University of Nebraska - Lincoln
DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

The Probe: Newsletter of the National Animal Damage Control Association

Wildlife Damage Management, Internet Center for

3-1-1988

The Probe, Issue 81 - March 1988

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/icwdmprobe

Part of the Environmental Sciences Commons

"The Probe, Issue 81 - March 1988" (1988). *The Probe: Newsletter of the National Animal Damage Control Association.* Paper 153.
http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/icwdmprobe/153

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Wildlife Damage Management, Internet Center for at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Probe: Newsletter of the National Animal Damage Control Association by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

THE PROBE

National Animal Damage Control Association

MARCH 1988 NUMBER 81

MONTEREY PEST CONF.

As usual, this was an excellent conference in a lovely setting (though gray skies dampened my photographic impulses - New Mexico has spoiled me for the rest of the world). There was too much going on as I don't like concurrent sessions. Invariably there is a paper on birds I must hear at the same time as one on rats I'd like to sit in on. Oh well, I can read the papers one at a time.

Also as usual there were some advance reports on a couple of promising new anticoagulants, both the product of European investigations (whatever happened to American ingenuity after Carl Paul Link discovered Warfarin? May I suggest EPA?). One is FLOCOUMAFEN, a chemical relative of DIFENACOUM; the other, DIFETHIALONE, is being developed by LIPHA Chemicals. Both of these sound pretty good with toxicities approaching 1080 but still responding to Vitamin K_1 antidotal action. My personal opinion is we develop these new generation anticoagulants for predacides as the above were reported as toxic to coyotes as 1080 and they would not have the public image of 1080 to counteract. There were papers on Bromethalin and Cholecalficerol and also on public attitudes towards ADC. These even touched on my favorite whipping boy - Animal Rights - by a faculty member of Univ. Calif.- Davis. He didn't come down on them as hard as I would have but that is probably the reason the conference planners turned down an offer of mine way back to talk on this topic. He had a good quote from Kurt Vonnegut - "If you think Nature is your friend you don't need enemies." The speaker, Dr. Dale Brooks, did point out you don't get very far attacking public beliefs openly but must work towards changing individual attitudes. Some people care more for animals than humans as they relate to their pets. To attract the press, we need one line slogans like the bunny huggers use. To counter "Helping Hands for Animals", I suggest we might use "Bats are beneficial creatures but I wouldn't want my daughter to marry one."

All in all a pretty good conference attended by some 500 ADC-oriented folks which is why I like to attend. It's like fingering a security blanket. Will keep you advised when the proceedings are published.

The Romans had to give up their big holidays because of the overhead. The lions ate up all their prophets.

READIN'

SNARING COYOTES. (1987) MAJOR BODDICKER & Keith Gregerson, Rocky Mountain Wildlife Products, POB 999, LaPorte, CO 80535 $3.50 postpaid

This is an excellently illustrated, authoritative manual on the proper use of snares. A 29-page paperback it crams in a lot of good snaring techniques for catching coyotes and other animals. It

illustrates the various types of snare sets, discusses snare basics, and even has a section on "troubleshooting."

CATCH' N COYOTES AND OTHER CRIT'RS. (1987) MAJOR BODDICKER, Rocky Mountain Wildlife Products, POB 999, LaPorte, CO 80535 $5.00 postpaid.
Not much writing (20-page paperback) but excellent drawings on the correct way to set traps and getters (M-44).

THE PHILOSOPHY AND PRACTICE OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT. (1987) Frederick F. Gilbert & Donald G. Dodds, Robert E. Krieger Publ.Co., Krieger Drive, Malabar, FL 32950 279pp Hardcover. List: $24.50
This is a wildlife management text that has a different slant than I expected. Rather than a cookbook approach to management techniques like most I've read, this is more a discussion of current philosophies on various areas in the profession. There is a good historical updating of wildlife management background as well as the conflicts and values between man and wildlife. Aspects of management are broken up into systems - habitat, species, biological basis, endangered species, EIS, etc. The approach is fairly even-handed though it tends towards anti-control and would be a useful addition to your library to get that viewpoint. Very little attention is given ADC directly (urban wildlife, depredations, and humane trapping are given only a few pages) and most bibliographic references are by unfamiliar writers (one of the authors is Canadian). The book has attractive pencil drawings for chapter heads and is a nice printing job.

THE CRIMINAL PROSECUTION AND CAPITAL PUNISHMENT OF ANIMALS: THE LOST HISTORY OF EUROPE'S ANIMAL TRIALS (1987) E.P.Evans, Farber & Farber Ltd., 50 Cross St., Winchester, MA 01890. 336pp. Paperback $7.95.
MIKE FALL called my attention to this book which I had been looking for. Written in 1906 it is an authorative account of the superstitious stupidity of Medieval man regarding animals. Unlike current Animal Rightists (AR), however, this held animals responsible for their actions and approved equal punishment. As an example - a pig who killed and ate a child was dressed in human clothes and publicly hanged. He also documents an old favorite of mine - the French lawyer, Chassenée, who defended rats when criminal suit was brought against them by farmers whose fields they had destroyed. He got the case dismissed by a number of shyster manoeuvres ending with the refusal of farmers to bond their cats so the rats could appear at court without being molested. This guy would make a great AR mouthpiece today.

He who laughs last didn't get the joke.

APHIS ACTIVITY REPT.

The following are abstracted from the activity reports of APHIS, TRAPLINE (TX), TRAPPER'S JAW (NM), etc. for the benefit of non-APHIS readers. This is not to be considered a publication source. Only names of NADCA members are used in situations in which they are involved.

COYOTES - (TX) GLYNN RILEY took a pair of coyotes that had killed 30 lambs valued at $2,100. One coyote had an old trap wound on one foot and a snare around its flank. Third time was a charm.

RACCOONS - (TX) JOHN DORSETT investigated a 'coon complaint to ski boats on Lake Nasworthy. Apparently they had objected to the decor and tried to rearrange the foam padding and upholstery on two boats to the tune of $600 and $2000.

RATS - (TX) ADC was asked to trap some rats at the Southwest Research Institute. The facility houses 3,000 baboons (valued at $1,000 each). During the past few months about 50 have died and more are dying at the rate of one or two a day. As suspected the rats were transmitting a virus (insephalomio-carditas) which affects the muscle around the heart.

The thing about modern music is that if the acoustics are bad you can't tell.

MEETIN'S

CURRENT & FUTURE DIMENSIONS OF PREDATOR MANAGEMENT, Apr. 15, 1988 in Lubbock (TX). Ecological role of predators, control measures, public attitudes, etc. Contact: Dean Eric G. Bolen, Texas Tech Univ., Box 4460, Lubbock, TX 79409-1033.

INTERNATIONAL UNGULATE BEHAVIOR & MANAGEMENT CONF., May 1-22, 1988 at Texas A & M University. Any aspect of ungulate behavior and management. Contact: Dr. Elizabeth Mungall, 342 Double Tree Dr., Lewisville, TX 75067.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE RANCHING SYMPOSIUM, May 16-21, 1988 in Las Cruces (NM). This is on operations and marketing strategies for wildlife ranching. Contact: Raul Valdez, POB 4901, NMSU, Las Cruces, NM 88003.

SECOND INTERNATIONAL SHORT COURSE IN VERTEBRATE PEST PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, Aug. 14-27, 1988 at Colorado State University. Contact: Dr. Julius Nagy, Dept. Fish. & Wildl. Biol., CSU, Ft.Collins, CO 80523.

The cross-eyed teacher had to be dismissed because she had no control over her pupils.

RULES TO SWEAR BY — OR AT

The EPA has tentatively approved the training program allowing the use of the livestock protective collar in Texas though the Federal Register notice is open to comment through March 31. The first training program will probably be in San Angelo. Along with the training program the Texas Dept. of Agriculture (TDA) will promote non-lethal guard schemes such as guard animals. In a "media event" last month TDA featured guard animals from dogs, donkeys to llamas lauding their "proven success" in reducing predation and a very promising role in the department's new "comprehensive predator control" program. This program will "emphasize" guard animals, and despite the "comprehensive" title only minor mention of the collar was made and other lethal control methods were ignored completely. Collar applicators are to pay through heavy test and licensing fees. The promotion of guard animals will be paid for by collar applicators or the taxpayers. To run the program, TDA has hired Murray Walton (formerly a regional representative of the Audubon Society - definitely not a wolf in sheep's clothing). Thanx to GUY CONNOLLY, NADCA RDIII, Twin Falls (ID) and LIVESTOCK WEEKLY 25 FEB 88.

THE ENDANGERED SPECIES labeling act has been postponed by EPA to 1 February 1989 with the comment "...changes may result in limitations in fewer locations than currently indicated or limitations less severe than prohibition of use within a species' range." They ain't give up yet, but at least they're feeling the pressure. Thanx to RICK GRIFFITHS and PESTICIDE & TOXIC CHEMICAL NEWS 27 JAN 88 p.21.

All marriages are happy. It is the living together afterwards that causes all the trouble.

GREAT TRICK — IF YOU CAN DO IT

In a recent television commercial for a computer company, a young student stated that she was morally opposed to dissecting a frog in her high school class and suggested an alternative to such animal experiments would be a computer program. You might scoff at this but after all Aristotle many years ago emphasized deductions about science at the cerebral level devoid of the unpleasantness of actual experiments.

Frogs are one of the most obvious species for such a strategy. There are a number of clues to the inside of a frog. It rises from a tadpole, causes warts, and may turn into a Prince Charming if kissed by the right dame. From such data, a well-trained student could deduce what the insides look like. Humans might be studied by watching daytime television. But there is that annoying problem of getting the Food & Drug Administration to approve new drugs. There seems to be some silly congressional requirement mandating animal testing in order to show possible

carcinogenicity. Replacement of costly animal tests by computers would be eagerly adapted by industry. If FDA should stand by its stodgy position, it should be replaced by a computer. And any competent computer expert who couldn't devise a better software program than the U.S. Congress should turn in his IBM clone.

This computer encroachment need not stop at these simple levels. There are instruments of torture more inhumane than dissecting a frog - the flyswatter and mousetrap for example. These devices have no redeeming social value, merely representing domination of one species over another. A good software program should eliminate the mousetrap and thus prevent the maiming of mice. The problem might be more difficult with flies, but one could at least enact legislation required that they be anesthetized before being swatted.

Even if animal experiments have to be done for research it is questionable if students should be asked to repeat them. A good clean simulation is superior to a bloody real experiment. Consider the moral shock of the young student who finds the stomach contains mosquitoes, flies, and small grasshoppers. Far from being the harmless frog she imagined, it turns out to be a vicious predator eating other species without regard to their rights. The computer could replace stomach contents with potato chips, soda pop, and other emotionally neutral nutrients. But at some point advanced students will be concerned with the large number of fish, cows, and pigs sacrificed for mere food. People who talk to plants will insist the biochemistry of animals and plants is so similar that eating plants undoubtedly induces pain at the molecular level.

The obvious answer is to develop genetically engineered human beings who photosynthesize their own food. There might be some minor life-style inconveniences, such as the need to sit under a lamp for several hours on foggy days. Whether such a human can be engineered from computers alone is a problem, but fortunately there are lots of flotsam and jetsam of society - lawyers, homeless people, and stockbrokers for instance - who are less likable or less protectable than frogs and can be used experimentally in this good cause. The only moral problem remaining is to prevent insiders from taking their money out of restaurants and investing in sweetened CO_2.
Thanx to JAY MCANINCH, Millbrook (NY) and SCIENCE (Daniel E. Koshland, Jr.) No. 4839, p.449.

Women like quiet men because they think they're listening.

LETTERS TO YE ED

NORMAN ROUSSELOT, Rancher, Past-President Nat'l Woolgrowers, Sonora, TX:
Just a quick note to say thanks for your continuing efforts on behalf of ADC, for sanity, for straight thinking, and a great sense of humor. Your fans and friends outweigh your detractors by 30 to 1 - You are doing a great job and we in the ranching and farming community appreciate your good work!!!

****

DON HAWTHORNE, State Director, APHIS, San Antonio, TX:
I have a correction for "the Rev". TERRY said BILL SPALSBURY replaced him in Albuquerque and as he gets older he's getting slower. REV. ANDERSON's speed is not the only thing affected by his age. His memory is slipping a little also. The record will show that I replaced TERRY in Albuquerque and BILL took my place after I moved to Texas. In fact, I followed TERRY in the last two positions he held in ADC - Washington and Albuquerque. For a while, I thought my lot in life was to follow TERRY ANDERSON. Believe me, he is a hard act to follow! (If he decides to get out of the ministry, I'll need a little advance notice!)

****

LYLE CROSBY, APHIS, Casper, WY:
It was good to see you and George in Monterey even though we didn't have a chance to visit very long. The weather may not have been very good for some people there but I enjoyed it as 5 inches of wet snow greeted me the morning after I got home. If all

details get worked out, we will be assisting Wyoming in certification and training of applicators to use the livestock protection collar this Spring. Thought your readers might be interested in seeing what Wyoming trappers got for their hard work last year -- Coyotes averaged $27.68 ($15.72-34.00); fox $15.50 ($12.14-17.75); bobcat $325.57; badger $6.00; and raccoon $10.00.

****

TOM NICHOLLS, Asst. Reg. Super. APHIS, Denver, CO:

Am alive and well - just forgetful in my old age (paid his dues after I gigged him). Keep THE PROBE coming. My wife enjoys it almost as much as I do. As you know hard times have hit ADC right between the eyes again. Nothing new and I believe we'll pull out in the long haul. Looking back I believe hard times is what has made ADC the tight-knit group it is. With the budget reduction in '88, I have heard some hard words about the transfer to USDA, but I feel that in the long run we will be better off. I can see leadership in Washington and Regional levels that care about ADC and are working hard for it. Most folks don't realize how bad off ADC was in the FWS prior to the transfer and the poor condition the program was in. I don't think USDA realized it either. With the transfer so many new demands and issues came to light and the program didn't have the resources to respond. I think this will change in the future. How long has it been since ADC had the opportunity to provide its own leadership? - before my time and I've been around 23 years. Currently, we have a GS-13 (Asst. Assoc. Deputy Admin.) position open in Washington and no takers from the ranks. This should be a 2-3 year training position that people can be rotated through but many good ADC people don't want to move for one reason or another. The Supervisory Training Program is helping out in this area. My family is in good shape, but after spending 20 years on the West Coast our blood has thinned out and we haven't gotten used to the snow. I'm sure Linda would go back to Oregon if given the chance. Also appreciate the good job you and the others are doing in NADCA. I know it's not easy and you have better things to do with your time.

****

MIKE FALL, DWRC, Denver, CO:

Sorry I didn't get a chance to spend more time with you in Monterey. I gather from the last PROBE you're taking occasional flak for your editorial style, humor, and obsession with important social issues. Thought you'd like to know you're in the company of Nobel laureates on the latter and doing OK on the former in my estimation. Keep it up. *(Mike sent a clipping, PROFESSIONAL GUARDIANS...see below. He also alerted me to a book, THE CRIMINAL PROSECUTION AND CAPITAL PUNISHMENT OF ANIMALS - see under READIN' - that I am really enjoying.)*

****

WALTER WEBER, Lecturer/Entomol., Indianapolis, IN:

It was disappointing to learn that a member was complaining about the lack of professionalism in THE PROBE. When you mention being office boy, reporter, etc., you overlooked pointing out that you are highly informed, experienced, always generous with your time, knowledge, and energy. I remember all those years you would go out of your way to exert extra energy and your unreserved willingness to share your knowledge in helping me and others in controlling obnoxious vertebrates.

Perhaps we should analyze the letters in the PROBE:

P - Pursuit of truthful facts.

R - Reporting of what the emotional alarmists are doing and saying.

O - Observations in the fields of misinformation and misconceptions.

B - Best and only source of information for members of ADC who do not receive all printed material concerning unethical efforts.

E - Entertainment in a subtle form. I like those one-liners. After God created the world, he created man and woman. Then in order to keep it all from falling apart, he created humor.

Now look at your signature:

F riendly philosophy

I ndiscriminate viewpoints from all sides

T ruth to counteract confusion

Z ealous efforts to do a great job.

Thanks Uncle Walt - I should really quit while I'm ahead - so here's a commercial for you)
By the time a fellow reaches double 7 he tends to think more of the lighter side of life. That's why Walter is working on a new book (he has published excellent references on diseases carried by rats and mice and another on birds) on signs he has seen, such as, "Lead me not into temptation, I will find it myself." as well as other strange sights like two- and three-story outhouses. If you have any humorous signs, he can use them. (WALTER WEBER is listed in the Directory)

****

WALTER E.HOWARD,Prof. Emeritus, Univ. Calif. - Davis
The Animal Rightists must have found my publisher of NATURE AND ANIMAL WELFARE; BOTH ARE MISUNDERSTOOD as he has gone out of business without paying me royalties. At present, copies can only be obtained from me for $10.00 plus $1.50 for handling, at 24 College Park,Davis, CA 95616.

****

DONALD A. SPENCER, rtd. NADCA RDVII, Silver Spring, MD:
I did overlook paying my 1988 dues so here is my usual $25. This oversight is due to the fact that I am deliberately letting my extensive membership and journal subscription list lapse. After serving FWS and USDA for 39 years, plus an additional 19 years with the Natl. Agric. Chem. Assn., I finally retired. To be gainfully employed thru 81 years of age is not bad. *(and how!)*

"Retirement" is not necessarily the proper term for my situation. I have taken up video-photography and have fallen in a slot as a volunteer photographer for the U.S. Extension Service here in Maryland. I am also a compulsive gardener who keeps 44 cu.ft. of freezer space filled to capacity. Alice and I find time to take trips with photography the main object. The last trip was to Argentina with JOHN JONES in November. We are planning to go to Iceland in July.

****

MAJOR BODDICKER, Fur trapper/Wildl. Mgt. Consultant, LaPorte, CO:
Just wanted you to know I like your work, humor and professionalism. Wildlife professionals brought us EPA, Endangered Species Act and steel shot, plus many other idiocies. In my 25+ years in the wildlife profession, one simple fact has emerged, ignorance is definitely not the monopoly of the uneducated. In fact, ignorance and arrogance have become an occupational requirement in our wildlife agencies.

Paul Errington's "nature's way is any way that works," has been long forgotten as a baseline wildlife principle. The guideline now in the profession seems to be, "screw thy public, and keep it in line by any repressive means, so thy retirement program can be protected." I find it encouraging that the American rural public seems to choose the wildlife principles resembling Errington's rather than Nat Reed's.

Enclosed are copies of letters regarding the prairie dog-blackfooted ferret search controversy between myself and the USFWS as well as several instruction booklets for your perusal.

(That last PROBE gave me almost enough input from the troops to fill up this issue. Thanks very much for the support you are giving me. I promise to print both pro and con. I'll brief up DR. BODDICKER's verbal assault on the system below though it will lose something in the shrinking process.)

****

Bald men like it that way because when company comes all they have to do is straighten their ties.

PROFESSIONAL GUARDIANS

David Baltimore (Director Insti. Biomedical Research, MIT) blasted the "powerful retrograde forces" at work to halt scientific research as two armies of ignorance made up of,"those who fear and distrust science and those who wish to pervert science to their own ends." He listed these groups as:

- "Professional guardians of the status

quo" who aim to stop all recombinant DNA research by pitting researchers against "those who see only hazards in the new technology."

- Animal rightists who threaten the whole enterprise of modern biology by putting animal rights ahead of the human right to optimum health.
- Politicians and citizens who are unable or unwilling to consider good scientific rationale that justifies the field testing of altered bacteria.
- Creation science movement that denies the basic fundamental of all biological science, the concept of evolution.
- Congressional pork-barrel funding of projects ignoring the peer-review system.

Thanx to MIKE FALL and SCIENCE v.239 p.972.

He's the kind of friend you can depend on - always around when he needs you.

PRAIRIE DOGS VS FERRETS

MAJOR BODDICKER has been doing the Don Quixote bit by tilting with windmills *(Fitzwater, that is a surprisingly good simile for you as the main breeze-generators he's been tilting against are otherwise known as the Endangered Species Office (ESO) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA))*. Needless to say he's had as much success as Don Q. As he didn't get much help from the Colo. Div. of Wildlife (CDOW) either, he has been trying to make waves through Congressman Hank Brown. I've abstracted some of his better remarks from a 7-page letter to that Congressman.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) and regulations of EPA and ESO have been very cleverly worded so that the burden of the proof is on everyone else, and virtually impossible to fulfill. When black-footed ferrets were found in South Dakota, ranchers and the public turned in road and accidentally killed animals prior to the passage of ESA. When the Act was passed with unreasonably punitive regulations and no positive incentives for private persons, ranchers started stuffing ferrets they found down holes and eliminating prairie dog towns (and ferrets) before anyone could find them. The ESO is so moralistic and overly aggressive on endangered species, that people who are associated with dead ones are under suspicion and subject to intense investigations as witness the grizzly bear incidents in Colorado and Montana.

The ESO and CDOW have spent over a million dollars searching for ferrets in this state with zero sightings, over the past ten years. It is interesting how, when ESO needs a larger budget, things become jeopardized and rarer. The public has been ill-served by EPA on every decision they have made related to wildlife vertebrate pest control chemicals. It is of interest to see who the EPA and ESO invite to provide public input. People representing prairie dog control are outnumbered 3-10:1 by wildlife agency, EPA and animal rights folks.

Costs: USFWS, state wildlife agencies, and people PURE enough to do the ferret searches do not have the resources to do them. Therefore their budgets will have to be raised so they are pushing EPA regs to get bigger empires at public expense. Costs of surveys according to ESO guidelines **are** considerably higher than ESO would have you believe. They either don't know what they are talking about or skew the facts to make themselves look neat and reasonable. The cost for surveys will not reach $5-6 per acre until at least 200 acres are searched by spotlight. And less than 5% of the towns in your district (Congressman Brown) are 200 acres or more. There is no statement about 1/2 acre dog towns and on these the cost will reach $40/acre. Prairie dog infested pastures result in from 30-70% loss of available forage, plus control and rehabilitation costs. In cropland 100% is destroyed. (He lists all the steps that have to be taken before the first bit of poison is placed - bureaucratic paradise! - and points out the restrictions placed on ALL lethal methods are not compatible with the timing necessary for effective control operations.)

I think Congress has been misled by the "environmental community" and the USFWS. Congress has been sold a set of "emperor's new clothes." I would like to see a real oversight hearing on ESA where the nitty gritty of Tellico Dam-snail darter, grizzly bear-Montana, wolf management-Minnesota, prairie dog-blackfooted ferret could be seen from both view points. Congress should take a look in depth at what EPA and USFWS are doing in the name of "wildlife conservation." The communists couldn't do a better job of screwing up the country. The ESA and FIFRA need a major overhaul. These laws are not working with regard to reasonable wildlife management and vertebrate pest control.

Most people who get credit for patience simply can't get up enough nerve to start anything.

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S PRINT TO FIT

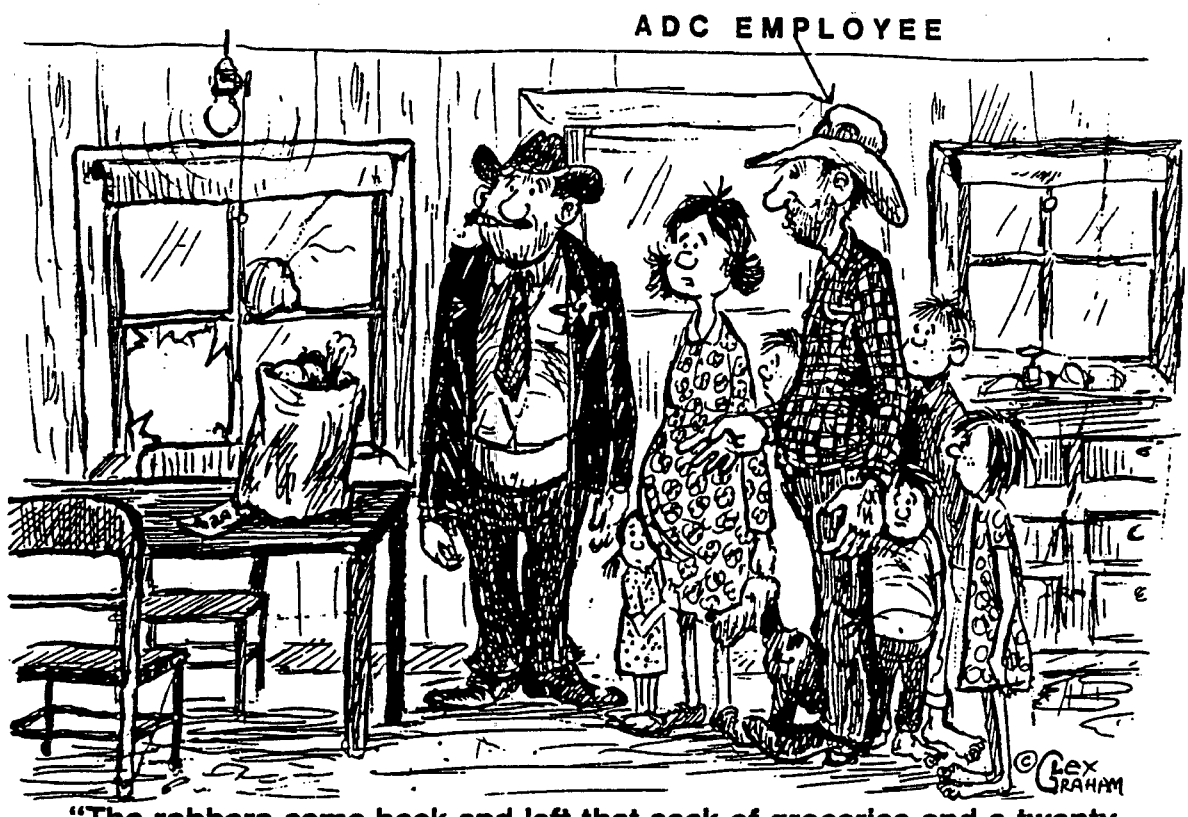
Yavapai County (AZ) was hit with a $7 million lawsuit by the survivors of a veterinarian who died Feb. 14, 1987 four days after he picked up a plague-infested rabbit he captured near I17. The claim is the county failed to warn hunters of plague in that area. The Vet apparently went to a private physician when he developed symptoms on the 12th but the physician improperly diagnosed the disease and sent him home. The nearest incident of plague was 20 miles from the victim's hunting grounds and the county claims it can't post the 8,000 square miles in the county. Thanx to RICK PICKERT, Dewey (AZ) and THE PRESCOTT SUN 19 FEB 88.

A motorist whose heart was bigger than his nose picked up an injured skunk on a highway near Concord (NH). However, the good Samaritan had a little difficulty in finding a place in the Inn. He took it to the Fish & Game, but no one was there so he took it to the Police Dept. They couldn't find any animal hospital that would have anything to do with an injured skunk so they had to put it out of its misery. When the police were contacted they said the smell didn't seem to bother the kind soul. *(He was probably an Animal Rightist who didn't change his underwear regularly).* Thanx to GUY CONNOLLY, NADCA RDIII and TWIN FALLS TIMES-NEWS (ID) 21 FEB 88.

In Jakarta a ranger who was late with the tigers' dinner in a safari park got out of his disabled vehicle and was promptly pounced upon and eaten by six tigers. There's a Garfield in every cat. Thanx to GUY CONNOLLY, NADCA RDIII and SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE 29 FEB 88.

Job opening! Executive Director of the Audubon Society of the Central Atlantic States lhas just resigned to work for Defenders of Wildlife. Bad apples don't fall far from the tree, do they? Why don't some of you apply? After all if Audubon can get a regional rep to head up a predator program in Texas - - ?! Thanx to JOHN C. JONES, NADCA RD, Bethesda, MD and AUDUBON NATURALIST NEWS, Mar 88.

TIME (2/29/88) had a picture of a furclad model wearing an earing of a bloody animal paw and a steel trap as a



"The robbers came back and left that sack of groceries and a twenty dollar bill."

TEXAS TRAPLINE

brooch. This is a new British poster with the caption: THE LEG HOLD TRAP - FOR ANIMALS THAT DON'T GET STRANGLED, BEATEN, GASSED OR ELECTROCUTED. The UK is supposed to introduce a law this spring requiring coats made of lynx, coyote, etc. to bear a label indicating the fur comes from "animals commonly caught in leghold traps." The British Fur Trade Assn. claims 85% of the fur in that country comes from ranch animals and thus the law will have little effect. Thanx to JOHN MAESTRELLI, APHIS, Fair Oaks, CA.

The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (Princeton, OR) has embarked in an intensive predator control program. Predator control which had been carried on for many years was stopped in 1971 until 1986. In that period the nesting population of sandhill cranes decreased from 236 pairs to 181, despite a 75% reduction in cattle grazing and setting aside over 60,000 acres of habitat to be managed to improve nesting cover. Common ravens and raccoons were the the prime egg predators while coyotes accounted for the chicks. After two years of predator control, the cranes are holding their own. In addition, nesting success for both dabbling and diving ducks is between 60-80% compared to 10-25% during the years without control. Also the Canadian goose nesting success was 77%, the highest recorded since 1941. The tone of the article is that of complete surprise that they had finally found the magic key to refuge management. What have we been telling them? Thanx to JOHN C. JONES, NADCA RD, Bethesda, MD and FISH & WILDLIFE NEWS, Jan-Feb 88.

The nice thing about buying beer is no one ever asks what year you want.

PERSONNEL

BOB and PATTY SIMS (Harper, TX) are the proud parents of a 6 pound, 14 ounces girl named Crystal Renee on February 8th. Congratulations.

Jerry Besser is retiring from the DWRC

where he has worked since 1952. He started out with Jack Welch on mammal repellents and ended up as Chief, Bird Damage Control Research.

A fine is a tax for doing bad. A tax is a fine for doing well.

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

SURPRISE! I got the Directory done. Now all the errors should be new.
adios,

National Animal Damage Control Association

3919 Alta Monte, NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.
PERMIT NO. 1005

FORWARDING AND RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED