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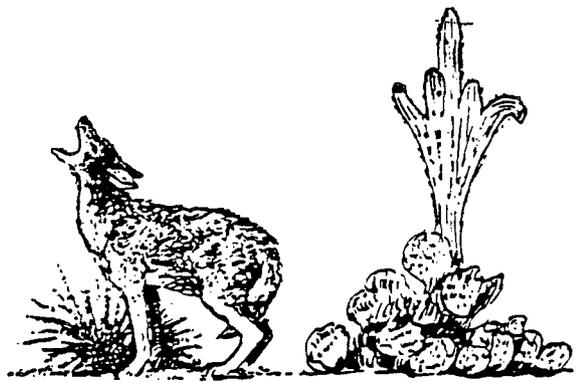


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THE PROBE



National Animal Damage Control Association

No. 41

March, 1984

MIS IN TEXAS

"The MIS (Management Information System - ADC computer reports) is functioning very well in Texas and is providing us with very useful management and program support information. There is no comparison with the amount, quality, and usefulness of the data now collected versus what was collected in the past. Texas processes twice as much data as California and 4-5 times more than any other state. Thus, we have pushed the MIS to its limits with good success. With our experience and the experience of other test states that have federal lands, there is no doubt that the MIS is ready to be implemented in all of the western states with relatively few problems. The computer equipment presently utilized is more than adequate, is not obsolete, and can be operated by personnel without previous computer training.

The DFAs in Texas have handled the MIS very well. Our card error rate for cards that must be sent back for correction is 1% or less. The DFAs now are not only providing us with more and better information, but they are getting information in return for the first time. We lost no DFAs due to MIS. We can now track and report data on the ranch, DFA, county, association, allotment, district, and/or state levels.

From our experience, there is no doubt that the full implementation of the MIS in all western states will provide us with a better managed and stronger ADC program. I certainly hope that there will be no unnecessary delays in the implementation of the MIS in the rest of our western programs." Gary Nunley, Asst. State Super., San Antonio, TX.

The system appears to be working so well that USDI administrators are doing their best to schuttle it or at least stall further implementation. George Rost called this to the attention of Bob Jantzen at the National Woolgrowers Convention in Phoenix last month. The Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers Assoc. also made a presentation in favor of the program. So we hope the industry will keep the pressure on to retain this tool.

Gary also provided detailed and condensed printouts of the data they were analyzing. In an effort to show the type and variety of information available, I abstracted the following data from 1982:

<u>Prey Species</u>	<u>Predators Involved</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Value</u>
Adult sheep	Coyote, bobcat, lion, red & kit fox, dog, raccoon, Russian boar, feral hog, vulture, golden & bald eagles	9705	\$ 415,226
Lambs	Coyote, bobcat, red & gray fox, lion, dog, raccoon, Russian boar, feral hog, vulture, hawk/owl	28381	\$1,157,333
Adult mohair goat	Coyote, bobcat, red fox, dog, lion, raccoon, Russian boar, feral hog, vulture, golden eagle	9378	\$ 364,144
Mohair kids	Coyote, bobcat, red & gray fox, lion, dog, striped skunk, opossum, raccoon, Russian boar, feral hog, vulture, golden & bald eagles, raven	12093	\$ 435,014
Other goats	Coyote, bobcat, red fox, lion, dog, Russian boar, golden eagle	3946	\$ 105,688
Other kids	Coyote, bobcat, red & gray fox, lion, dog, raccoon, Russian boar, feral hog, vulture, golden & bald eagles, owl/hawk, raven	11835	\$ 313,046
Adult cattle	Coyote, bobcat, lion, dog	687	\$ 96,640
Calves	Coyote, bobcat, lion, red fox, dog, Russian boar, vulture	3848	\$ 662,397
Horses	Coyote, lion	17	1.375
Foals	Coyote, lion	38	\$ 10,170
Donkeys	Lion	2	\$ 240
Adult swine	Coyote	35	\$ 6,826
Piglets	Coyote, dog, raccoon	169	\$ 5,380
Exotic game	Coyote, bobcat, dog, golden eagle	865	\$ 108,115
Deer	Coyote, bobcat, lion, golden eagle	1241	\$ 319,650
Bighorn sheep	Coyote	18	\$ 432
Other big game	Coyote, Lion, Russian boar	94	\$ 2,350
Rabbits	Dog	150	\$ 600
Poultry	Coyote, bobcat, red fox, dog, opossum, raccoon, house cat, bald eagle, owl/hawk	7831	\$ 125,854
			\$4,130,480

OL' MONEYBAGS REPORTS

I guess I've stalled long enough. Included in this issue is the Directory of NADCA members paid up for 1984. Look at the breakdown on page 14 and see if we can get a little competition going to build up the regions. It would be appreciated if everybody would gig just one other guy to pony up and join. As you can see we are still hanging in there and I haven't spent all your money foolishly (I do that enough with my own money, just ask Ann).

CREDITS	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Left over last year	\$2861.41	\$3903.82
Current year dues	7055.42	4954.00
Other contributions	0	1032.64
TOTAL	\$9916.83	\$9890.46

DEBITS	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Postage	\$956.61	\$661.02
Printing	1668.63	2321.94
Per Diem	167.88	1560.00
Travel	3109.54	773.98
Miscellaneous*	110.32	491.93
TOTAL	6013.01	5849.19
BALANCE	\$3903.82	\$4081.59

*\$250 of that miscellaneous went to registration fees for the 1st Eastern ADC conference where we held our Executive Board meeting with a bare quorum present.

Postage dropped, but printing costs went up quite a bit. Travel and per diem covered the Board meeting in Monterey at the VPC in 1982 where I was cheap in only covering travel expenses and cut down on per diem. As only part of the Board attended the Eastern Conference and accommodations were more expensive, I was a little more generous. But in all events, 54.5% of your dues in 1982 and only 39.9% in 1983 went to reimburse your Board members for travel on NADCA business, which doesn't compare to FUND FOR ANIMALS. But we do need some more members.

Most people today trust in God. Ya can tell by the way they drive cars.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

RD Milt Caroline prepared the following resolutions which were passed by the Texas Sheep & Goat Raiser's Assoc. in San Angelo, TX in February of this year:

Whereas, a computerized Management Information System has been developed and is used by Texas ADC program managers; and
 Whereas, the MIS accomodates the need for specific, detailed information required by State, County, and local cooperators involved in ADC programs; Now, therefore, be it resolved that the TS&GRA supports the System as now instituted and,
 Be it further resolved that the attitude and interest of the TS&GRA in the system be presented to the Director of the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

*** **

Whereas, the Humane Coyote Getter is an effective and efficient device for the

control of coyotes, and

Whereas, the only objection to its operation was the seal which frequently failed to prevent entry of moisture into the capsule which rendered it inert; and also because of the hardness of the seal which sometimes created a hazard to humans; and

Whereas, a new seal has been developed and tested and which removes previous objections, and

Whereas, field tests have revealed it to be far superior to the M-44,

Now, therefore

Be it resolved that the US Fish & Wildlife Service take action to obtain registration of the Humane Coyote Getter from the Environmental Protection Agency, and

Be it further resolved, that any use restrictions be those which are recommended by the most knowledgeable members of the ADC program field staff.

*** **

Whereas, the 26 use restrictions imposed by the Environmental Protection Agency which regulates M-44 usage for coyoto control are a hindrance to effective use and create an unnecessary burden on the orderly conduct of an effective coyote control program;

Now therefore,

Be it resolved that the EPA be called upon to proceed at once to release those modifications previously agreed upon, and

Be it further resolved that the TS&GRA submit to the Administrator its deep interest in the desired modifications.

Elephants never forget - but what do they have to remember ?

THEY GETCHA IN THE END

Under an Atlanta dateline, the press reported that a Ron Griffin thought his troubles were over when he killed the alligator that ate 26 of his ducks. Unfortunately, when his fried alligator tail won first prize at a potluck dinner, the game warden spotted him on TV (so that's where they spend their time !) with his illegal dish. Albuquerque Tribune, 8 Feb 84.

Girls, when a guy says he'll climb the highest mountain - it's just a bluff.

THE GRISLY GRIZZLY

The "Gopher Prairie Post" had a front page (20 Dec 83) article on the grizzly problem in Yellowstone. The topic is "Bear #15" which dragged a camper from his tent last June and ate him alive. The bear was tracked down and shot further reducing the stock of the estimated 200 grizzly bears roaming Yellowstone Park. The Administration closed almost 1/5 of the Park to tourists so as to protect the bears with apparently good results as there was a sharp drop in bear-people encounters. The article points out that this species is incompatable with humans intruding into his wilderness. It is a sad state of affairs with an inevitable ending as there is no way the grizzly is going to compromise. Thanx to Johnny Jones

When a woman makes a fool of a man often it's an improvement.

PREDATOR SYMPOSIUM

The "3rd Predator Symposium" will be held at the University of Montana, Missoula on March 21-23. Papers are being solicted and abstracts are due March 15. For further information, contact Charles Jonkel, Wildlife Biology Program, UMT, Missoula, MT 59812 (406) 243-2253.

Each time ya give someone a piece of yer mind it leaves yer head a wee bit emptier.

LOOK HOW THEY DO IT DOWN UNDER

The Agriculture Protection Board of Western Australia annual report for 1982/3 shows they took 31,400 donkeys by shooting from choppers in 378 hours - 83 an hour. Beats coyote hunting and Cleveland Amory's Grand Canyon "rescue" mission.

The best way to lose weight is to eat all you want of everything you don't like.

SPEAKING OF MR. AMORY

which I don't like to do at mealtime, here is a letter to YE ED of the "Idaho Statesman" which I wish I had written:

"Oh, where are ye now when we need you the most, Mr. Cleveland Amory and members of the local, state, national and international brotherhood of Funds for Animals? Where are you past lovers of the Mud Lake and southeast Idaho Jack rabbit? Bring us your money, masses and media. And your commentaries. And your judgments.

Strike up a tenor among those who live among our Eastern establishments and along the shoreline of the Big Apple. Advance into the heartland and light up the switchboards and airways of your sister affiliates. Contact your philanthropists and mount a charitable outpouring for Idaho's wildlife - our stately elk, princely deer and colorful fowl - who are in desperate plight, dying of starvation and in dire need of your talented assistance.

Speed is important. Mailgram your dollars. Flourish your pen. Caption the dead and starving. Describe this winter tragedy and petition to the hearts and emotions of the throngs. Slogan a clause and damn the weather. Detail the agonizing death. Join your hands and don your badges. But most of all, advance your tax-deductible checkbooks for this noble cause." Thanx to Joe Packham.

Both sexes have hair problems. With the women it's tint. With the men it's tain't.

STRYCHNINE-PRAIRIE DOGS

The EPA decision to cancel strychnine (and 1080) for use in prairie dog control could result in Colorado having 2.5-3.0 million acres of prairie dogs within five years. Loss of these tools would leave only two registrations - zinc phosphide and aluminum phosphide (cancellation of the last chemical and all other fumigants is already being studied by EPA as an assumed threat to the black-footed ferret). Fumigants cost \$20+/acre; strychnine and 1080 about \$5/acre. Zinc phosphide is a poor substitute for those two chemicals. This increase in prairie dogs would have a tremendous impact on wildlife in Colorado. Thanx to Major Boddicker (The Coyote Report - Vol 1, No. 2)

Seems the only parking places today are those on the road to success.

SEND MONEY

The Audubon Society has a new pitch out to collect more money for them to "save" the National Wildlife Refuge System.

"As if enough damage hasn't already been done, the administration is stepping up 'economic development' of the refuges. In other words, more grazing, timbering, trapping, farming, mining, commercial fishing, and facility-oriented recreation."

Bob Schmidt (UC-Davis) had this reply -

"I received a letter from you last week requesting donations to protect our refuge system from 'economic development'. You will note, you claim trapping is a form of 'damage' akin to mining and timbering. I am not a trapper, but as a concerned and

involved Audubon member, I am embarrassed when you could even lump trapping in the same category as an activity such as mining. Mining usually leads to permanent changes in local environmental conditions, impacting air, water, and soil quality and generally affecting our fish and wildlife resources in a negative manner. Biologically sound and legal trapping programs do not result in permanent environmental disruptions and generally have about the same (or less) impact on an area as a backpacker would.

You owe the ethical trappers in this country a sincere apology on behalf of the National Audubon Society. Robert H. Schmidt

Let me know when you get this apology, Bob, and I'll print it. These so-called 'conservation' groups are so self-serving that I am really ashamed to consider myself a 'conservationist'.

Public speaking is like taking a vacation. It helps to know the right place to stop.

NATIONAL SPECIES OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS ???!

The Federal Register (vol. 48, #237, 55049/55050) has come out with a new listing that USFWS hopes will be a smokescreen for more wasting of taxpayer monies on armchair biologists. This is different from the "rare and endangered" list as the species listed are called (are you ready?) NATIONAL SPECIES OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS - NSSEs. "These species are to be considered of high biological, legal, and public interest and merit special effort and attention (more Indians and especially chiefs plus more money) by the Service at the national level." This list "...provides a tool for improved focus of resource management activities within the Service and collectively with the States, other Federal agencies, and other cooperators...(it is) solely for internal planning purposes of the Service. It does not create any regulation of the species." (Wanna bet?)

Guess what species is on the list along with grizzly and polar bears, black-footed ferret, sea otter, gray wolf, walrus, and West Indian manatee? Yep - Canis latrans. Here we go again.

Taking the bull by the horns is often a sound course of action - as long as you and bull agree on when you can let go.

ANIMAL RIGHTS SUFFERS SETBACK

California (surprisingly) turned down an attempt to put a Woofers D. Coyote on the California presidential ballot in June. The candidate was put up by a Al Hamburg of Torrington, WY who stated his dog was the manager of the Committee to Protect Coyotes from Death by Poison and Nuclear War. California Secretary of State decreed it would be impractical to qualify his candidate by petition as many of his supporters are animals and birds unable to write the English language. Thanks to Bob Schmidt, UC-Davis, "Sacramento Bee", 29 Jan 84, pA3.

The militant animal rightists in Britain have taken on fox hunters, hare chasers, pheasant shooters, badger baiters, turkey breeders, fur traders, seal cullers, Cambridge scientists, and chicken farmers. But now they are really going after big game - Britain's anglers. Fishing, they say, is the cruelest of blood sports. The "Hunt Saboteur's Association" (HSA) in its latest magazine issue, HOWL, advises its 3,500 members on how to post false health warnings in the woods, drop sonic devices in the water, and feed the fish so they lose their interest in bait.

Despite a court ruling in 1980 that goldfish fall under the 1911 Protection of Animals Act, nobody has done much on the behalf of fish. Their new campaign has

caused a furor among anglers and even resulted in a split in the ARs themselves. Some feel that while they can poke at Britain's 200,000 hunters, taking on the 3.5 million registered British anglers is a horse of another color. The largest anti-hunt group's director, LEAGUE AGAINST CRUEL SPORT, said, "One can be opposed to cruelty to animals without being opposed to sticky flypapers." (interesting philosophy !). The HSA says it will concentrate its 'non-violent' protest against match fishing. The editor of ANGLING TIMES says, "I can see a lot of violence on the river banks if they carry out their threats. In match fishing, there's quite a lot of money involved and they're not going to stand for idiots throwing rocks into the river." Sounds like they might have an interesting time in merrie ol' England this year. Thanx to Ann Fitzwater and "The Idaho Statesman" 12 February 84 p1A.

Any simple problem can be made insolvable if enough meetings are held to discuss it.

READY FOR SOME LARNIN' ?

Pat Chamberlain sent us 2.5 pages of single spaced erudite literature that I am just going to have to skim through as most of it is over my head (what they teach these fresh young college kids today !!!).

Statistics is the art of stating in precise terms that which one does not know.

A statistician is a man who draws a mathematically precise line from an unwarranted assumption to a foregone conclusion.

About meaningful statistics - 33.3% of the mice used in this experiment were cured by the drug; 33.3% of the test population were unaffected by the drug and remained in a moribund condition; the third mouse got away.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF GOOD WRITING

1. Each pronoun should agree with their antecedent.
2. Just between you and I, case is important.
3. A preposition is a poor word to end a sentence with.
4. Verbs has to agree with their subject.
5. Don't use no double negatives.
6. A writer mustn't shift your point of view.
7. When dangling, don't use participles.
8. Join clauses good, like a conjunction should.
9. Don't write a run-on sentence it is difficult when you got to punctuate it so it makes sense when the reader reads what you wrote.
10. About sentence fragments.

O.K., Pat, you can take a hint to water but you can't make it swim. She wanted me to be sure to give credit to Robert A. Day (How to Write and Publish a Scientific Paper, ISI Press, Philadelphia) for the above (and other remarks) as she says it is a painless and enjoyable book on proper writing.

A penny saved is ridiculous.

LETTERS TO YE ED

"We have requested a hearing on the cancellation of strychnine for rodent control and we believe we will get one. We had received a prehearing for March but requested a continuance which was granted to April 4. We still have to provide a witness list and document listng to the Judge by March 16th." Lyle Crosby Cheyenne, WY.

"Another item in the newspapers (he enclosed one tear-jerker on selling wild Wyoming mustangs in Georgia) has been the shipping of 50 tons of Georgia hay to Utah (at

nature-lovers expense) to help feed starving, snow-bound deer. At first Utah declined to accept the hay because it had mature bermuda seed in it. But the latest TV says the hay was treated and fed to the deer.

Keep up the good work. Jeff Jackson put on a fabulous demonstration on snakes of the southeast at the January short course of the Georgia Pest Control Association." Dr. Harry D. Pratt, Atlanta, GA.

Speaking of Jeff Jackson he wrote recently that the media in Atlanta has been giving him a hard time. They picked on him for calling pigeons "flying rats" and most recently on a little piece about bats and the problems they cause. His extension leaflet on bats was heavily edited causing a couple of hate letters to the Editor in the ATLANTA WEEKLY whereas the same release uncut didn't get one response from the many more readers of the ATLANTA CONSTITUTION. Remember Greg Rost's comparison of ADC types with jackrabbits that get their thrills by crossing the road in front of speeding cars at the last minute? I think there is something masochistic about us ADC types who keep trying to help the public and are constantly shot at by the lunatic fringe.

It's not the money - - it's the principal and interest.

WYOMING VS EPA AGAIN

Lyle Crosby just sent me a recent reminder of the latest actions on the EPA hearing. He had quite an extensive list of documents supporting his position but wanted to emphasize that he would appreciate hearing from any NADCA members regarding studies on strychnine. Write to: Lyle Crosby, Box 4074, Cheyenne, WY 82001. He has to have this information by March 16th.

The best things in life are for a fee.

ADC IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Brian Nyberg gave me some information on THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY'S NORTHWEST SECTION meeting that is going to be held in Penticton, B.C. (about 30 miles from the border) April 5-7. Sounds like an interesting meeting in case you're going to be in the neighborhood. For further information you can contact him (B.C. Forest Service, 4595 Canada Way, Burnaby, B.C. V5G 4L9). Preliminary listing of papers of ADC interest include:

- Wildlife damage to farm crops along Chena Hot Springs Road, Alaska
- Vole damage to forests at Mt. St. Helens
- Predicting wildlife damage to Douglas-fir seedlings
- Potential of sport hunting for control of deer populations in western Washington
- Adaptive management of spoiled bears
- Bird damage to blueberries in the Lower Fraser valley
- Control of snowshoe hare damage to forestry plantations
- Deer-Orchard conflict mitigation
- Comparison of coyote control in Lincoln and Whitman Counties of Washington State
- Characteristics of lambs killed by coyotes
- Caribou calf mortality in Northwest B.C.
- Interactions between coyote and sheep farming in the lower Fraser Valley
- Wolf control on Vancouver Island
- Relationships between deer and their forest habitat in southeastern Alaska
- Bobcat responses to a jack rabbit decline in southeastern Idaho

He who inherits riches shall never know the joy of toiling endlessly for his daily bread.

LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES

There's a new rat movie on brodifacoum produced by the British. It runs for 22 minutes and can be purchased as a film or video cassette. For information write Millbank Films Ltd., Thames House North, Millbank London SW1P 4QG01 or ICI might possibly have a copy.

How long a minute seems depends upon which side of the bathroom door you are on.

BIRDS WITH BAD BREATH

EPA has just registered a new bird repellent (Sevana Bird Repellent, 5336 E. Easterby Dr., N. Fresno, CA 93727). It contains an active ingredient not previously registered in any pesticide product - 4% allium sativum (garlic to you). I would certainly love to see the supporting data on this registration. In EPA's "scientific" review of pesticides, efficacy of a chemical is generally only of minor concern. Thanx to Rick Griffiths

If I ever make a mistake, I'll be the first to deny it.

FUR SALES - WYOMING IN FEBRUARY

Coyotes averaged \$45.73; fox \$36.30; bobcats \$217.00; badger \$13.33; and raccoon \$21.00.

Humanity is doomed. The world will not end.

EL PRESIDENTE REPORTS

"RD Pink Madsen and I attended the 1984 Woolgrowers Association meeting in Phoenix, AZ on January 18-20. The meeting provided an excellent opportunity to discuss the aims and objectives of NADCA. Also to stress the importance of individual woolgrower support for the Association. I appreciate the complimentary registrations which were provided. For some reason the growers I have worked with since 1951 look older.

Director Bob Jantzen was the only USFWS representative from Washington. Regional Supervisor Norm Johnson and the Arizona State Supervisor Duane Rubink were the only two ADC personnel permitted to attend. After the ADC committee meeting, I pointed out to Mr. Jantzen the importance of this particular national meeting to ADC Supervisors who work closely with the Sheep and Goat Industry. It would be mutually beneficial to both industry and Service to be able to exchange information. The Director said he had made the decision to limit participation by ADC supervisors. However, he said next year he intends to allot funds to the Regions and let the Regional Directors approve attendance at the meeting. If he follows through on this, ADC will get a better shake.

During Mr. Jantzen's presentation at the ADC committee meeting, he mentioned the development of the ADC Management Information Service (MIS). Bill Simms, Secretary of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers, asked if he was supporting the full scale use of the computer system for data storage by the ADC program. The Director said, "yes", but added that an in-Service task force was evaluating all computer programs used by the Service and he was awaiting their report. I have been aware of informal statements by that task force indicating the ADC program did not need a computer system to manage their program. I took advantage of the question and answer period after Bob's speech to ask him if he had seen the printout sheets for the ADC program in States where it is functional. His answer was, "no". I encouraged him to ask to see what the program could do before he made his decision. I pointed out that the information being collected and summarized is very helpful to Congress and others who want to see what the ADC program is doing in their area and it shows clearly this is not a subsidy program for the woolgrowers but is one of the few cost effective

programs in the Service. I also cautioned him that there were those on his staff in Washington who are anti-ADC and he should guard against being influenced by the Task Force until he knows how they feel about the program.

I talked to Director Jantzen in the lobby after the meeting. I explained one of the objections NADCA has to the way the Service is treating ADC is how they fill the position of ADC Chief when it is vacant. I asked why they always pick someone who has no ADC background and has fouled up in the job elsewhere. It appears that the Service wants the ADC program to go downhill. I also reminded him this is the reason NADCA is supporting the transfer of ADC to the Department of Agriculture. He didn't have any comment on this.

Another subject I brought up was the proposal to close down the State ADC offices in the four eastern seaboard states (North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida). I reminded the Director that the need for the program, mandated by the Act of 1931, was still there but apparently the Regional Director had taken it upon himself to put the management of waterfowl above all else. I told him NADCA was not going to sit quietly while the program in Region IV was gutted. I also reminded him that if the RD was allowed to close down these State programs, then Alabama would be next, followed by Mississippi, then Virginia, etc. (I've learned since then the plans to abolish the State Supervisor positions have been scrapped at least for now. I feel the opposition NADCA expressed to the legislative branch has played no small part in this decision.)

Bill Fitzwater got word to me just after the meeting closed about EPA's scheduled RPAR against strychnine. I called Steve Gilmore, Utah Commissioner of Agriculture, Marv Kronberg of the National Woolgrowers Assoc. in Salt Lake City, and Ron McHaley, National Cattleman's Assoc. in Washington, D.C. to alert them to the EPA action. They agreed to contact USDA to ask them to intervene. If NADCA is going to be called upon to take on the giants of big Government, we need more members so we can have more clout. Don't wait until you are going under for the third time to join our ranks and ask for help. Get your feet wet now and help us promote our profession." George S. Rost, President.

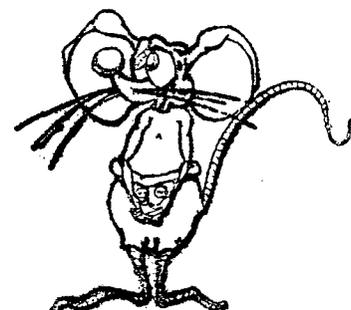
I hate having nothing to do because I can't stop and rest.

THIS PUBLICATION IS INTENDED AS AN INFORMAL NEWSLETTER TO MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS OF NADCA. IT IS NOT AN OFFICIAL DECLARATION OF NADCA POLICY OR A CONSENSUS OF OPINION IN ALL INSTANCES.

YE ED - William D. Fitzwater

The Board is really going to be unhappy when they see their pictures, but that's the best I could do from the color positives I had to work with. Only that nice Sec/Treas gave me a decent photograph to work with and I sure can't see what he's proud of because as the old saying goes, "Be it ever so homely, there's no face like your own."

Adios,

**National
Animal
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Association**



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