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THE PROBE



National Animal Damage Control Association

JULY 1990

NUMBER 102

YU CAN'T TEACH AN OLD DOG...

I've heard via the grapevine, but nothing officially, BOB TIMM and BOB SCHMIDT are getting out the July issue of *THE PROBE* and it will be a monthly endeavor. I certainly wish them the best and I'm sure if you give them the support you've given me, you'll have a newsletter of which to be proud. At one time, they wanted me to provide a regular column in which I could retain my "Far Side" humor, but it would be set off from the more serious business of NADCA. I'm submitting some material and we'll see if that is what they still want. I guess it is time for me to quit anyway. That innocuous drawing of a pair of clippers cutting a hedge around a cat (#101 page 5) was NOT the cartoon I originally submitted to Terry for the KITTLY LITTER column.

My job is just like heaven. I'm unprepared for either.

HUMANS GOT RIGHTS???

All the following news clips have been provided by SHERM BLOM:

INHUMANE TORTURE! — A jailed animal rights activist, Fran Stephanie Trutt, was not permitted a conjugal visit to her cell in the state prison by her four dogs. Her lawyer is probably right in saying, "The truth of the matter is her dogs are her only friends."

The only trouble with a pay check is you can't use it more than once.

ABOUT TIME!!! — The Farm Animal and Research Facilities Protection Act is in the legislative mill. This

would make it a federal crime on a facility or premises where an animal is kept for food, agriculture, research, testing, or education to:

- Disrupt the activities,
- Steal or damage property or animals,
- Enter a facility with the intent to commit a violation, or
- Remain in a facility despite notice that entry was forbidden.

Violators could be fined up to \$10,000 and jailed for up to three years, or both. Let's hope this bill will pass in this form and not be watered down by some bleeding heart congressman.

If pro and con are opposites aren't CONgress and PROgress the same?

SICK! — Veterinarian Patrick Headley, a university researcher on nervous systems, missed injury near London when a car bomb exploded, but a 13-month-old toddler was struck in the back by shrapnel. Headley is quoted: "I cannot accept jeopardizing of human life is either justified or sensible or even an effective way to achieve their (ARs) aims."

Expand your mind. Bring it to work with you tomorrow.

SICKER!! — The Animal Liberation Front (AFL/PETA) struck again when they broke into a Texas Tech-Lubbock laboratory vandalizing Dr. Oream's equipment and steal-

ing five cats, halting the work in progress. This was an important study on the understanding of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome or crib death which kills more than 5,000 infants yearly. PETA brought suit against the Natl. Inst. of Health for funding the project but an investigation found their objections unfounded.

Duckett (Soc. for Abolition of Vivisection) declared in 1875: "Vivisection is monstrous. Medical science has little to learn, and nothing can be gained by repetition of experiments on living animals." This is still being parroted by ALF types even though since Duckett's time animal research has led to vaccines against diphtheria, polio, measles, mumps, whooping cough, and rubella. It has meant the eradication of smallpox, effective treatment of diabetes and control of infection with powerful antibiotics as well as the cardiac pacemaker, microsurgery to reattach severed limbs, heart, kidney, lung, liver, and other transplants. It is leading to dramatic progress for AIDS and Alzheimer's disease and increased average life-span by nearly 28 years. Even animals have benefited as we are able to extend and improve their lives through cataract and open-heart surgery, as well as immunize them against rabies, distemper, anthrax, tetanus, and feline leukemia. The prospect for further advances are unlimited if we can stop the ARs. As the result of their activities the cost of research for 1990, an estimated \$1.5 billion (approximately 20% of the entire federal budget for biomedical research), will be needed to cover the extra costs of increased regulations and security.

Early to bed and early to rise must mean the TV is busted.

GOT A PICTURE TO PIN ON THE WALL — and throw darts at. *The Rocky Mtn. News* (05/21/90) printed a picture of a name I've been hearing quite a bit about lately, **ROBIN DUXBURY**, Rocky Mtn. Humane Society. According to the article, she converted seven years ago from a meat eater, fur wearer, and animal experimentation lab worker to her present status. She wears a button proclaiming, "I'm a shameless agitator" and follows in her mother's footsteps. As for her own work, "...it was a choice between children and animals. Those are the two groups that really need to be protected." Among her other quotes, "I just wish people would simply leave animals alone. But that seems to be a very big request in some people's eyes...Public criticism is always high...It takes arrogance. It takes nerves of steel. And it takes the ability to shrug your shoulders at your critics."

A loose tongue is the first step on the road to loose teeth.

KITTY LITTER

Of all things, I got asked to update MAJOR BODDICKER's article in the Univ. of Nebraska's *Prevention and Control of Wildlife Damage* as he is too busy. Am glad to learn that this 1983 classic should be out early next year. I can't understand why they picked me, however, as he had the topic "House Cats (feral)".



Politicians use to be able to buy a whole ward for what one minute of TV costs now.

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S PRINT TO FIT

The following have also been provided by SHERM BLOM:

BLOODY BUTCHERS — Canada's Dept. of Agriculture is getting flak usually reserved for APHIS in this country. The largest remaining herd (4,000) of wood bison in the world in Alberta is slowly dying from brucellosis and tuberculosis. To save the gene pool, veterinarians want to kill the herd and restock it with healthy and genetically pure animals. Needless to say, the short-sighted public, including park rangers, liken it to killing every cow in Switzerland.

Have you heard the frozen embryo theme song? "FREEZE A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW"

BABY BOOM—The black-footed ferret baby factory in Wyoming is popping out pups like crazy. The Meeteetse colony dropped to only 18 survivors due to an outbreak of canine distemper. These were all trapped and set up in a breeding laboratory, but they hope to release some of next year's production in the wild before it becomes too imprinted on civilization's luxuries.

Nothing improves my hearing faster than praise.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PRAIRIE DOG SHOOTOUT—has put the town of Nucla (CO) on the map. In organizing a prairie dog shoot, they have had over 400 applications from several states, but are restricting it to 50 two-man teams. Proper prairie dog control it is not and you can imagine how many rocks have been overturned as animal rightists have crawled out to protest.

I'd rather be filthy rich than clean poor.

THE ELK HORN OF PLENTY—The annual Jackson (WY) auction of elk horns salvaged by the Boy Scouts from the National Elk Refuge netted them \$69,000 this year. The highest bidder was a Korean, Don Choi, who paid \$35,280 for a trailerload to be made into medicinal teas and capsules for the Orient market. When are the ARs going to complain about this desecration?

It's good to laugh at yourself occasionally. Other people do.

BLyme IT'S LYME—CDC reports that Lyme disease has increased 15 fold in the seven years since reporting began. The tick-borne disease reports have increased 62% in 1989 over the previous year. Georgia particularly helped with the statistics as they reported 53 cases in 1988 and 715 a year later. However, New York was tops with 2,916 cases, followed by Connecticut, Georgia, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Besides better recognition of the disease, the deer herds and the attendant tick populations have increased in these states.

Some folks think they're generous just because they give free advice.

CALIFORNIA LOOKOUT!—With the passing of Proposition 117, Californians may soon encounter Coloradian problems with puma on the front range. As city dwellers move out they attempt to duplicate the best of what they left by planting blue grass, flowers, and gardens. These in turn attract the deer. Giving them plenty of food year round keep them closer to habitation rather than making them migrate up into the mountains. This draws

lions down for their natural food source. In addition these people let their pets run free at night furnishing lions with a fast food source. This is further compounded in that human population pressures discourage hunters from harvesting either species in these areas. There are an increasing number of dog and exotic animal attacks by lions in the foothill areas. Even "a jogger was chased up a tree by two of the big cats" (He must have been some climber!).

Anything worth doing is worth getting someone else to do.

SO I'M WRONG?—(This is just for FRED KNOWLTON and ROGER WOODRUFF) A rancher in Ten Sleep (WY) claims she lost 60 sheep out of the herd of 1,400 two years ago. Last summer she took out 900 in the same area and didn't lose a one. She gives credit to the acquisition of a Great Pyrenees guard dog almost as big as a sheep. She says, "He eats about 50 pounds of dog food a week. He is also slow. But if he could catch a coyote, he would. He kills rabbits and raccoons and we've pulled porcupine quills out of him...If you've ever seen him yawn, it's like looking into the Grand Canyon." (So much for my balanced presentation for the month.)

Save plankton—kill the whale.

COLONEL! HERE'S A REAL OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU!—The ban of ostrich hides from South Africa with the Anti-Apartheid Act in 1986 has caused the price of a breeding pair to go up to \$50,000 in this country. As the pair can produce 50 or more chicks a year bringing in as much as \$3,000 each, this has resulted in spectacular growth in Texas exotic breeding ranches. It appears to be a real bonanza as while the feathers are no longer in demand for hats, the hides make a supple, durable leather for fancy cowboy boots to Italian purses. Also the meat which is a delicacy in Europe not only resembles beef in flavor and texture, but has the low cholesterol of fowl. The Colonel could give a block party with a three-piece bucket.

Advice to worms—sleep late.

EPA LOSES INTEREST—EPA has informed the Denver Wildlife Research Center that it will not require studies of the impact on golden eagle populations as part of the data call-in on the Compound 1080 sheep collar. DWRC will still have to provide data on the residue in wool, but this leaves DWRC with ten eagles it can't release. Suggest they give them to EPA to solve their pigeon problem at Waterside Mall.

BILL FITZWATER

PRESIDENT'S CORNER — JULY 1990

I am finally settling in and learning the ropes. As my coffee cup says, "There's a lot of things they never told me before I signed with this outfit." I am pleased and honored to serve NADCA. My hope is to provide leadership and help to Board members, Regional Directors, and members to make NADCA the premier organization representing professional animal damage control in the country and world.

We recognize *The Probe* is something you all look forward to receiving. Bill Fitzwater has served as Editor since *The Probe* began. He single-handedly produced over 100 issues. These were lively, fact-filled issues that gave us all much information and food-for-thought. Bill has asked that we find a new editor and we've been searching high and low. Bob Timm, Superintendent, Hopland Field Station, and Robert Schmidt, Wildlife and Natural Resource Specialist, UC Integrated Hardwood Range Management Program, Hopland, have agreed to co-edit *The Probe* beginning with the August issue. We are grateful to them for taking on this task. It is incumbent on all of us to help these new Editors by providing them with articles, information, questions, etc. Send it to: *The Probe*, UC Hopland Field Station, 4070 University Road, Hopland, CA 95449

We look forward to future issues of *The Probe*. Thank you Bob and Bob, and special thanks to Bill Fitzwater. He kept *The Probe* (and NADCA) going.

I feel good about NADCA. The Board and Regional Director, while extremely busy, are giving NADCA everything they can. I, too, will give it my best shot. Let me know how we're doing and what you would like to see and how you can help. My address is: Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources-North Region, University of California, Davis, CA 95616 (916-757-8620).

Our short-term goals are to:

1. Get *The Probe* off-the-ground with new Editors.
2. Strengthen our membership.
3. Identify from you what kinds of issues the NADCA should pursue.

It is your association. Please help us achieve our goals.

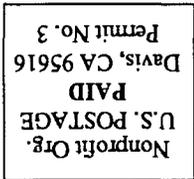
Terrell P. Salmon, President, NADCA & Regional Director, DANR-North Region

FROM THE EDITORS

Kudos to Bill Fitzwater for his past achievements with *The Probe*. We look forward to accepting the responsibility for maintaining tradition and utility of this newsletter. Bill will keep us apprised of the victims of his wit in his monthly column. We ask you, the readers, to send us material to fill these pages. Facts, new techniques, publications, and meeting notices are all appropriate. We look forward to a great NADCA newsletter.

Robert H. Schmidt

Robert M. Timm



Terrell P. Salmon
DANR-North Region
University of California
Davis, CA 95616

Membership Application

NATIONAL ANIMAL DAMAGE CONTROL ASSOCIATION

Mail to: Wes Jones, Treasurer, Route 1 Box 37, Shell Lake, WI 54871

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

Dues \$ _____ Donation \$: _____ Total \$: _____ Date: _____

(Underline: Student \$7.50, Active \$15, Sponsor \$30, Patron \$100)

Check or Money Order payable to NADCA

Select one type of occupation or principal interest:

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