by law, and animals such as this poor bear should be protected from living in misery as this animal was.

Duncan McMillan, Dunfermline, Scotland.

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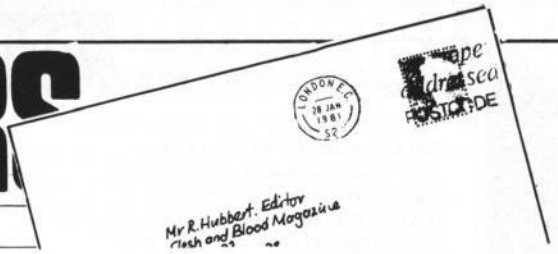
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LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR



Dear Ed,

With regards to the sea hunt–the Canadian Government and industry have a long history of lying to the public. This is often done by clever manipulation of the press. For example, in 1972, just before the hunt began, the major daily press in Canada carried headlines stating, "Seal Hunt Ended". In fact the truth was that the Government only banned large ships from the Gulf for that year. Not affected were large ships in the front area., the many 60 foot ships in the Gulf, and the future. Most people were not aware of these facts and got the impression that the Government was finally taking care of things by completely ending the hunt forever. The result was to stop the swell of protest that was rising to fever pitch. Government and industry statements are used as a basis for claiming victory. In reality, baby seals were killed this year; by the same merciless clubbing method. I witnessed the clubbing and saw the piles of skins myself. Further, the future does not look good. Economic viability of the industry has been ensured by a direct Government subsidy of half a million dollars CDN. The money is being used to purchase skins, store them, and to search for new markets. In addition, the EEC seal product import ban focuses narrowly on the skins of whitecoat seals that are from 1½ to 3½ weeks old. From the 4 week old seals point of view, that can hardly be viewed as a victory; and the oil made from the whitecoats' blubber can not be forgotten.

These criticisms must not be interpreted as saying there is no value in lobbying the EEC. An excellent job has been done, which is one of the main reasons why a relatively low number of Canadian harp seals were killed this year. However, never *should a victory in terms of seal lives be proclaimed unless it can be verified first hand. The reason for this is clear–a mistake gives unwarranted credibility to the authorities and industry, and at the same time placates protesters. What is worse, once the damage is done, momentum is broken and the opposition is faced with the difficult task of rebuilding to the previous level of protest.*

It is of critical importance that we recognise the difference between talk and action. This applies to progressive movements as well as destructive ones. We must carry out some new, creative actions to protect the seals. We certainly can not expect Government or industry to do it.

Miles Goldstick, Field Agent
Sea Shepherd, Glasgow.

Dear Ed,

Thank you for issue 6 of Flesh and Blood, *which I received recently. I had to write to say that I thought the cover photograph of the baby seal was really lovely. It was good to hear that we are winning the battle, if not the war–yet! I always look forward to reading your "Guest Editorial" feature and I hope the magazine continues to improve. I have enclosed a small donation, together with an order for 10 copies of the next issue.*

Susan Carter,
Poole, Dorset.

Dear Ed,

After reducing the amount of meat in my diet by a considerable amount, I finally gave up meat completely just after Christmas. Since then I have felt better, both physically and mentally. It was only recently that a friend gave me a copy of Flesh and Blood *to read, and I must say that it has prompted me to go even further in my attempts to save animals from suffering. I have now stopped using all the cosmetics I already had, and have bought new supplies which are guaranteed non-animal tested. These include Beauty Without Cruelty and Tiki.*

Miss K.A. McDonald,
Rochford, Essex.

Dear Ed,

It was really refreshing to read Dr. Mavis Bonnard's article, "Must Animals Suffer" (Flesh and Blood, *issue 6). I have always thought that the majority of people working with medicine, on the subject of animal experiments, have thought that the ends justify the means, however, this article proved me wrong and I feel it is a shame that colleagues in the same profession as Dr. Bonnard are not prepared to stand up and be counted. Dr. Bonnard–animals suffering in experimental laboratories need more people like you!*

Peter Domingue,
Cambridge.

Dear Ed,

Ever since having read William Kitzwinkles "Doctor Rat", I have searched for a publication which illuminates the problems and injustices of animal exploitation in a, let me say, more objective manner. While the book provided a springboard for my interest, I think with your publication I can further that interest into participation in lessening the suffering of animals.

I live in a rural area, where the ever-obnoxious figure of country squire or huntsman is in his, or her element. It is a beautiful area, too, abundant in wildlife such as foxes, badgers and deer to name a few. I work with the Ordinance Survey, which involves work in all of the Galloway region, and has given me the enviable opportunity to see and study the natural beauty of the area–although a large majority of the grouse-shoots moorlands are becoming forested at an alarming rate. What disgusts me is that a minority of priveleged people should pay their respects to nature by shooting at it with a gun or using dogs to tear it apart, this being an area of grouse-shoots and fox-hunts. Keep up the good work with Flesh and Blood!

Michael Johnson,
Dumfries, Scotland.

FLESH AND BLOOD COMMENT

See article p.17

It is now obvious that animals living lives of hell cannot rely on the present Government for protection. We therefore ask all readers of this publication to take the following action.

FOR THE ANIMALS:
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The Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
London SW1.

Your own MP,
c/o House of Commons,
London SW1A 0AA

Leon Brittan,
Home Secretary,
Home Office,
Queen Anne's Gate,
London SW1H 9AT

• Also write to your local newspaper asking readers to do likewise.

REMEMBER THE ANIMALS THIS CHRISTMAS

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Nearly every day the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) receives letters and telephone calls from caring people around the world. Their pleas are for help for our animal friends, the cries for help may be for Dogs in the Philippines, Seals in the Atlantic Ocean, Whales in the Indian Ocean, Kangaroos in Australia, Polar Bears in Canada, Vicuna in South America, Rabbits in Spain, and so the list goes on. The strain that is put upon an international organisation like IFAW is a daunting one. IFAW's help is only made possible by people like you that CARE. Your warmest wishes this Christmas can help the animals by purchasing IFAW's merchandise.



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Seal War continues...



By Robert Hunter and
David Garrick.
Edited by Sea Shepherd, Glasgow.

A dual between an ecology ship and two Canadian Coast Guard icebreakers in the Gulf of St. Lawrence in Canada ended on March 27 when a Special Weapons And Tactical (SWAT) squad, backed by snipers, stormed aboard the 200 foot Sea Shepherd II under cover of smoke grenades and water cannons, smashing through a barbed wire barrier erected by the protesters.

All 17 people on board were arrested. Captain of the Sea Shepherd, Paul Watson, and three others, were arrested later on Cape Breton Island, after having trekked across 10 miles of broken pack ice; a feat one RCMP official equated with "walking on water".

The entire Sea Shepherd crew have been charged with violation of Canada's infamous Seal Protection Regulations, which make it a crime for anyone but hunters to be within half a nautical mile of the seals. The crew also face charges of public mischief and conspiracy to commit extortion– for threatening to ram sealing ships, which could technically lead to life sentences. Seven of the protesters immediately went on a hunger strike that lasted until they were released on bail, five days later.

After almost two decades of steadily escalating conflict between the sealing industry and conservationists, the confrontation at this years hunt was the most dramatic ever.

The Sea Shepherd successfully kept sealing ships from entering or leaving St. John's harbour in Newfoundland for eight days. The sealing vessels which traditionally take on crew and supplies there were unwilling to challenge the black-painted, steel-hulled ex North Sea trawler waiting for them in the open waters.

Watson rammed a pirate whaling ship off the coast of Portugal in 1979 and vowed to do the same thing to any ships attempting to head out to the seal nurseries.

Faced with the worst ice conditions in years, the Sea Shepherd set out for the Gulf of St. Lawrence, under the cover of night and heavy fog. On arrival there the conservation vessel charged three whaling ships, foghorn blowing. The sealers ran from their grisly work on the ice back to their ships and fled to port! The two Canadian icebreakers, carrying over 50 Mounties and Ministry of Fisheries officials, remained to corner the ecologists.

It took two days, during which the seal hunt was brought to a complete halt, before the weather worsened enough for pressure ridges to force the ice pans together, locking the Sea Shepherd II in an unbreakable grip.

Ordered to surrender

Repeated orders to surrender were ignored. An attempt to lower a Mountie from a Huey helicopter was called off when the Sea Shepherd crew demonstrated their readiness to defend the ship with water hoses.

The Sea Shepherd's dramatic intervention came just as the seal hunt seemed to be winding down, injured by a ban on imports of whitecoat seal skins by the EEC. The Canadian Government, which had lobbied almost as furiously as environmental groups throughout Europe over the ban, used the occasion to threaten slashing European fishing quotas with Canada's

Sea Shepherd in the ice.
Gulf of St. Lawrence, March 24 1983
Photo: Niles Bour



Sealing ship "Sadie Charles" with hunter on the ice–seen through Sea Shepherd's barbed wire defence.
Photo: Niles Bour



200 mile limit. Ottawa promptly handed the Canadian Sealers Association (CSA) $50,000 CDN to try and develop markets elsewhere. Further, at the beginning of April, the Government of Newfoundland granted half a million dollars CDN to the CSA for purchase of skins, storage and to continue the search for a market—possibly in Russia or Asia.

Before the hunt began Canadian officials announced that, because of the "market situation" and not any law, no whitecoats would be hunted. Neither would the clubs traditionally used to bash the seals' skulls be employed any longer. Only rifles would be used. The only buyer, Corino Ltd., of Nova Scotia (owned by Reiber Ltd., of Bergen, Norway), announced they would purchase 60,000 "beater" skins, slightly older seals that have lost their white fur. This is possible because of a loophole in the EEC ban.

While some environmentalists hailed the announcement as a victory, others, including Watson, dismissed it as a manoeuvre designed to discourage media attention while a mass seal slaughter continued on the ice, out of sight, out of mind. If that, indeed, had been the Government's hope, it was quickly dashed by the arrival of the Sea Shepherd II at the mouth of St. John's harbour and in the Gulf. The seal hunt was in the news around the world again, and it was documented that whitecoats were again killed in the same merciless manner.

At one point, Watson offered the sealers $1.2 million CDN to forget the hunt; raised by the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) and the Fund for Animals. Sniffed sealing captain Morrissey Johnson, "No sealer would stoop so low as to take money from a seal protester".

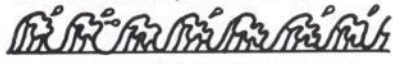
On Prince Edward Island, members of IFAW were trapped in a Charlottetown hotel, along with a contingent of US Congressional aides dispatched to monitor the hunt, by a mob of 100 angry seal hunters, chanting "go back where you came from". The IFAW's aircraft was seized by RCMP, though charges were dropped in a few days.

The EEC ban had the effect of ripping the blood-stained clubs from the hands of the sealers, and the Sea Shepherd's direct action on the ice drove the retreating seal hunters back still further.

At the end of the 1983 hunt, less than 20% of the 186,000 Government quota were killed.

This is the lowest number for over 250 years, and the first time ever that the Government quota has not been reached or exceeded.

But, because of Government subsidization, the sealing industry is still alive and well. The seal war is definitely not over yet.



DON'T HELP!



It's too late – by the time you read this, I will already be dead . . . thankfully! A happy release after blinding, scalding, irradiation, poisoning, mutilation or electric shocks. But you can help my fellow sufferers. Over 4,000,000 experiments are performed every year in Britain on dogs, cats, monkeys, pigs, sheep, goats, rabbits, guinea-pigs, rats and mice. 83% of these experiments are conducted without an anaesthetic and thousands of animals are left to die in agony.

The LD50 Test involves poisoning to death thousands of animals to assess the dose which will kill 50% in any given test group. It is used in British laboratories to test weedkillers, pesticides, drugs, food additives and detergents. Scientists have stated that this procedure has very little value. Animals therefore suffer in vain.

Typical signs of poisoning include diarrhoea, yelping and whining, bleeding from mouth and convulsions.

Death will come as a merciful release.

LD50 = LETHAL DOSE 50%

HOW CAN YOU HELP:

Write strong letters of protest to Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1H 9AT., Your M.P., C/o House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA., – How about a protest letter, say once a month? Also write to your local newspaper, quoting the above article might be a help.

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It has been described as ritual mass execution of animals . . . . . a wasteful endeavour in which scientific inventiveness and common sense have been replaced by a thoughtless completion of standard protocols . . . . . unjustified . . . . . the scientific dark ages . . . . . a crude body count . . . . . and these are descriptions from the scientific community!

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"THEY SUFFER IN SILENCE — WILL YOU HELP THEM?"

Laboratory Dog — Sentenced to Death (Photograph by kind permission of Henry Spira).

Every year, thousands of cats and dogs suffer and die in British laboratories, some of them were once family pets stolen from their owners. In a recent report, the Medical Research Council, Laboratory Animals Centre admitted that non-accredited dealers "still supply 24-30% of cats and dogs used in laboratories".

The types of experiment performed on these innocent animals include the force feeding of pesticides, herbicides, substances used in industry and in the household, cosmetics, toiletries and food additives. The infliction of physical trauma, burning and scalding, interference with the central nervous system and brain and the application of substances to the eye.

Of the total number of experiments carried out each year on animals, 80% are performed while the animals are under no anaesthetic for any part of the experiment. There can be no doubt that pain and suffering are inflicted on defenceless animals in British Laboratories as the following examples illustrate:

. . . Beagle dogs were fed on toothpaste containing chloroform over a period of seven and a half years. Vomiting occurred in some dogs as did loss of appetite and bodyweight; 20 per cent of the dogs were hyperexcitable and ten of the animals died during convulsions. (There is no good reason to add chloroform to toothpaste except that it enhances the flavour and is therefore good for business). *(Journal of Environmental Pathology and Toxicology (1979) 2:835-851).*

. . . Electrical stimulation of the tooth pulp (via implanted electrodes) in conscious dogs. *(J. Pharmacol. Methods, 1979: 2, 71).*

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·Animals in Politics?·

by Peter Mosby, Secretary, Animal Protection Association.

The landslide victory for the Conservatives in the General Election is a disaster for the animal rights movement and has set our work back many years. This is not, I hasten to add, because the Tories have a bad record on animal rights, which they have, but because of the huge gamble taken by an organisation grandly titled the Animal Protection Alliance. They had the idea of persuading political parties to include animal welfare issues in manifestos, and then telling people which party to vote for. A brilliant idea, but a gamble that has failed and will cost us all a great deal because they did not pause to consider the consquences should they fail. The whole scheme was an unmitigated disaster, and it was obvious from the beginning that the 'Alliance' would be advocating people to vote Labour.

In a recent 'Howl' a correspondent in the LACS stated that they had created history by being the first non-political organisation to have the guts to come off the fence. This comment is an insult to the many non-political organisations and the actions show stupidity rather than guts. The article has various references to 'hunting Tory MP's and hunting Tory Squires', which would seem to show that the LACS is still under the misapprehension that only Tories hunt. No doubt this election will have shown differently.

Let us have a look at a few of the results of the 'Alliance's' actions; Firstly, they have entered the arena of party politics by campaigning for the Labour Party, as have the IFAW. Unfortunately for all of us, and we are all affected because in national adverts the 'Alliance' made it seem that they spoke for all instead of a minority, the Labour Party was slaughtered. This means the electorate voted against the Labour manifesto and for the Tory manifesto. The Tories now have a mandate from the people (at least in the number of seats) to maintain the status quo. Carry on hunting, vivisection etc. When the animal rights movement makes representations to the Government it will not be as a pressure group but as part of the opposition, and there is a great difference.

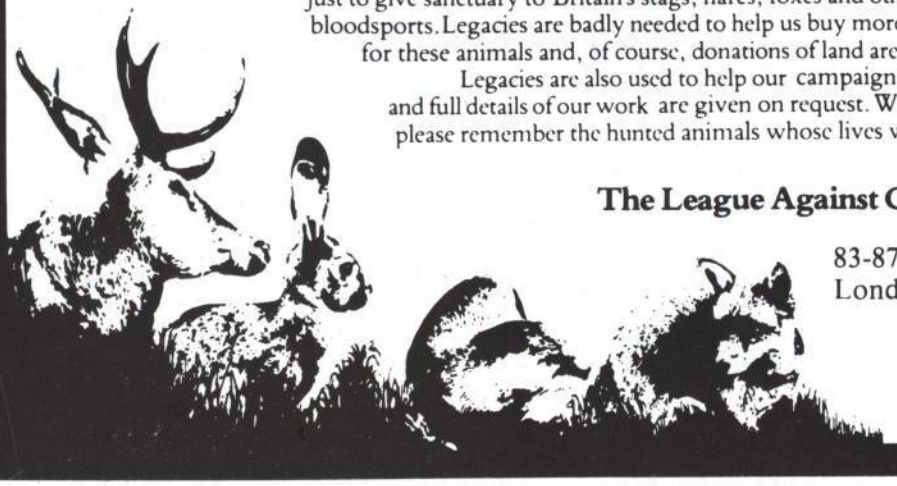
Financial

Another point to consider is the financial aspect of siding with one political party. The animal welfare movement is supported by all shades of political opinion, from Communist to Tory. There has already been some indication that those with Conservative leanings will no longer financially support a movement which is working for, and spending money on, the election of an opposing party. This is quite understandable for those with strong political views. It is also a point to consider as to whether an organisation should give money to a political party, or, as in the case of the IFAW, use money for political party adverts in national newspapers. These actions could cost the movement a great deal, both in income and support. One other point which must be considered is the question of how many people will have voted against the Labour Party on the issue of banning hunting.

Whilst the 'Alliance' was busy counting how many people would switch votes to Labour, I wonder if they ever considered how many votes could be lost? It is certain that in some areas many traditional Labour voters switched allegiance over the issue of what they consider to be their pastime. They have also frightened many anglers into supporting the hunting fraternity by the fear that angling will be next on the list. LACS and Richard Course, despite his standing, have completely failed to appreciate that many hunts are composed of ordinary working men who probably supported Labour. It is also quite possible that many people recommended to vote Labour would have done so anyway. It would be unfair to suggest that the 'Alliance's' actions have cost Labour any seats, but it could have cost them many votes. Should it be found that the swing for animal issues was only equal to the swing against a ban on hunting then the whole exercise will have been a costly waste of time. The LACS comments about having the guts to come off the political fence are an insult and show how little they seem to have grasped about how much, if not most, of the animal rights movement works. Many of us are non-political in the sense that we do not side with any one particular party. Even our committee are not interested in the political persuasions of each other. We are there to fight animal abuse and will campaign against all who support the use of animals in an immoral way, be they Labour, Conservative or any other. We will use politics in a wide sense to bring about legislation but we will not ally ourselves as a group to any particular party. We do not believe that animals should be used as political pawns. They are above party politics and to suggest otherwise is to lower their status, especially as the Labour Party proposed to ban fox-hunting but was suggesting the control of foxes by shooting or gassing. A trade-off of one kind of death for another. The 'Alliance' was wrong in its actions and it was told so in two letters from the APA (not to be confused with the 'Alliance') but Mr. Richard Course chose not to even answer. Only time will tell the full extent of the damage done to the animal rights movement. It would be wise of Richard Course and his 'Alliance' to leave party politics alone and return to what some are paid to do – look after the welfare of animals. We have enough problems without Course and Company adding to them.

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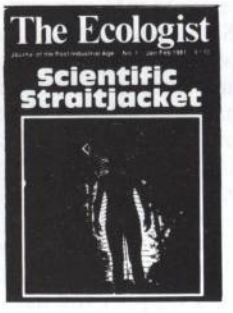
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·Animals in Politics·

by Richard Course, Secretary, Animal Protection Alliance.

It is very good of Flesh and Blood to present the Animal Protection Alliance with an opportunity to respond to the comments made by Peter Mosby on our campaign to promote animal protection within the party political arena.

The most glaringly obvious fault in Mosby's analysis is the fact that millions of pounds and much non-political effort has been expended by all animal protection organisations during the last fifty years while experiments on animals jumped from a few hundred to five million, while factory farming was first tried and now confines hundreds of millions of victims in appalling and miserable conditions, and while bloodsports have increased in numbers and victims such as the otter and the hare are hunted to extinction. Of course non political action has failed, and worse, has allowed these monstrous activities to escalate.

However, non-political action was tried, and well tried for fifty years, therefore we can forget it, safe in the knowledge that this particular road goes nowhere. A very experienced politician and indeed an elder statesman showed us the way forward in 1978.

The Rt Hon Lord Houghton of Sowerby, CH., former Cabinet Minister and widely respected man, not Peter Mosby (whoever he is) set up the first campaign to put animals into politics with the simple statement: "Political parties form policies and all political parties have policies on every subject except animal protection, we must encourage these parties to formulate policies on animal protection as the first and vital step in securing legislation to protect animals from abuse and cruelty."

Escalating Cruelty

Anyone with the sense that God gave to the average goat will know that in a democratic and free society only Parliament can stop this escalating cruelty by enforced legislation, and Parliament is comprised of political parties with differing policies. Mosby is quick to point out what he regards as faults, but in common with all life's failures they will criticise after the event and still not have any pragmatic alternatives to propose.

The fact is that we live in a society governed and controlled by the ballot box. The chartists and suffragettes actually died to give us all the vote. The political parties present their policies to the electorate in General Elections and people are given the opportunity to vote and elect Governments according to these policies.

I, for one, would not want it any other way. The Animal Protection Alliance gathered a massive 500,000 supporters in just eight months, this figure exceeds the combined membership of the RSPCA, NAVS, BUAV, LACS, CIWF and Animal Aid by five times. No other organisation in this country can be more effective at the ballot box on a single issue.

Yet this wally, this nobody, this Peter Mosby thinks he knows better than Lords, MP's, churchmen, seasoned and professional campaigners backed by years of experience.

He gets upset when 500,000 people secure a total vote of 8,500,000 people to protect animals because it offends his tin pot organisation of fifteen bigoted, unintelligent, narrow minded nonentities. It makes me sick. Yes, we failed this time round, but the election of a Government with a manifesto commitment which specifies what it will do to protect animals from cruelty (and Mr Peter Mosby) remains the only method available to us if we are to win our hotly contested and highly controversial reforms.

Finally, for those few who have not yet decided to fully support the political campaign, there are a few points worth remembering.

Animal Protection Policies

In the General Election campaign in 1979 a major political party, for the first time in history, laid out its policies on animal protection, the other two parties both responded by putting their policies on animals in their manifestos published a week later. In 1982 the Animal Protection Alliance campaign was launched to attract the estimated three million votes available for animals.

From the day this campaign was launched it was a foregone conclusion that all parties would, for the second time in history, have animals mentioned in their manifestos at the next General Election. In fact, there were better commitments from all three parties than were in the 1979 manifestos. In that regard the Animal Protection Alliance campaign achieved its first objective. Our second objective was more difficult, that was to gather the three million votes and advise the respondents on the best manifesto. The election was called early and we only achieved 500,000 instead of three million votes for animals. Nevertheless the Conservative vote was down by 600,000 compared with the 1979 election result, despite the Falklands factor. Unfortunately the anti-Tory vote was divided exactly in half and the party of cruelty to animals got in by default, because our electoral system was not designed for three party race. Had we secured our three million target, I suspect we would now have a Labour Government that would abolish all hunting with dogs, all snares, intensive farming systems, live exports and unnecessary experiments on animals. Not bad for the first try.

Like Robert the Bruce and his spider we will keep on and on and on until we do succeed, and on the way the other parties will become aware of our potential strength and adopt some, if not all, of our programme, and thus our animal friends will benefit. They will not benefit by neutered, ineffective, carping criticism.

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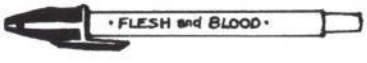
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Business as usual for Laboratory Animals

by Dr. Robert Sharpe

Just days before the end of the last Parliament, the Government issued a White Paper (12 May 1983) outlining its proposals for changes in the law regulating experiments on living animals. With the less inspiring title "Scientific Procedures on Living Animals" the paper describes the provisions of a proposed new Act which will be the first change in legislation on this matter for over 100 years.

The White Paper has been presented as a "radical tightening up" of present legislation but close analysis reveals the very opposite – in fact, an alarming relaxation of controls. For instance:

a) At present the use of animals to practice surgical skills is totally prohibited. The new proposals would allow animals to be used for this purpose.

b) At present animals used to demonstrate known facts must be killed before the anaesthetic wears off. The White Paper would allow animals to recover provided they would not suffer more than "trivial pain" (what is "trivial pain" and who decides?) – the implication being that such animals could be re-used. Similar relaxation in controls is also being proposed in some other experiments implying further possibilities for re-use.

c) The use of curare, and other similar substances, which render the animals helpless whilst still fully conscious, is to be allowed with the consent of the Home Secretary. At present the use of curare without an anaesthetic of sufficient power to render the animal unconscious, is totally prohibited, but the White Paper avoids (deliberately?) any such definite statement. We are deeply concerned and have demanded to know the Government's real intentions.

On the other hand we welcome the proposal that animals will not be used in schools in potentially painful experiments, and that pithing of frogs will no longer be allowed. However, since schools are not at present registered under the Cruelty to Animals Act 1876, the performance of painful experiments is presumably illegal!

• ISSUE OF PAIN •

On the crucial issue of pain, the Government plan to continue the present pain condition which fundamentally states that animals suffering severe pain which is likely to endure shall forthwith be painlessly killed. But no-one has defined "severe" or "unlikely to endure" (for how long – minutes, hours, days?) and this is left to the experimenter to decide – the one with a vested interest in seeing the experiment completed. The pain condition is therefore meaningless to the animals, but allows Governments and experimenters to pretend that there are permissable levels of pain and that animals are thereby protected from excessive suffering. The only reliable way to protect animals from suffering during certain types of procedure is by *prohibiting* those procedures.

The Government must also be pleased with itself for giving an impression of accountability by promising to refer controversial areas, like cosmetics testing, to the newly proposed Animals Procedures Committee, appointed by the Home Secretary. Assuming this Committee has a similar composition to the present Advisory Committee (which no doubt over-exerted itself during 1982 by meeting twice), there can be little hope of recommendations to eliminate the use of animals in this area. The Advisory Committee is heavily overloaded with licence holders and members of the pro-vivisection group – the Research Defence Society, which actually produces literature defending the use of animals in cosmetics tests!

There is no doubt that the White Paper will backfire on the Government by making us even more determined to succeed. Political initiatives will be increased; educational programmes will expand as will the "alternatives" movement; demonstrations and civil disobedience will inevitably escalate, and the Government will have only itself to blame.

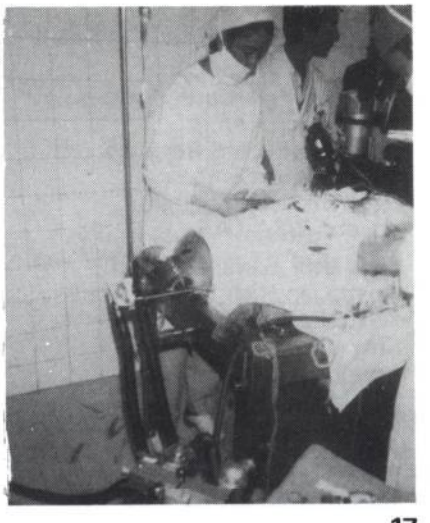
NOTE: For more detailed analysis/recommendations etc., see the NAVS magazine, Animals Defender September/October 1983

See F&B COMMENT p.8



The face of martyrdom. One of many dogs used for research and the acquisition of manual skill.

© Photo by Brian Gunn



My turn has come. One of the many dogs used at the department of Animal Experimentation, Hospital Clinico, Madrid, Spain, for research and the acquisition of manual skill.

© Photo by Brian Gunn

Flesh and Blood "Opinion"

HOME OFFICE–OVERWORKED?

Flesh and Blood recently received a reply from our friends at the Home Office, in response to a letter we sent THREE MONTHS previous. The reply included the following statement: " I am afraid that the Division dealing with the control of experiments on live animals has received much correspondence in recent months and I regret that it is taking some time to answer all the letters".

One other letter we received contained the most awful spelling mistakes and typing errors and on top of that, one of our readers wrote to us complaining that she received a reply from a G. Lewis, on behalf of A. McFarlane on the Draize test, when in-fact she wrote about the LD 50% Test! She has since received an apology.

What really makes us see red is the fact that these are the very people that reply to protests on live animal experiments with letters designed to give us the feeling that we do not know what we are talking about and they do. It also raises questions on the capabilities of persons at the Home Office who's job it is to inspect animal laboratories. With only one prosecution in the last 100 years, perhaps the time is well overdue for a Government enquiry–set up by people who DO NOT have a licence to experiment on animals.

White Paper

We had a strong feeling we had it right when we said we were not optimistic about new Government proposals (*Flesh and Blood* "Opinion" issue 6)–however when we made that statement we did not realise just how far the present Government would go to protect the drug industry, to protect the scientists and in-fact to protect any industry that makes a profit out of animal suffering and pain. We did not realise just how far this Government would go to make sure that animals would have even less protection than that given by the 1876 Act (we didn't think that was possible).

We have been proved sadly, very very wrong. Most of the proposals outlined in this White Paper, as far as the scientists are concerned, are a blessing. As far as the animals living in pain are concerned it offers nothing but despair. As far as people who care about the welfare of laboratory animals are concerned it is an insult. The proposals in this paper are a con, they are an outrage and a bloody disgrace. THE GOVERNMENT HAVE SHOWN THEIR TRUE COLOURS , THEY HAVE SHOWN THEY COULDN'T GIVE A DAMN ABOUT ANIMAL SUFFERING–IT IS NOW UP TO US TO MAKE THEM REGRET CONDONING THE TORTURE OF ANIMALS. WE HAVE TRIED TALKING, NOW WE WILL TRY FIGHTING.

SLAUGHTER OF THE ROO's

Thousands of Kangaroos are being slaughtered daily by men using the cruellest methods imaginable. This massacre continues to feed the massive demand generated by the American markets. In 1981 the American Import Ban on kangaroo products was lifted by the President of the United States after *intense lobbying* by the Australian Government. Kangaroo killing immediately increased to a holocaust of brutal slaughter.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP STOP THIS:

Write strongly worded letters of protest to:
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United States Embassy,
2431 Grosvenor Square,
London W1A 1AE

Sir Victor Garland,
Australian High Commissioner,
Australia House,
Strand,
London WC2

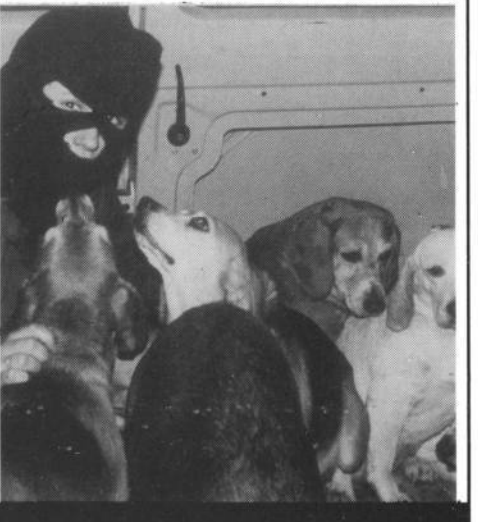




Animal Liberation Front

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10 pregnant beagles snatched by ALF activists from kennels in Fife, the photo that says it all – Thanks ALF!



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ANIMAL WELFARE

Animal Liberation Front. Aims, simply to end totally the exploitation of animals by human beings. In the short term we hope to save as many animals as possible from suffering. If you can help us please write to A.L.F. Box 190, 8 Elm Avenue, Nottingham, England. SAE please.

Co-Ordinating Animal Welfare—Objectives:— to bring together the activist members of all the animal welfare societies, and encourage unity in the movement. Regular news bulletins. Minimum subscription £2.00, Students, claimants and pensioners £1.00. C.A.W., P.O. Box 61, Camberley, Surrey.

PERSONAL

Nice looking, kind young lady would like to meet similar type male for lasting, sincere relationship. Age 23-30 (photograph appreciated) Box number A107

Have you the right to criticise others—if you are still living on the products of cruelty? Only veganism brings freedom from the slaughter house and veal calf unit. It can be healthier, pleasanter and cheaper when you know how. "Introduction to Practical Veganism" with recipes—60p, Vegans Society, Dept., G, 47 Highlands Road, Leatherhead, Surrey.

In view of the ultimate end of the universe, the present danger to all life, and the terrible history of violence, is there any sense of reproducing? Also sensible to oppose tobacco, excess alcohol, sport, religion, war, but support vegism, legal hash, Ecology, Equality. Agree, meet similar? Box number A106

PUBLICATIONS

Naked Empress by Hans Ruesch. A mighty sword in the fight against animal experiments. £7 incl. from WEG, 18 Annandale Road, London, SE10 0DA

The Alternative English Courses are designed for social activists throughout the world who need more English in order to extend their sphere of action to an international level in such areas as peace campaigning, the Environment, etc. *Radical Clippings Monthly*—A monthly cuttings service of articles from key British activist periodicals on the latest in all fields of social change. *Global Alternative Address List* — Over 3,500 groups around the world are included, with brief descriptions where needed, and a detailed index for groups, collectives, bookshops active in: Animal rights, anti-nuclear technology, health, womens movements etc. For further information contact The Radical English Movement, 14 New Road, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, HX7 8AD. Tel: (042284) 4560.

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Flesh and Blood magazine, is available, at a trade discount for bookshops, animal welfare groups and persons wishing to help circulate the publication. For further details write to: Circulation Dept, Caroline Publications, P.O. Box 32, Stevenage, Herts SG1 3SD.

flesh and Blood Survival Fund

We need financial help to carry on! The extra pages in this issue cost extra money. Please help us continue and hopefully expand. Animals cannot protest, they have no voice, help us continue to speak for them by sending a donation, no matter how small (contributions received too late for this issue will be acknowledged in next issue. We are grateful to the following for financial support:

Simon Collins, Ilford, Essex., Richard Hayward, Peterborough., William Purves, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia., Jenny Cameron, Newcastle Upon Tyne., Graeme Legge, Aberdeen, Scotland., Geoffrey Sheppard, London N5., Anthony Green, Warndon, Worcester., D. Tibbles, Fordingbridge, Hampshire., Mr S. Baxter, Banchory, Scotland., Hilda Howarth, Preston, Lancs., Ann Dryburgh, Handsworth, Birmingham., T A Yates, Warley, West Midlands., Philip Churchward, London SE24., Mr Scott Ambrose, Southend-on-Sea, Essex., Keith Richards, West Glam., Peter Massey, Sale, Cheshire., Mr G Batchelor, Horsham, W. Sussex., Mrs M. Davies, Gains Park, Shrewsbury., Mrs L. Sayce, Gains Park, Shrewsbury., Graham Hooper, Headington, Oxford., P D Rupenus, Morpeth, Northumbria., William Allen, West Ewell, Surrey., P. Baugh, Wombourne, W Midlands., Julie Hood, Wooton Courtenay, Somerset., Linda Ottey, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs., Mr G. Dorrity, Pensby, Wirral., Martyn Wood, Birstall, W Yorkshire., Christin Harrow, Shepshead, Leicestershire., Kevin Shirley, Dudley, West Midlands., Miss K P Sawyer, Loughton, Essex., Margaret Hutton, Fife, Scotland., Erica Gerrard, London N3., Andrew Cox, Denvilles, Havant, Hants., Susan Harvey, London NW11., Elaine Pocock, Aylesbury, Bucks., Mr Baverstock, Stevenage, Herts., Maria Taylor, Macclesfield, Cheshire.

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MOBILIZATION FOR ANIMALS

April 24, 1983: Approximately 15,000 people in the U.S. and 40,000 worldwide attended mass demonstrations at primate centers to demand an end to the atrocities committed behind locked doors in the name of "science." More than 400 animal rights, animal welfare, environmental and other groups in 22 countries joined forces to create the world's largest animal rights coalition.

Thousands of people became actively involved with Mobilization for Animals grassroots organizing to educate the public about animal experimentation and animal rights. Worldwide media coverage of the rallies informed millions of newspaper and magazine readers and radio and TV listeners about the brutal vivisection industry and the Mobilization's objective to bring this torture to an end.

On April 22-24, 1984, vigils will be held at primate research centers and other facilities in numerous nations to again bring this issue before the public and hasten the end of animal experimentation.

April 7, 1984: Groups throughout the world will join forces to protest mass extermination of wild animals. Through its "predator control program," the U.S. destroys more than 17 million wild animals each year by poisoning, trapping, aerial shooting, neck snares, and "denning"—burning infant animals alive or cutting them apart with barbed wire in their dens. Similar horrors are inflicted on wild creatures on every continent.





August 24-26, 1984: Coinciding with the annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Toronto, Canada, Mobilization for Animals will hold rallies demanding the **total abolition** of all behavioral experiments, which are among the most painful, pointless and repulsive. Every second, three animals die in American laboratories, more than all other countries combined.

Widespread animal abuse cannot be ended by one group or individual. But the Mobilization for Animals coalition brings together many with differing priorities—including animal rights and liberation, animal welfare, environmental, vegetarian, religious, and human rights—to fight the oppression and torture of the world's most helpless creatures.

Your help is desperately needed. For the animals, join us in our nonviolent direct action programs. Together we can make a difference.

Write Mobilization for Animals, P.O. Box 1679, Columbus, Ohio 43216, U.S.A.

Mobilization for Animals is an all-volunteer group dedicated to direct action to end animal suffering, and a non-profit, tax exempt organization.

Please send to **Mobilization for Animals** • P.O. Box 1679 • Columbus, Ohio 43216 U.S.A.

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