

ANIMAL CAVALCADE

MAR/APRIL 1974

60¢

THE ANIMAL HEALTH MAGAZINE

HOW TO GET MORE MILEAGE
FROM YOUR VETERINARIAN

DOG CHOOSING TIPS

PETS MOST PECULIAR



EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

VETERINARY ENERGY CRISIS or HOW TO GET MORE MILEAGE FROM YOUR VETERINARIAN

The veterinary profession had a first. There was a shortage of veterinarians long before we heard of our current perils. The profession has been actively promoting the establishment of new schools of veterinary medicine for many years, and with some success. There are about twice as many veterinary colleges now than twenty years ago. However the supply is far behind the demand.

There are many ways to get the most mileage from your veterinarian. First of all, consider that all he has to sell is service. His time, his knowledge, and his investment (\$75,000 to \$275,000) are his stock in trade. You can be sure he does not want to lose any of them. He wants to do the best possible job, not just for these reasons, but more significant, to derive the satisfaction of a job well done. He does not know an eight hour day.

With these factors in mind, how can you be sure of getting your share of veterinary service? First, select a veterinarian who is geared for your needs. Don't wait until an emergency develops to find your family veterinarian. Call him to see if he can accept you as a new client. Most veterinarians, even though busy, will take new clients if approached in this manner, even though it means extending his day. Have confidence in your veterinarian. Make and keep appointments. Make your appointments with the receptionist; don't call to talk to the doctor when all you want is an appointment. When you meet with the doctor, be prepared to give him all the pertinent information on the case and don't be afraid to ask questions. His time is yours during the appointment and he wants to render his best service to your animal. If you want another doctor to consult with your veterinarian, discuss it with your veterinarian. If the doctors work together, your animal will be assured of good care and you will save considerable energy and money in repetition of procedures. Also, consultations bring forth information from both doctors that formulates the advisable approach to solving the animal's problem. Be loyal to your doctor and tell him you appreciate his care of your animals. Those who try to keep several veterinarians on the string seldom have the respect of anyone.

Help keep the doctor's overhead down. Pay your bill as it is rendered. Billing has become a major expense to

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ANIMAL CAVALCADE

Official Journal of the Animal Health Foundation on animal care and health.

MARCH/APRIL 1974

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DOCTOR'S ADVICE

Readers with health and other pet problems are invited to send in their questions to ANIMAL CAVALCADE. Those with the greatest reader interest will be handled on this page by Dr. J.F. Smithcors, D.V.M., Ph.D., who is technical editor of American Veterinary Publications, Inc.



"OH DEAR, I SUPPOSE THIS MEANS SHE'LL BE EXPELLED"

Q. Does a baby whale nurse under water?

A. Yes. The mammary glands of the mother are located below her pelvic region (about where the udder is on a cow) and while nursing she turns her body sideways so her calf can find the nipples, which are protruded from two slits during the act of nursing. Like other marine mammals, the baby whale can hold its breath for a long time, so it has no difficulty in nursing under water.

Q. If I feed my dog garlic will he have worms?

A. Very likely, if he has contact with other dogs that have worms and no specific attention is given to deworming. The notion that garlic will prevent or get rid of worms is an ancient one, but about all it will do is give him garlic breath.

Q. Does a desert tortoise need water? I feed mine half a head of lettuce daily. Is that enough food?

A. All tortoises require water, although the lettuce would probably supply most of its needs; even so, it would probably be a good idea to give it access to a flat pan of water now and then. Lettuce is a good food, but it might be better to give some variety — clover, apples, dandelions, or any succulent plant. They will not overeat, so the easiest way to be sure you are feeding enough is to see at what point your tortoise refuses additional food, but make certain it stays fresh.

Q. Can a female dog have puppies by two males?

A. Yes, any female that bears two or more offspring at a time can be bred by two or more males and quite possibly might conceive by each. There are many sad stories about a female being bred to the "right" dog, then getting loose and being bred by a mutt — with the result that some of her puppies are purebreds and others mongrels. It is necessary to keep the female confined during her entire heat period.

Q. My pet parakeet won't eat sand or gravel. Is it necessary?

A. Like other birds, parakeets have a gizzard (muscular stomach) and grit is necessary for proper grinding of their food, especially seeds and the like. They may not show any ill effects for some time without it, but they are likely to be healthier and live longer if fine grit is supplied (and eaten). Make sure the gravel you are offering is the proper size; that sold by pet shops especially for parakeets should be appropriate.

Q. What is the shortest lived dog?

A. As a rule the giant breeds (Great Dane, Saint Bernard, etc.) are the shortest lived, being old at seven years and rarely living beyond eight or nine, although with good geriatric care some individuals may live longer. Incidentally, the record for longevity — 27 years — goes to a Labrador Retriever.

Q. My toy dog likes cat food. Is it o.k. for him?

A. Yes, there is no reason why any good cat food should not be entirely satisfactory for a dog.

Q. My pet rabbit gnaws on his cage. Should I give him something to gnaw on?

A. About the only way to keep a rabbit from gnawing — which helps keep the teeth in good shape — is to line the cage with hardware cloth. Even then they will gnaw at the wire, and it might be a good idea to keep a piece of wood in the cage as a "pacifier."

Q. If I don't have a special carrier, how can I take my cat to the hospital?

A. Wrapping a cat in a piece of blanket is a convenient method, and if it is sick it will most likely appreciate this bit of comfort. Any cardboard box of adequate size can be used if you make sure there are some air holes, and be certain to tie it shut to prevent escape.

Q. Do horses need shelter?

A. Yes, horses need shelter in practically all environments, both from excessive cold and heat. An open shed may be sufficient unless temperatures get well below freezing, and a tree is probably better than a closed barn in very hot weather. A poorly ventilated stable is bad no matter what the weather.

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THERE IS A MESSAGE FOR YOU ON PAGE 31

CAVALCADE HEALTH NEWS

ANIMAL HEALTH FOUNDATION SEEKS INFORMATION ON BIRTH CONTROL

Your Editor recently visited Dr. Lloyd C. Faulkner, head of the Physiology Department of Colorado State University at Fort Collins, Colorado. Dr. Faulkner is a leader in the research for an effective, long lasting vaccine to sterilize female dogs. He stated that he now has a vaccine that lasts about 6 months, which is not long enough to be practical. However, he is encouraged with the progress. There are two other methods of sterilization that are ready for market. One will be an additive to a dog food and the other is an implant which is placed in the tissues.

VAMPIRE BATS ON WAY OUT

The Agency for International Development announced a scientific breakthrough that could wipe out vampire bats, which have been biting livestock in the southwestern U.S. and Latin America. Dr. John A. Hannah, administrator of Aid, said a new chemical technique can reduce significantly the loss of livestock caused by the bats, a loss currently estimated at \$250 million a year.

Vampires are often carriers of rabies and other infections. The 3-inch-long creatures have enlarged upper incisors and canine-like teeth. They make a single, generally painless bite in animals or humans and then lap up the blood which is their exclusive diet.

Until now the only weapon cattlemen had against vampires was an expensive vaccine, but the new method (developed by the Denver Wildlife Research Center) is safe and economical. The new method involves use of an anticoagulant called dithacinone; once it can be gotten into the vampires, it prevents the blood they drink from coagulating and they die in a few hours with internal hemorrhage. There are two tentative procedures for using the chemical: First, injecting the drug into the cattle, which would then provide a fatal meal for any vampire dining there; second, catching the bats in nets and smearing them with the dithacinone. When the contaminated bats are released, they fly to their colonies and ingest enough of the chemical either by cleaning themselves or rubbing against one another to result in death. The cattle-injection method was tested in Mexico and proved 100% effective. The second system was tried in Brazil and proved 90 to 95% effective. (*Feedlot Mgt.* 14:67)



MORRIS NAMES TV ACTRESS AS VP

Actress Betty White, star of TV's "The Pet Set" has been chosen Canine Vice President of the Morris Animal Foundation.

Miss White was elected by the Foundation's Board of Trustees during the annual meeting in Denver. Like other dog, cat, horse, zoo and wild animal enthusiasts who serve the foundation, she is doing so as a volunteer.

As Canine Vice President, she will help acquaint dog enthusiasts with the goals and accomplishments of the Morris Animal Foundation, which sponsors scientific studies into diseases and health problems for dogs.

**ANIMAL HEALTH FOUNDATION NEEDS YOU!
SEE PAGE 31**

IMPROVED FRACTURE TECHNIQUE SAVES VALUABLE THOROUGHBRED

*Courtesy Veterinary Economics,
November 1973*

Sham, the three-year-old colt that threatened Secretariat at Belmont, may soon be fully recovered after fracturing a leg. The thoroughbred was injured in a routine workout a few days after the Belmont.

A cast, which was placed on his right foreleg following surgery in July, was removed October 9. The valuable dark bay then left confinement at Belmont and began the last three months of his recuperation at Spendthrift Farms in Kentucky.

Sham's convalescence began a few hours after surgery was performed on his fractured leg July 6. He was soon back on his feet and moving about aided by a fiberglass cast, which was adapted for use from human medical practice.

Application of the cast followed surgery performed by Dr. W. O. Reed, head of Belmont Equine Hospital. He used the ASIF technique for internal fixation to repair the fractured cannon bone.

After the cast was removed, Dr. Reed said that Sham could return to racing after a few months more rest. However, he felt that the horse's new owners would likely prefer having the valuable stallion stand at stud.

The new cast used is said to be as much as 50 percent lighter and three times stronger than plaster of paris. It is made of open-weave fiberglass tape impregnated with a photosensitive resin. The tape was wrapped around Sham's repaired foreleg much like an elastic bandage. It was then exposed to a special lamp which hardens it in three minutes by light rays rather than heat.

FIBER GLASS cast enabled Sham to maneuver on his own feet within hours after repair of a fractured cannon bone in his right foreleg.

WARNING ABOUT "PENTA"

Courtesy AVMA Journal

The Council took note that pentachlorophenol, a wood preservative commonly referred to as "Penta," is toxic to man and animals. Toxic amounts may be absorbed by inhalation, skin absorption, or other kinds of contact. The Council warns about the effects of the treatment of wood in houses, dog houses, and kennels with pentachlorophenol. Symptoms of poisoning include tremors, convulsions, and shock, reports the AMVA Council on Biological and Therapeutic Agents.

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A PRESCRIPTION FOR HEALTHY



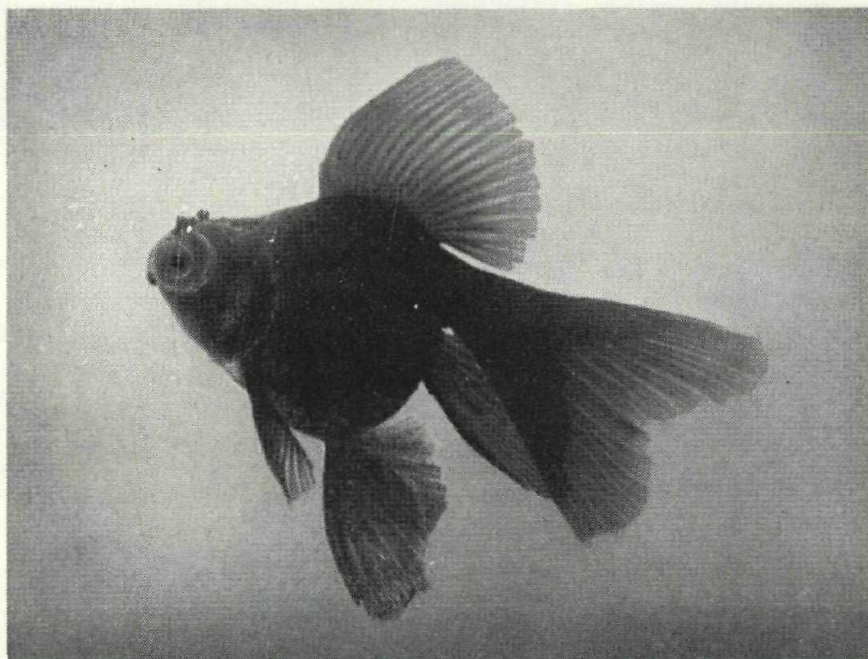
Most all of us have had a goldfish at one time or another. A goldfish may be one of the first pets a child acquires. Many adults enjoy keeping and caring for small fish. The keeping of goldfish was universal in China by 1500 and the Chinese and Japanese have been most active in developing the fancy breeds of goldfish.

Goldfish are quite hardy and do well in a great variety of aquariums, tanks, bowls, and ponds. All goldfish are cold blooded and are able to adapt to a variety of temperatures and do very well at room temperatures. Individual goldfish have been known to live for 30 years.

Care of aquarium water before introducing fish is very important. Sudden temperature changes should be avoided. Pet fish are often brought home in a carton or bag of water. The aquarium water should be the same temperature as that of the fish container before introducing the fish to their new home.

Chlorinated water can kill pet fish. Chlorine is easily removed from the water intended for fish by heating to 100 degrees and allowing to cool for a minimum of 24 hours. You can also use commercial products designed as water conditioners.

Children love to try and catch pet fish with their hands or play with toys. This should be avoided as severe and frequently fatal injuries occur to the fish.



It is extremely important that one maintains a large water-air surface in order to maintain enough oxygen in the water. Fish obtain their oxygen from the water they live in rather than breathe air as we do. A common mistake is to fill a narrow necked bowl too full so that the water-air interface is restricted. Another common mistake is to stock too many fish in a tank.

When there is not enough oxygen in the water, the fish are seen gaping at the surface of the aquarium or bowl often making frantic respiratory movements. If not corrected the fish will die of suffocation. Hot weather tends to lower the oxygen-holding capacity of water and oxygen starvation may be more of a problem in the summer. Commercial aerators are available that will assure maximal oxygen tension in the water.

Many commercial foods are available for goldfish and if desired these can be supplemented with some live food, such as mosquito larvae, minced earthworms, and daphnia. Fish should

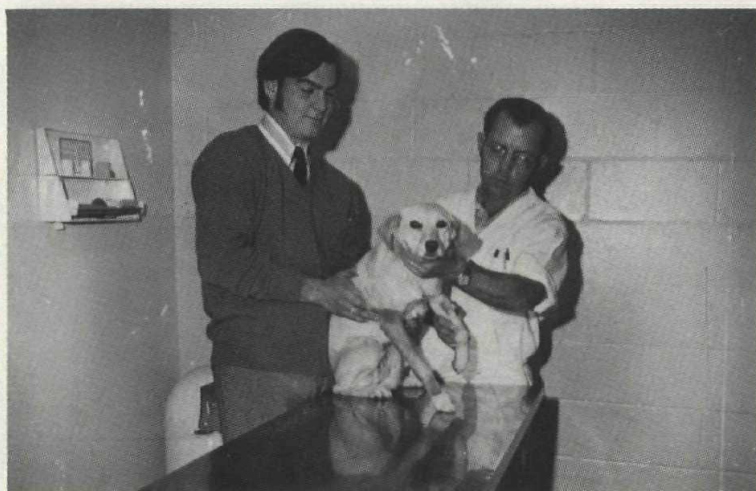
be fed no more than can be eaten in 5 to 15 minutes. Excess food drops to the bottom of the aquarium or bowl and decomposes reducing the oxygen content of the water and increasing the bacterial population.

The female goldfish lays eggs in the water which are fertilized by the male. The Fertilized eggs develop into young fish (fry) in about a week. It is not desirable to raise young goldfish with their parents, inasmuch as the parents will cannibalize their young. If separate raising facilities are not available, then one should provide broken pieces of clay flower pots, and considerable amounts of vegetation as hiding place for the young. If young goldfish are raised with their parents, few will survive to adulthood.

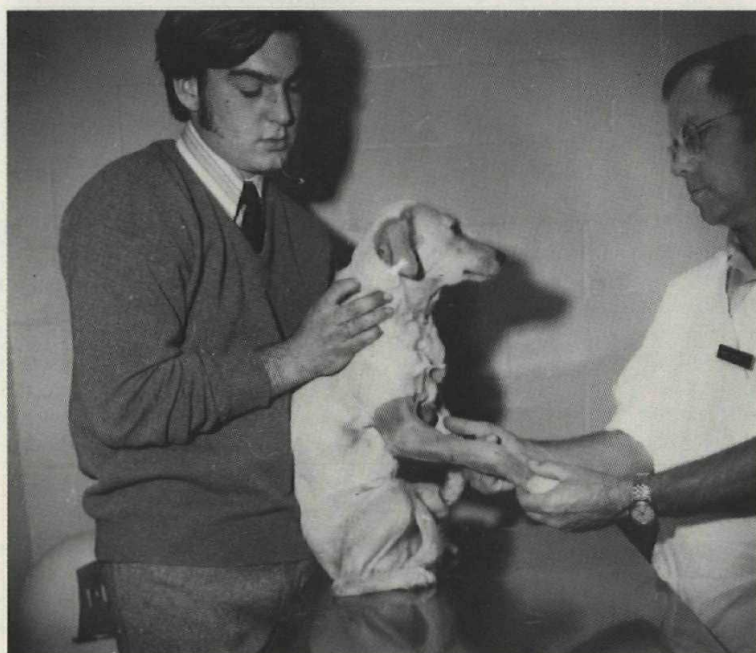
Fishes have some of the same diseases as humans and domestic animals. Diseases such as Goiter, Scurvy and even Tuberculosis are seen in fish. Anesthesia and surgery on fish is becoming more routine at many veterinary hospitals.



If your dog is permitted to roam free, his chances of being in an accident are high.



This dog's life was saved by the concern of a passing motorist who rushed him to a veterinarian for immediate care.



Injured dog required surgery along with insertion of pin into broken leg.

WHAT TO DO FOR THE PET

in an emergency

By
Dr. C.F. Rossow, D.V.M.
Manager, Veterinary Services
Ralston Purina Company

In an emergency, first aid, promptly received, is a vital factor in determining the lasting well-being of an injured pet. First aid is the administering of care or treatment to an injured pet before regular medical aid can be obtained. Every pet owner should know what measures or steps are to be performed as first aid in the event of an accident.

Animals are prone to accidents. Accidents probably kill more pets than old age. Most accidents are associated with automobiles, yet accidents can range from poisoning by garden chemicals to burns from a barbecue.

First, and most importantly, in the case of an injury, the pet owner should contact a veterinarian immediately. Then, a few common steps can be taken before the pet is taken to the doctor.

Before a dog is approached, the owner should consider his own safety. Injured animals sometimes react with hostility toward even their owners. One of the first precautions to take before examining the dog is this basic safety measure: Place a muzzle around the dog's jaws. Attempts to move an injured dog can cause excessive pain; the muzzle will at least protect you from his normal response to pain.

The muzzle can be improvised from a tie, belt, scarf or heavy cord if a gauze bandage is not available. It is formed as follows: Make a slip-knot in the center of the material and slip the loop over the dog's jaws making sure the knot is down and then pull it snug. Tie the ends with a bow behind his ears.

Any excessive external bleeding

should be controlled by a pressure bandage or pressure applied to the open vessel. If there is any danger of broken bones and it is necessary to move the animal, a board makes an excellent stretcher. Damage attributable to fractures can be made worse unless the animal is handled gently. Extreme care should be exercised in moving the animal onto the board for his trip to the veterinary hospital. If the dog can walk and does not require stretcher treatment, confine his movements because his injuries may still be extensive. Only careful examination can determine the extent of any internal injuries.

Shock usually follows major injuries like being hit by a car, excessive loss of blood or severe impact to the nervous system. The animal will develop signs of rapid shallow breathing, weak pulse and the gums will be pale to whitish in color. It is best to keep the dog quiet and warm; if possible, let the animal sniff spurts of ammonia. Above all, no liquids until the extent of the internal injuries are known.

When an animal has been burned, leave the wound alone except to remove any obvious foreign material. Cover the wound with a wet pack of strong tea solution or diluted washing soda. Avoid greasy dressings and the use of absorbent cotton on any open burn.

Sometimes animals appear to be poisoned. Poison should be suspected when intense abdominal pain, animal cries, vomiting, rapid hard breathing, convulsions and even coma is sudden and any other causes for the sickness are unknown.

If it is desired to cause vomiting in the animal so that the poison(s) will be partially removed from the system, a mixture of half tablespoon of powdered mustard made into a paste and given in warm water, concentrated salt solution, or one ounce of hydrogen peroxide with an equal amount of water are all effective emetics. In all cases of poisoning, it is advisable that the animal be taken to the veterinarian as quickly as possible. Also check labels for exact type of poison and possible antidote.

Skunk odor. Wash the eyes with a lukewarm boric acid solution. Wash dog in tomato juice followed by a scented soap and warm water. Lastly, wash with a five per cent solution of ammonia.

Motion or car sickness. Withhold feed from the animal for three to four hours before the trip is to start. The veterinarian can dispense tranquilizers which aid in controlling this problem.

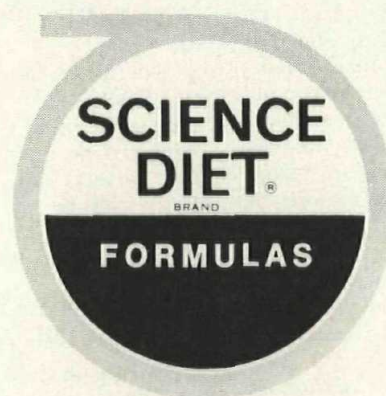
Heatstroke usually occurs from prolonged or excessive exercise or exposure to high temperatures. The animal will pant excessively and have a

body temperature as high as 107-108 degrees. Remove animal to cool shaded area, if necessary, place animal in a tub of cold water until the body temperature is within the normal range of 101-102 degrees. Supportive therapy should be administered by the veterinarian.

Fish hooks. If a hook is implanted within the tissue, the easiest way to remove it is to cut off the barbed portion with a pair of pliers and pull the shank of the hook out the way it entered. If no pliers are available, push the hook through the tissue so that the barbed end comes out first. The area should then be cleaned with soap and

water, and a disinfectant should be applied.

Of course, accidents can't be avoided entirely; but everyone can help eliminate the cause of many of them. If the pet doesn't roam loose in the neighborhood, the chances are remote that he will be hit by a car, hurt in a dog or cat fight, or poisoned by spoiled garbage. Care in keeping the rodent and insect baits and garden chemicals out of his reach will add to his safety. The pet owner, by giving a pet "member of the family" care, will be practicing the most effective kind of first-aid — preventing accidents so they don't happen.



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ARTIFICIAL BREEDING FOR THE HORSE INDUSTRY

Recently, courses were held at Colorado State University on artificial breeding of horses and stallion and mare management. Artificial breeding techniques have been developed which increase the conception rate, reduce infection, save money, and make better use of the stallions. Much improved information on the breeding health and status of the stallion and mare can be obtained by these new techniques. At this time, artificial breeding of horses is recognized by the Arabian and the Quarter Horse Associations.

The courses were presented by Drs. B. W. Pickett and J. L. Voss of Colorado State University. Dr. Pickett is Director of the Animal Reproduction Laboratory and Professor of Physiology and Biophysics, and Dr. Voss is Professor of Veterinary Medicine and Assistant Head, Department of Clinical Sciences. These men have developed many improved techniques in animal reproduction and are recognized among the foremost experts in their field.

Other breeds of horses will soon recognize and promote artificial breeding as an important method of improving the breeds. It will be especially valuable on large breeding farms.

The Animal Health Foundation is soliciting funds for advanced study in artificial insemination of horses.

25,000 SEE ILLINOIS ANIMAL HEALTH SHOW

Surgical demonstrations, movies and slides attracted an estimated 25,000 persons to a veterinary medicine exhibit during a fair in Springfield, Illinois.

Sponsors of the booth were the Illinois VMA, and the Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine and its student chapter of the AVMA. More than 150 veterinarians and veterinary students worked on the project.

Surgery was performed twice daily by a veterinary surgeon assisted by UI students. Three or four students circulated among the audience answering questions while a veterinarian narrated during the surgery.

AAHA TO MEET IN SAN FRANCISCO

American Animal Hospital Association has announced its 41st Annual Meeting is to be held in San Francisco, April 22-26, 1974.

**YOU CAN NOW HAVE YOUR
OWN ANIMAL CAVALCADE!
SEE PAGE 26**

U.S. TRYING TO CURB DUCK-KILLING DISEASE

courtesy Los Angeles Times

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is trying to cope with a deadly contagious disease that killed 45,000 wild ducks and geese at a South Dakota refuge last year. The European disease is a virus infection called duck plague, or duck virus enteritis. It does not affect humans. Wildlife Service spokesmen said they feared the disease might reach epidemic proportions across the nation during migration, now under way. The disease is believed to have been endemic in domesticated waterfowl in Europe, particularly in the Netherlands, for at least 50 years. It was first reported in the United States in 1967.

ROCK-A-BYE HUMMINGBIRD

This is a publication in two parts that has stories and tips on feeding and care of hummingbirds. Hummingbird hobby is becoming very popular with bird lovers. Information about the fancy can be obtained from: Woodsworld, 600 Olive Springs Road, Santa Cruz, California 95060.

DR. GANAWAY AWARDED FOR ADVANCING ANIMAL HEALTH

Courtesy AVMA Journal, Dec. '73

Dr. James R. Ganaway received the Public Health Service Commendation Medal from Dr. Joe R. Held, director of the Division of Research Services, National Institutes of Health. Dr. Ganaway received the award for his skill and integrity resulting in significant advances in knowledge of various laboratory animal diseases, but particularly for designing methods to maintain animal health, including development of a vaccine for colonies of inbred guinea pigs, which permit large-scale production. Dr. Ganaway is a veterinary officer in the Comparative Pathology Section of the Veterinary Resources Branch, DRS.

REMEMBER DDT?

*Courtesy Animal Nutrition & Health
August, 1973*

DDT appears to be a sad, lost cause. Its sacrifice in the name of the ridiculous popular craze we call environmental protection, and as a symbol hated by those who deny many of the advances of civilization, was one of the worst criminal injustices ever perpetrated against the human race.

DDT's enemies are few, but they are loud, tightly organized, well financed, equipped with captive propaganda media, and enjoy a strange emotional

alliance with the majority of politicians and journalists everywhere.

The one notable exception has been provided by a small group of dedicated representatives of the scientific community. Led by J. Gordon Edwards, Joseph W. Still, Betty Chapman, Norman E. Borlaug, Thomas H. Jukes, Andrew J. Rogers, and Robert H. White-Stevens, and banded together as Sponsors of Science, Inc., they have patiently and methodically turned aside the accusations of DDT's detractors, proving it does not cause tumors, cancer, hepatitis, heart disease, poliomyelitis, or other illness, does not continue to accumulate in animal tissues, does not inhibit photosynthesis in the marine environment, does not persist for decades in the environment, does not kill off populations of fish, crabs, oysters, birds or mammals, does not routinely "build up" food chains, and does not cause thin eggshells and thus decline the bird populations.

Dick Beeler

LOCAL VETERINARIANS TAKING PART IN PFI SHOPPING CENTER EVENTS

Courtesy AVMA Journal, Dec. '73

Local veterinary medical associations in eight major population centers across the nation have an opportunity to cooperate in a new public education effort sponsored by the Pet Food Institute this school year.

Using the theme "Help make the world a better place for pets and people," the Institute is holding 3-day "Pets 'n People" programs at large indoor shopping center malls in the Chicago, Newark, Washington, D.C./Baltimore, San Diego, Los Angeles, Houston, Indianapolis, and Tampa/St. Petersburg areas.

AVMA and PFI Staffs Cooperate

AVMA's public information staff is working with PFI personnel to encourage and help coordinate participation by local veterinary medical associations in the shopping center events. The extent and nature of local V.M.A. involvement is up to each group. But hopefully many veterinarians will take part, providing informal lectures, demonstrations, and panel discussions, and being on hand during peak crowd hours to answer general questions about pets and pet health problems.

AVMA and PFI staff members responsible for coordinating the programs believe the combined efforts will provide tremendous public relations opportunities for both groups, as well as a valuable public service, helping many thousands of people to

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HINTS AND WARNING FOR

CAT OWNERS

Your home can be a safe, pleasant environment for your cat — or a death trap. It's up to you. Here are several special home safety precautions and cat care hints which could save your feline's life.

One authority states that, "Cats in the house, like children, have to be watched almost constantly; the normal home carries many threats to a feline's life." Several preventive measures should be followed where cats are found in the home. First of all, the containers in storage areas should be checked. Things like cleaning fluids, paint thinners, oils, disinfectants, paints and anti-freezes can, if sampled by your pet cat, prove fatal. Since almost all petroleum products can be absorbed through a feline's skin, they should be kept in airtight, unbreakable containers.

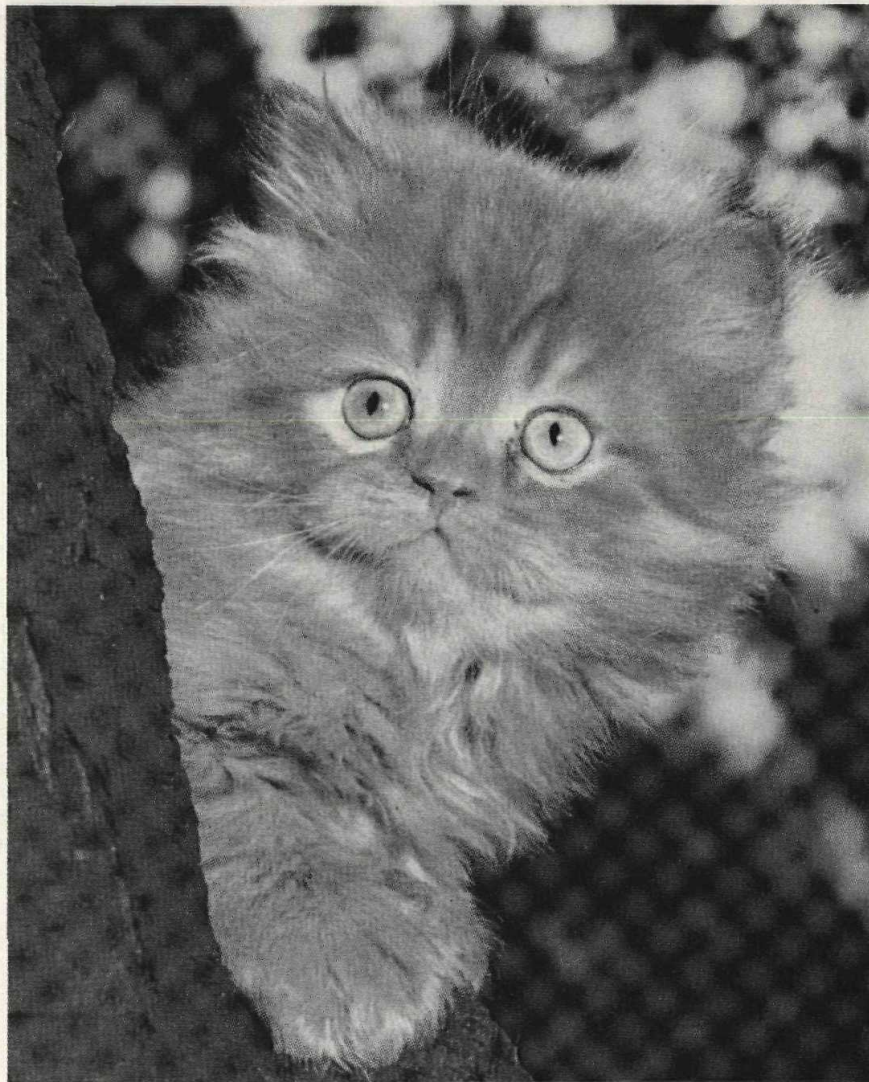
"House plants, though seemingly harmless, can be fatal to cats if consumed," according to this expert. Even the common bathroom contains hazards for the family cat. The list here is endless: hair oils, anti-perspirants, nail polish, home permanent solutions, suntan lotion, all medicines and even soap (those brands with hexachlorophene ingredients are toxic!)

Although a sewing basket may be Kitty's greatest joy, cat owners should be warned that stray needles can damage a cat's pharynx, stomach or intestinal tract — the sewing box should be locked tight! Splintery bones can also be instant trouble to felines, as with all animals. A good rule to follow is, "if it's shreddable, it's edible" and should be kept out of the pet's reach.

Speaking of common household items, every homeowner should check his wiring occasionally; a playful bite on an exposed wire can mean death to an unsuspecting cat.

All cat owners should beware of swinging doors, as many a cat's tail has been known to go with them. A good point to keep in mind is that all cats are naturally curious — any opening is an invitation for investigation. However, too many times this opening may be a freezer door, the washing machine or clothes dryer or even a loose heating vent. The single greatest cat killer in our time has proven to be the electrical appliance, so add a special note of caution about open oven doors, etc.

By taking these few, simple precautions, your cat can have a safe, pleasant home.



MIXED MENAGERIE

by
Linda Bosson

Add one letter to each of these words, rearrange the letters, and you'll find the name of an animal.

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. TIRE | 6. BRAVE |
| 2. SOME | 7. BEAR |
| 3. GROPE | 8. ROSE |
| 4. PAROLE | 9. PARENT |
| 5. LOTS | 10. GRADE |

ANSWERS ON PAGE 28

PETS

most peculiar



By
Paul Brock

For some, pet pigs win the prize.

Photo courtesy Eastman Kodak

A scientific journal reported recently that a Scottish girl kept two butterflies in a chrysalis state. She placed them in a cabinet near the fireplace and in time a little yellow butterfly appeared.

She dropped a little honey inside a rosebud and put this in the cabinet. Soon the butterfly was taking its first meal.

After two weeks it would leave the rose to settle on her hand when she called it by its name, Psyche.

From the other chrysalis emerged a Peacock butterfly, and soon this too would flutter out of the cabinet when summoned.

On bright mornings both butterflies would fly through the open window, remain outside until the sun went down, then return to their lodgings.

In her choice of unusual pets this enterprising girl was in good and sometimes famous company.

Thomas Wolsey, the famous English cardinal was on familiar terms with a venerable carp which would swim to him when called. Robert Clive, conqueror of India, carried around with him a pet tortoise.

Scotland's bard, Robert Burns, owned a pet ewe named Mailie, who

became so attached to her famous master that:

*"Through a' the toun she trotted
by him;
A lang half-mile she could descry
him;
Wi' kindly bleat, when she did
spy him,
She ran wi' speed."*

Another famous poet, William Cowper, possessed a perfect menagerie of pets including hares, spaniels, cats, pigeons, and a couple of gold finches named Tom and Dick. Goldfinch Dick was the subject of a beautiful little poem entitled "The Faithful Bird," relating how he escaped from his cage, but finding Tom could not follow him he "a prison with a friend preferred to liberty without."

Author Charles Kingsley kept white cats in his stables and black cats in his house. On his lawn lived a family of toads which stayed there year after year in a hole which the gardener was never allowed to approach.

A pair of wasps — one of which had been saved from a watery death by the tender-hearted Kingsley — lived inside a crack of his dressing-room window frame.

Dante Gabriel Rossetti, the great

English poet-painter, made a pet of a bad-tempered white bull merely because it had eyes reminding him of a young girl he had once painted. But the bull had to go when it ate the lawn bare, trampled the hedge into the ground and kicked the summer house to pieces.

Rossetti consoled himself by acquiring several other unusual pets, including a peacock, a deer, two armadillos and a raccoon.

When Sir Richard Burton, famed explorer and orientalist, was living in Syria, he left the management of his pets to his wife, who added to them enthusiastically. Not content with horses and goats, a camel, turkeys, geese, ducks, hens, white mice and pigeons, Lady Burton insisted on having her own special pets. These included a white donkey, a young St. Bernard dog, four English terriers, a Kurdish puppy, a snow-white Persian cat, a lamb and a leopard.

The leopard, according to Lady Burton's account, became the pet of the household, even though it behaved like the pet gazelle whose owner, another poet, sang:

*"He riled the dog, annoyed the cat,
And scared the gold finch into fits,*

*He butted through my newest hat,
And tore my manuscript to bits!*

Sir Richard wrote that his happy family reminded him of the House that Jack Built, for the fowls and the pigeons ate the seeds and destroyed the flowers; the cat fed upon the pigeons, the dogs worried the cat; while the leopard harried the goats until one of them drowned himself in sheer disgust. It also frightened the donkey and camel by jumping on their backs, and indulging in a shrieking solo, noisy enough to scare any animal within a mile radius.

Mrs. Barrett Browning, yet another famous poet, sang of her pet doves as follows:

*On my human hand
Their fearless heads they lean,
And almost seem to understand
What human musings mean.
Their eager eyes, with such a
plaintive shine,
Are fastened upwardly to mine.*

But her pet of pets was a dog with a dark brown body, silver-suited breast, and hazel eyes. His name was Flush, and about him his fond mistress wrote:

*But of thee it shall be said,
This dog watched beside my bed,
Day and night unwearied;*

*Watched within a curtained room,
Where no sunbeam broke the gloom
Round the sick and dreary.*

Author Charles Dickens had a great understanding of animals and birds. Among his pets were two ravens, the second being acquired after the first one died. Both were named Grip, and Grip the First was quite a character in the Dickens household. It is true that he stole pennies and buried them in the garden, and that he pecked at the ankles of the little Dickens children, but this was only in fun, and he seemed to assume that everybody would regard it as such. His master understood, so everything was fine.

Dickens studied the life, habits, tricks and speeches of Grip the First very closely. This is evident from the Grip which appears with such telling effect in his well-known story of "Barnaby Rudge."

Grip the First died after unwisely eating a dinner consisting of white paint. The paint had a long and tough fight, but it won in the end, and the raven's very last words to Dickens were "Hallo old girl!"

Grip the Second came upon the scene but he too ended a long life by devouring not only paint, but quantities of putty too. Grip the Second always watched very carefully over the cooking of the family dinner, and was

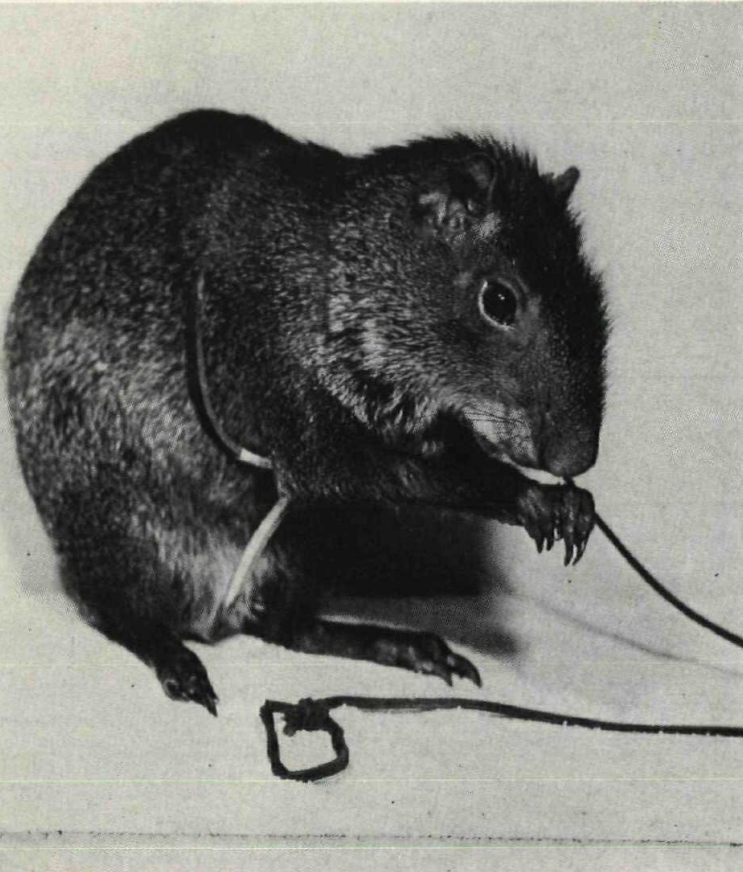
so occupied when the effects of his paint and putty meal overcame him. Says Dickens:

"He kept his eye to the last upon the meat as it was roasted, and suddenly turned over on his back with a sepulchral cry of 'Cuckoo!'"

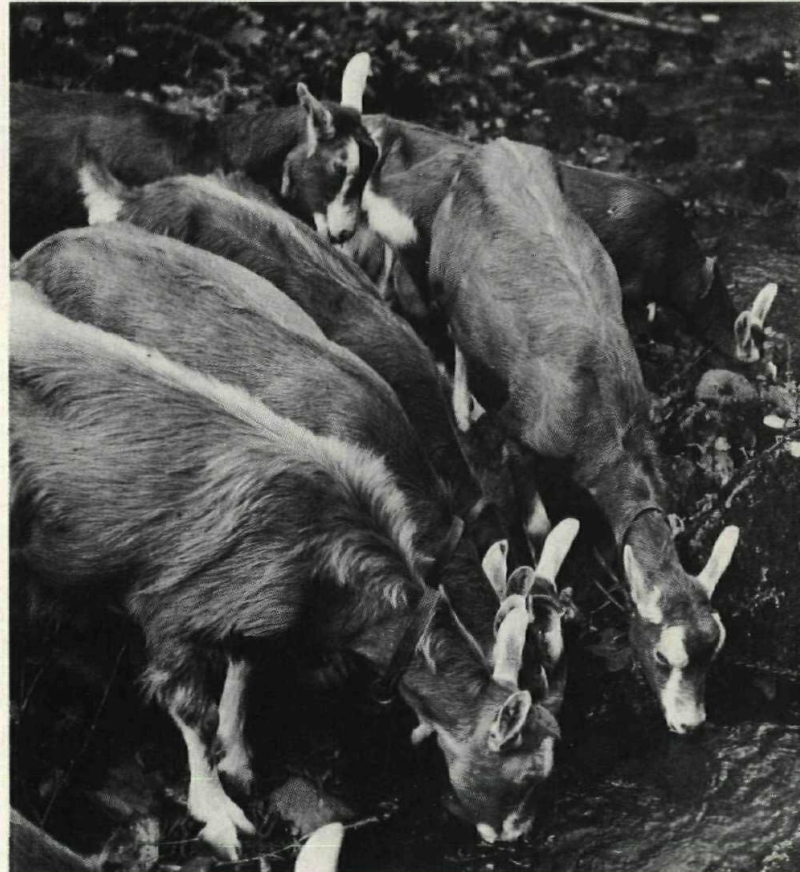
But it is doubtful whether anyone ever got more delight out of keeping strange pets than a former Dean of Westminster, William Buckland and his son, Frank. The Dean habitually walked about and delivered sermons with his pockets full of green frogs, chameleons, and a lizard or two. In the dining room of his home there would be the Dean's pet monkey swinging on the curtain rod, ready to leap down at any moment and snap a dainty morsel from under the nose of a distinguished guest.

Young Frank Buckland, who was destined to write great treatises on natural history, was brought up with foxes, rabbits, guinea pigs, ferrets, hawks, owls, magpies, jackdaws, cats, dogs, poultry, tortoises, frogs, toads and lizards. He rode on the back of a swimming turtle, and at Oxford University he broke the rules by keeping guinea pigs, dogs, monkeys, and even an eagle.

He understood them all, and loved them. And they loved him unstintingly in return.



Dean of Westminster, William Buckland, delivered sermons with his pockets full of frogs, chameleons and lizards. No doubt this pet agouti would have caught his fancy too!



The wife of Sir Richard Burton enjoyed goats as well as a camel, turkeys and geese as family pets.

Photo by Eleanor A. Schrawder

DOG CHOOSING TIPS

by David Gunston



Any dog will respond positively to love and the warmth of a good home.

Photo by Eleanor A. Schrawder

First in a series of dog care tips designed to help you take better care of your pet.

So you want a dog! Deciding what kind of dog is best for you can pose a problem. There are over 100 types of purebred dogs alone, not to mention crossbreds and mongrels.

Pure-Bred vs. Mongrel

Most dogs are basically friendly, faithful and protective. But when you buy a purebred you have a reasonable guarantee that the puppy will resemble his parents' breed in temperament and character, as well as appearance. The breeder has invested money and time in the parent animals and in raising their litters. That is why purebred puppies cost more than mongrels or crossbreds whose arrival is usually accidental.

A crossbred or a mongrel may be as good a dog and as true a friend as any,

but you know less about the puppy when you get him. You don't know how he has been cared for or what he will turn out like. Also, the mongrel is not tougher than the purebred, contrary to popular opinion.

All dogs are subject to the same ailments. More purebreds survive because they usually have a better start in life. Their special abilities keep them from being replaced as seeing eye dogs, police dogs, sledge dogs, sheep dogs, pointers and retrievers.

However, a mongrel's heart is just as big as that of any purebred, and if properly cared for he will return just as much faithfulness and devotion.

The Need for Breeds

All dogs descend from a common ancestor living millions of years ago. Through the ages they have changed and become individual types and then breeds, suited to the climate, treatment and occupation given them by man.

The different breeds can be classified, but only roughly, as there is

much overlapping in the early ancestry of every breed we recognize today. Herd dogs were selected for their weather-resistance with their thick coats, their endurance, and their intelligence. The northern dogs of the cold countries had dense coats, heavy curled tails to protect their noses while sleeping, and were powerfully built for draught purposes.

The sporting dogs hunt by airborne scent, and some also retrieve game for their masters. They are mostly smooth and short-coated, and built to go through thick undergrowth or retrieve in the water. Sporting hounds are of two types, those hunting by sight being tall and built for speed, and the scent-hunters, mostly smooth-coated dogs with long ear-flaps and a slower pace.

Terriers were diggers with strong shoulders and forelegs and powerful jaws for catching rats, badgers and similar creatures. They were strong, active dogs, chiefly developed by British farmers and countrymen. Guard dogs came from the ancestral



A large dog requires ample space to run – this one enjoys a jump with his mistress. Photo courtesy Eastman Kodak



Small dogs readily adapt to small quarters, need less exercise than big dogs and make excellent burglar alarms!

mastiff type of the Greek and Roman arena, and were always large and courageous.

Indoor/Outdoor

If you want a small dog, think of the size of the parent animals; puppies have a way of growing beyond the bounds of imagination. Although a small dog is usually advised for the small modern house or flat, one of the quiet, larger breeds may prove to be less underfoot than a small, active type. Size is no indication of hardiness. Many of the small breeds are extremely tough and sturdy, making excellent pets for either town or country.

The small toy breeds are best suited to the apartment-dweller or the constant traveller. They readily adapt themselves to restricted quarters, need less exercise than bigger dogs, are very efficient burglar alarms, and are easily transported.

If you are the active outdoor type who likes a companion in field and wood as well as by the fireside, you

may prefer one of the sporting breeds like a spaniel, setter, pointer, beagle or one of the other hound breeds.

If you have plenty of room and like your dogs king-sized, there are giant breeds that may prove to be surprisingly little trouble, except perhaps in the matter of feeding, such as the Great Dane, Irish Wolfhound, Newfoundland or St. Bernard.

Those who are worried about dog hairs on carpets, rugs and furniture should remember that most short-haired breeds, especially if kept in the house, shed a little hair all the year round, while long-haired dogs shed mostly each spring and autumn.

Male or Female?

This is largely a matter of preference. Some females are easier to house-break and train generally, but others may be stubborn. If you think you may one day want to raise a litter, by all means buy a female, since a suitable mate can always be found when the time comes.

A female can be spayed to spare its

owner the twice-yearly job of keeping her confined for the two or three weeks she is "in season." Females are by far the worst fighters, incidentally, and males the best vermin-killers.

When you are ready to buy - if you choose a purebred, always buy from a reputable breeder, and do not spurn the otherwise perfect puppy which exhibits some "fault" in the breeder's eyes. It will prove just as good a pet, but you may have to buy on condition it is not used for pure breeding.

It is best not to bring your puppy home until he is at least eight weeks old. A good healthy puppy should be fat but not pot-bellied, alert, lively, clear-eyed, clean and free from hairless spots. Beware of the puppy that scratches itself - it probably has parasites or skin trouble.

Remember always that the price you pay for a purebred must take into account not only the breed itself, but the age, sex, color and standard of breed perfection. *And remember too, that any dog will respond positively to love and the warmth of a good home.*



MR. comes

By
Dan Cotterman

"I didn't use a deodorant yesterday and I may not use one today . . . Say, is that pulling any? I've decided to let yer mane go to the right . . .

Copyright 1973,
HORSE & RIDER Magazine

Mr. Dirt . . . black-handed star of those Mobilgas commercials on television, natural successor to the inhuman legacy of Evil Roy Slade, soot in the eye of the hidden camera and spreader of grime and good wherever decent, God-fearing people park their cars once said, "Every time I turn over a new leaf something crawls out and bites me."

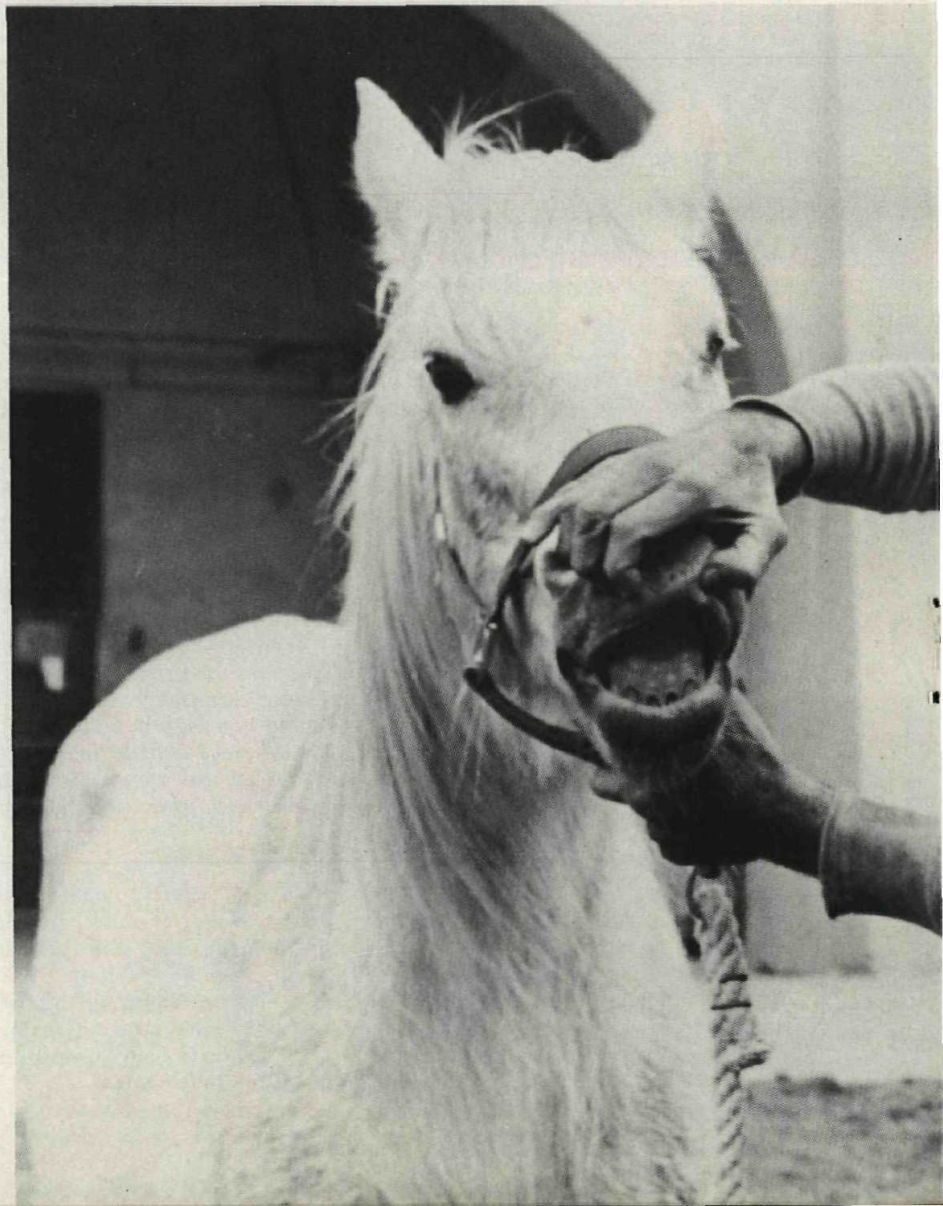
Dirt's last bath had taken place one night in '69 when he slipped into a vat of lager while attempting to pollute the water in a brewery. The memory of that sudsy struggle and the hang-over that followed, together with his obvious misgivings on the subject of reform, had combined with a new experience to revive an old nightmare.

The latest pinch of conscience, like that unlucky dip in the lager, had come by accident. Dirt had fallen captive to a lecture on ecology while trapped in the broom closet of a downtown Burbank meeting hall. Later, while under some strange, hypnotic spell, he had gone home and dropped a brick into his toilet tank, sinking a tiny man in a tiny dinghy.

The next day Mr. Dirt took another step bidding unwilling farewell to his former greatness. The lecturer had said that a brick in every toilet would save water. Dirt pushed his crusade with the transfixed determination of a sleepwalker by swapping his flivver for a horse. That, you might say, is where all the fuss really started.

By the time any of this came to our

"Me? A groom? Ol' Smudge and I are good . . .

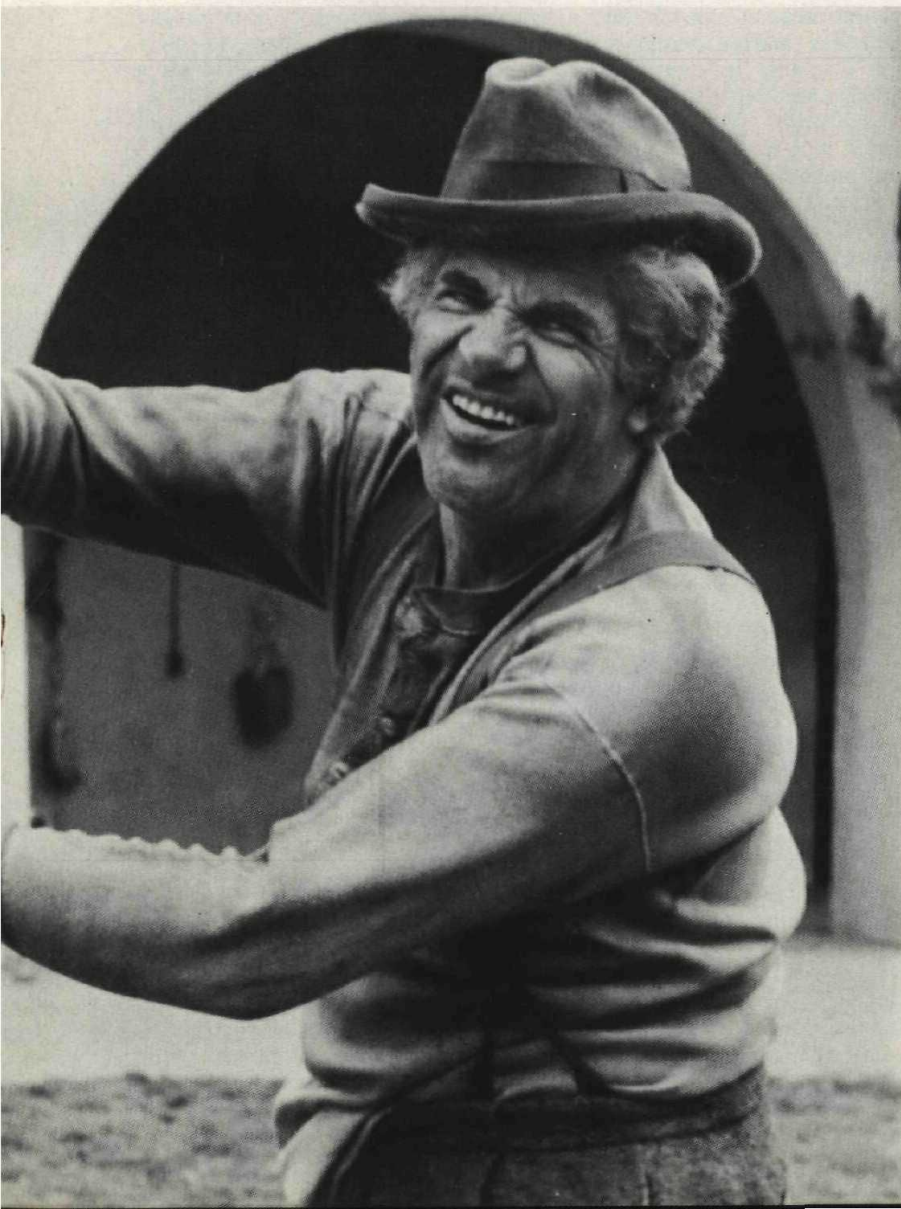


DIRT clean!



"Aha! I'll put a handful of these in somebody's carburetor along with lotsa grime and goo." It takes guts to get a haircut from this barber!"

friends, but marriage is out of the question!"

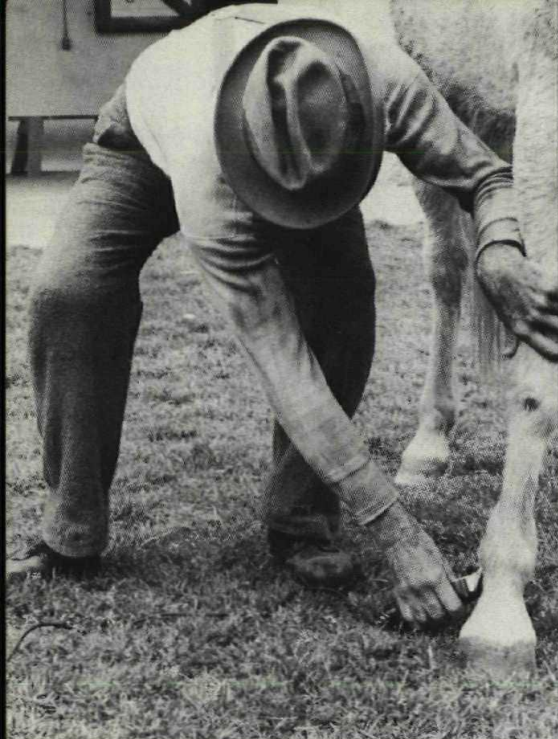


attention Dirt's desire to achieve a new status had drawn him to the Arabian horse unit at Cal Poly in Pomona. He had arrived there in the hope of having a little class rub off on his sorry steed by virtue of association. However, elbow rubbing was out of the question as, stall by stall, the haughty purebreds refused to have anything to do with the crusty pair.

A small group of students had gathered and were showing signs of sympathy . . . at least toward the horse. "Mr. Dirt," one of them ventured, "a horse doesn't get class by just hanging around with the right company. If you want your horse to be proud and happy, you'll have to be the groom."

"Now just hold on a minute," Dirt warned, "ol' Smudge and I are good friends, but marriage is out of the question!" Impatient at the need to clarify their suggestion, another of the students explained, "That's not the kind of groom we mean. We're simply saying that you should take care of your horse's grooming and cleaning needs by learning to do the work yourself."

The effects of Dirt's mesmerization were apparently still strong enough to aid us in persuading him to get with the groom and clean idea. He managed to voice a few half-determined protests, muttering here and there about the dangers of soap poisoning. Smudge, long a stranger to the tingle of soap and water or the caress of a brush, seemed strangely detached. In fact, when Dirt confronted the 26-year-old mare with the prospect of



When bending over to work on feet or legs, always face in a direction opposite to the horse's front end. Directions sometimes are confusing.



"Now we'll clip a bit around here on the side, baby, and we'll be careful not to let the clippers get too hot. Wadya mean they ain't plugged in?"



Cleaning feet with hoof pick is one good way to detect disease of the feet. Hoof rot can often be found because it, or something, smells bad.

a thorough grooming she said nothing.

Ecology for the horseman — even Mr. Dirt — turned out to be more than a brick displacing a small amount of water and more than looking good for the purpose of being "showy." The health and general well being of any horse is extensively dependent upon being kept constantly clean and well groomed. It's an important step in the overall ecology trip.

Mr. Dirt was, after all, unfamiliar with the needs of horses, being somewhat better acquainted with pigs which are used for transportation in his native Mulldavya and are sometimes decorated for parades during patriotic celebrations.

We had to explain to him that flies, those evil messengers of disease, are more attracted to a poorly kept horse. It is therefore important to assign yourself the task of at least a light grooming every day and, most especially, after a ride.

It may be advisable to begin by wiping away any dust or sweat that has accumulated on the coat. An old towel is good for this purpose because of its ability to pick up moisture and dust. Wipe with moderate pressure, starting at the withers and working down toward the front legs, always following the direction of hair growth. Work toward the rear of the horse by next wiping the back and sides, then the thighs and hind legs.

Follow the wipe-down by using a currycomb. Obviously, this instrument is more harsh than any of the other grooming tools you will be using on the coat, so go easy. Don't use the

metal currycomb around the face or eyes or, for that matter, anyplace where the skin is thin or unusually sensitive. These areas call for the use of a rubber currycomb.

Trimming, clipping and hoof-picking operations also are part of the grooming project. However, it is best, as we have recommended, to begin with the wipe-down and brushing. This, along with a bit of reassuring talk on your part, will help to ease your horse into the experience. Once he or she is relaxed and has accepted the idea that you're going to be working all around the head, ears, legs, hooves, tail and so on the session will go a lot easier for both of you.

Mr. Dirt caught on fast, conning Smudge with dreams of success: "How'd ya like to be in show business, sweetheart?" he said, accepting a "dandy" brush from one of the students. He then proceeded according to instructions and began brushing away the dirt and hair that had been loosened by the currycomb.

The idea here was to brush in the direction of hair growth, just as with the towel rub-down, while using more vigor than was applied with the currycomb. It is also important to use the brush in the crevices between the legs so as get rid of irritating grit that may have collected. Cleaning the dock is a final part of the brushing.

The mane was next. "Ah! Remember the mane," the Mulldavian shouted. Smudge glanced back with a look of disdain that must have been reserved especially for punsters. Unabashed by his charger's reaction to his

assault on humor, Dirt went ahead with his syncopated raillery, hoarsely chanting, "The mane thing is to use a coarse-toothed comb . . . I'll go through this hair a bit at a time and look for some tangles to untwine." The rhyme was jivey, but he had the right idea.

Actually, grooming has no dictates as far as whether a horse's mane is dressed to the right or the left. It has a natural tendency to fall one way or the other, so that is the direction that should be encouraged and followed.

A brush will work well if the mane is fairly short. However, in the case of Smudge, it was necessary to first use a comb, then follow up with a brush. It is easiest to make strokes with the brush or comb toward you. Keep it as gentle as possible, trying to slow down for the tangles or burrs that may have become trapped. This caution is of perhaps even greater importance when you're grooming the tail.

If, as in the case of Smudge, your horse still wears the winter coat (winter coats are always worn in Mulldavya), you may be doing some trimming with electric clippers. There's no need to caution intelligent people against working with electrical tools while standing on a wet surface, but we'll do it anyway. Please don't.

Mr. Dirt wore his Frankenstein boots the whole time he was giving Smudge her beauty treatment. This brings to mind another point of caution . . . the one about not bathing or working around your horse while bare-footed. Even a casual side step by a horse, especially one wearing steel

shoes, can have you suddenly looking down at one of your bare feet and counting less than five toes.

Whether or not the grooming is to include a bath, you should clean around the eyes and muzzle and inside the ears with a dampened sponge. The full treatment, including bath, will also call for using the sponge because it just isn't a good idea to spray water up around the head if you can avoid it. The hazards that go with getting water into a horse's ears should be reasons enough to justify this caution. There are two schools of thought on bathing a horse. One, we'll call it the first, contends that you can keep the animal sufficiently clean — pores unclogged and coat shiny — by assorted brushing and combing. Proponents of this no-wash philosophy say that soap and water wash away natural oils and leave the coat dull and lusterless.

Mr. Dirt was quick to take sides with the no-washers. He recalled that, in Mulldavya, the nearest thing to a bath took place during the great festival of summer. At the heights of the celebration a maiden would be selected for sacrifice and dragged to the town square where she would be dipped in wine and carried away by fruit flies.

We gave way to the fact that the first school of contention had its argument, but insisted that Smudge would have to have a bath included as part of her social ablution.

Dirt's agreement to the idea was cautious at first, but became a bit more enthusiastic when we assured him that, although it is true that soap and water take away natural oils, no real problem will arise for the horse that has correct care. There are, for example, dietary supplements that aid in the regeneration of natural skin oil. For that matter, if you're about to

enter a horse in a show, there are commercial sprays to enhance the gloss and sheen of the coat. Finally, the value of simple hand rubbing should not be overlooked.

A little more coaxing and both Dirt and Smudge were in the wash area. We advised him to start by wetting the feet and legs. Water, even tepid water, was apt to be too much of a shock for this horse. Dirt stood at arm's length throughout the ordeal, steadfast in his

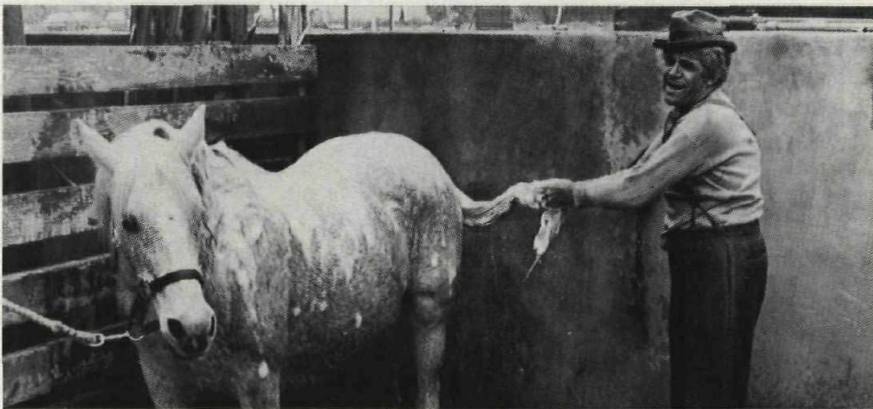
belief that, while washing might be o.k. for the horse, excessive contact with (ugh!) soap and water might prove fatal to him.

Instructions for the next step included the use of a sweat scraper or squeegee for the purpose of removing excess water from the coat. This is a top-to-bottom procedure and can be followed by another trip with a dry Turkish — or Mulldavyan — towel. The

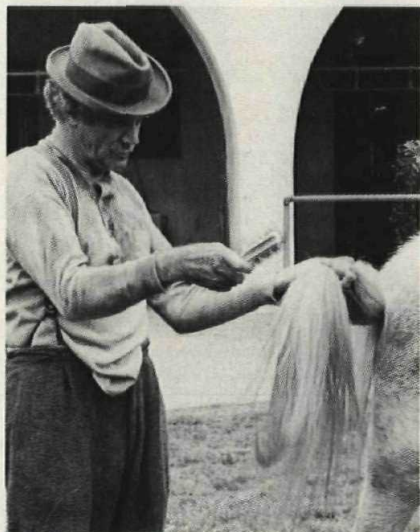
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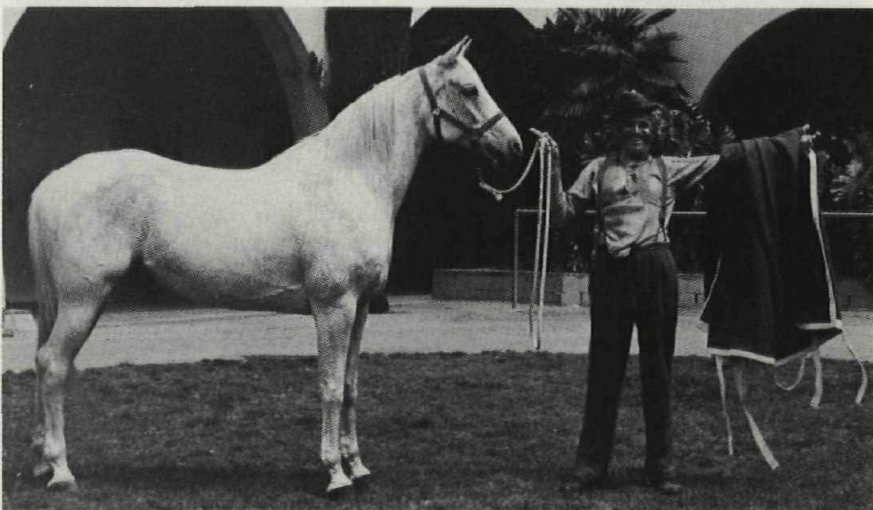
Speak quietly, reassuringly to your horse as you work. Mr. Dirt is seen here offering a dream: "How'd ya like to be in show business?"



Cinderfella swapped his flivver to the Good Fairy for enchanted horse, wound up doing wash job. "If you turn into a Fuller Brush Man we're through!"



Mad Mulldavyan says he's taking the bull by the horns in this shot, but he's really looking for some hair to cut and sell for making fiddlesticks!



Mr. Dirt scarcely recognized ol' Smudge after grooming. Proud Arab was re-named Gamyla to suit new image.

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SQUIRREL IN THE WORLD

by
Evelyn Witter

The most beautiful squirrel in the world is almost as brightly colored as a bird. Its head and back and tail are deep, shining black. Its sides and shoulders are pure white, and its under parts are deep red.

The reason most of us never see this beauty is because it lives only in the hot jungle countries. It is called the Raffalii squirrel.

Unlike the gray or dusky red squirrels that we know, the Raffalii never has to worry about storing away food, for there is always plenty of food in the jungle.

Raffalii doesn't have to worry about finding a hollow tree or a hollow log to live in either, like our squirrels do. He just jumps into a basket made of ferns that grow in the jungle treetops!

How fortunate Raffalii is! He not only has the easiest life in the squirrel world, but he is his family's most beautiful member!

THE SHIP OF THE DESERT

By
Frances Gудie Reese

The camel is often called "the ship of the desert" because when he walks he rocks from side to side like a ship in the ocean waves. This rocking motion is caused by the peculiar "pacing gait" a camel uses when he walks. When an animal paces he moves both the front and hind legs on the same side of the body at the same time. He walks left, right, left, right, with a side to side sway of his body. As the camel goes up and down the sand dunes there is the added motion of up and down. Long, long ago many primitive animals walked by pacing, but today very few animals walk like the camel.

When a camel runs the motion can be so violent that the Egyptian police sometimes use long strips of cloth to bind their bodies to the camel so they will not fall off.

For a few thousand years the camel has helped man to travel in deserts like the great Sahara in North Africa and the Gobi Desert in Asia.

Like a ship, a camel carries people and goods. Just as there are different kinds of ships, so there are different kinds of camels. The Arabian one-hump camel is usually used for riding. Even with one rider he can carry 400 to 600 pounds and travel ten miles an hour for ten hours.

The Arabian Dromedary camel is bred for speed and endurance. Once a racing camel carried a messenger more than 500 miles in two and a half days.

The Bactrian two-hump camel has shorter legs but is sturdier than the Arabian camel. His feet are more calloused and better able to walk on rocks and snow and ice. We might say he is more like the freighter. He can

carry up to 800 pounds, but he travels slowly.

A caravan of ten to thirty camels or more is like a fleet of ships. A ship must go to land to refuel or take on passengers or supplies. A camel caravan must go to an oasis in the desert where there is water. Some oases are small, but some are as large as a city.

Like storms at sea, there are often sandstorms in the desert. Like the Captain of his ship, the desert traveler knows that he can depend on his faithful camel to get him through the worst desert storm.

His camel is the "Ship of the Desert."

HIDDEN ANIMALS

by Louise Price Bell

There are ten animals hidden in this list. See if you can find them all in ten minutes. Answers on page 28

1. Onil
2. Telhanpe
3. Yonkem
4. Roseh
5. Reste
6. Ferehi
7. Baml
8. Raob
9. Facl
10. Ritge



CHILDRENS page...

A young boy's true story about the woes and rewards of training a dog.

I looked at the ad, down at the dog, and back at the ad again. "Train your dog," it said, "with the assistance of experienced trainers."

There really wasn't any decision to make. It had been made for me. My father had said, "Either teach that dog some manners, or out he goes." And he meant just that.

At the time I thought it was terribly unfair. Blazer wasn't an ill-mannered dog. He was just big, very big. He was at the awkward, gangly stage that all juveniles go through. It seemed, too, that everything in the house was tail high. One wag and he could clear off any table.

The first day of class I admired the trophies in the display case. They were slated for presentation to the top three dogs on the closing night of school. On that night trainers and dogs would exhibit the positive results of their obedience trials. At first, I debated where to put the *big one*. I knew Blazer would win it in the same way any child knows his dog is smarter than all the others. By the end of the third week, however, I began to pay particular attention to the slightly smaller second and third place trophies. At five weeks, all thought about trophies vanished!

Phase I

If you stand a year old Saint Bernard beside a pre-teen boy, the boy would be taller (slightly) and the dog would be heavier (tremendously). I don't believe the training instructor realized that when he said: "To make your dog sit all you have to do is pull up on the leash and push down on his rump." In the first place, I wasn't that much taller than Blazer and to pull up on his leash meant for me to stand on my tip toes. This is a rather shakey position for one to "... push down" on a sturdy Saint's rump.

But push I did: again and again and again . . . When I walked into the training area I naturally thought my dog, being the smartest dog in the whole world, would pick up obedience in no time. Well, it didn't work that way at all. "Patience," the instructor said, "shall be rewarded." But he didn't tell us when.

Blazer and I weren't the only ones undergoing training. There were about a dozen in the class. Besides my Saint Bernard, there was a Collie, an Irish Setter, three Poodles, a couple of German Shepherds and several "I-don't-know-whats." All of us "handlers" had one thing in common:

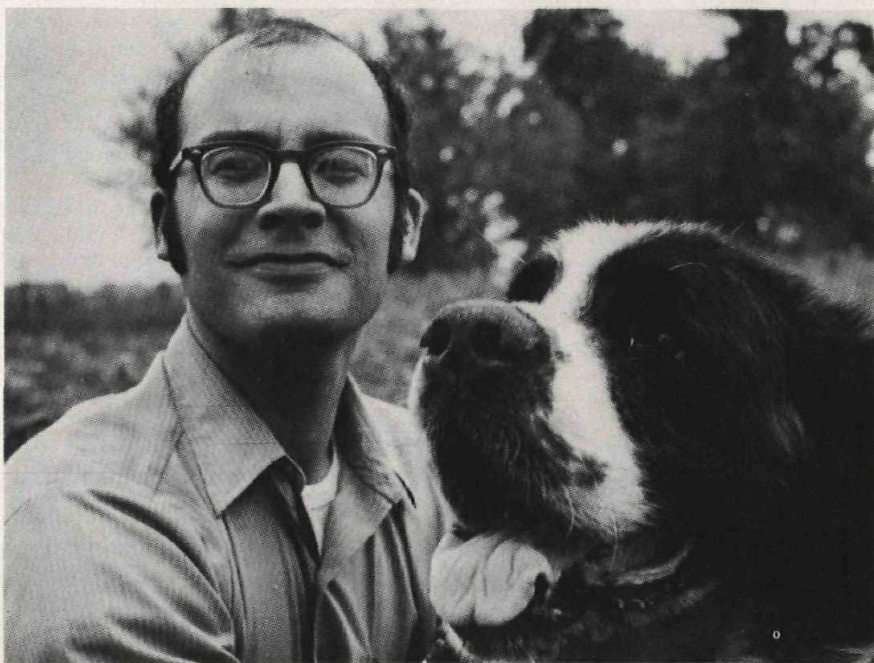
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"BLAZER COME
....NO blazer come back!"

By
Ric Routledge



Blazer's unusually fast run earned him the nickname of "The Blaze."



"The Blaze" became a familiar sight at obedience trials — winning his share of ribbons and trophies.



HAIL TO THE QUAIL!

Ptarmigan in March at Gunnison National Forest, Colorado. USDA PHOTO

By Evelyn Witter

A few 6-ounce quail (or bob-white) can give you a bigger scare than a horror movie! The drama begins when they hear a human footstep. These wary little birds huddle in a thicket and wait. Should you get so close they think there's real danger, they burst into the air with such a racket of wings "as of lions roaring."

By the time one's nerves stop tingling, the quail have found safety in another place. Here they'll build another grass-roofed nest, perhaps in a shallow hollow on the ground close to the edge of a field or woods. Never will they return to the spot your meeting marked as dangerous.

The quail, a mottled, brown bird — a little woodchicken with black marks on the face — makes other noises that are better known than the beating-of-wings noise. For example, outdoorsmen say the quail's flocking call (when he is lost from the others and wants to be found) is one of the loneliest sounds to be heard. On the other hand, the quail cock whistling his familiar "ah-bob-white" from some tree or fence post in spring and summer makes pleasurable listening.

Quails have other unusual characteristics. For example, did you know that the cock will often sit on the eggs until the baby birds are hatched if mother dies and leaves the nest unattended?

Usually hen quail lay an average of 14 white eggs, about one a day. While

the hen is laying the eggs, the cock stands guard by giving his bobwhite whistle to warn enemies. He doesn't want the hen disturbed, as he knows she'll abandon the nest if she is bothered. She may give up easily but, once the eggs are laid and she has been incubating them, her whole attitude changes. Then she won't leave them at all!

The hen quail is a dramatic actress at this point. If she sees a marauder coming close to the nest, she tries to distract his attention from the nest by acting as if she suffers from a broken wing.

However, statistics show that even with all the precautions taken by both father and mother quail, 5 to 7 nests out of every 10 are destroyed. But the quail do not quit. They build new nests and start over again. Most hatching is done from June to August. But pairs that have had to start over and over again, have been known to bring off a brood as late as October.

Parents and chicks leave the nest as soon as possible after hatching. This early move sometimes makes the babies sick because they are often chilled by sudden rains. However, if they survive for 7 weeks, they can stand the weather as, by that time, feathers have replaced down. Feathers are waterproof; down isn't.

Parents raise their babies in about 4 to 5 months. Should the mother die, the father will often raise the brood himself. If both parents die, another

brood will take in the orphaned quail.

Quail are not only kind to one another; they're sociable, too. If one quail is separated from its covey it will join another covey. Often different coveys travel together in fall and there is an interchange of birds between coveys. In winter, two small coveys may combine into one.

In hard winters quail may lose as much as one-third of their body weight in 4 days from starvation. Such loss often causes death. We can help by feeding them. Quail foods are easy to supply because quail like many things. They eat insects in summer and fall; in winter, they'll eat such foods as corn, soybeans, acorns, wheat and ragweed seeds.

In the winter when low temperatures make it difficult to keep warm, they seek heat from one another. Their method makes an unbelievable picture. They form a tight little circle where there is heavy grass or weed cover, with their tails in the center of the circle and their heads pointing outward. This way they keep warm and they are still in a position to flush in all directions if they are threatened.

If you are ever surprised in the fields or woods by a sound "as of lions roaring," don't be afraid. Instead, hail this little bird who is so patient, persistent, charitable, helpful and so ingenious in protecting himself and others of his species, and whose familiar "ah-bob-white" belongs to the music of the great out-of-doors.

POLLUTION — A CHILLING THREAT TO THE ANTARCTIC'S ICY PURITY

By David Lamb

Courtesy L.A. Times, December 14, '73

McMURDO STATION, Antarctica—Only since 1943 has this pristine, largely unexplored continent been inhabited permanently by man, but already it is experiencing the symptoms of one of his diseases — pollution.

The symptoms are subtle indeed. Yet any change in the continent's environment — the purest and least corrupted on earth — is viewed with concern by biologists because Antarctica represents the ideal laboratory to study an environment that has been largely unaffected by man.

At McMurdo, the largest of the four permanent U.S. scientific stations, thousands of tons of waste ranging from beer cans to garbage are dumped on the ice each year, then burned, dynamited and floated off to sea in the spring to settle eventually at the bottom of McMurdo Sound.

As a result, scientists say, penguin colonies are breeding about five miles further off shore than they did a few years ago. Sewage pumped into the sound has disturbed the micro-organism structure, they say. Litter is stacking up on the basin of the sound that flows to the Ross Sea.

Dr. Hugo Campos, a Chilean scientist who recently visited Antarctica, said he found "The beginning of contamination" in two lagoons near King George Island where Chile and the Soviet Union operate research stations.

He said the pollution is threatening penguins and sea animals which have no natural immunity to man-made contamination. He compared the present situation in the Antarctic to the arrival of the Spanish conquistadores in Latin America in the 16th century.

"The Spaniards brought diseases from Europe which killed many Indians, who had no natural defenses" Campos said. "Man is doing the same thing to Antarctic plants and marine life in the 20th century."

Another scientist, Dr. Bruce Parker of Virginia Polytechnic Institute, has warned that unless action is taken to stop pollution the Antarctic is "heading for a pollution crises that could kill its value as an unparalleled site for research."

Five years ago the U.S. Navy moved to combat pollution with plans for a \$175,000 incinerator and \$225,000 sewage treatment plant. Both facilities are installed at McMurdo but neither is in use.

The incinerator, capable of burning 600 pounds of waste an hour, was used until last winter. It now stands idle because McMurdo officials say the diesel fuel necessary to operate it creates more pollution than does dumping the waste into the sea. The sewage treatment plant has never been used because these officials believe that the wastes pumped into the sound result in negligible pollution.

Although large discarded materials such as rubber tires and abandoned machinery are hauled back to the United States, environmentalists are concerned that the wastes on the bottom of McMurdo Sound will crowd sponges out of living space and that discarded plastics will last indefinitely and smother life beneath them.

At the three U.S. inland scientific research stations — the South Pole, Byrd and Siple — most of the waste that accumulates over a year's time is discarded on the ice and burned. Because of the dry, cold climate, the remains will be preserved indefinitely.

There are those who say man-made pollutants are not of great consequence because the 3,000 or so people working here in the Southern Hemisphere's summer months occupy only a tiny portion of this continent that is 63% larger than mainland United States.

One biologist, in fact, has estimated that a large sperm whale excretes as much body waste in five months as do the 1,000 Americans working at McMurdo combined.

The National Science Foundation, which has overall responsibility for research here, also points out that scientists are going to extraordinary means to preserve the environment in field camps used for drilling samples from the ice and earth in the snow-free valleys 60 miles from McMurdo. Six biologists, called environmental monitors, are assigned to the sites this year to ensure that drilling lubricants and other foreign substances do not endanger the delicate balance nature has established. Everything from cigaret butts to human waste is returned to McMurdo in plastic bags.

"The environment is in such an amplified state here that it would have a hard time coping with anything introduced to it," said Russ Domlan, one of the biologists. "Even a urine spill would be difficult for the micro-organisms to cope with."

There are, however, pollutants in the Antarctic for which man here is not responsible. DDT and other pesticides have been found in penguins and at Palmer Station, below South America, penguins have emerged from the water with oil slicks on their backs — a reminder of pollution conditions emanating in distant lands.

Continued from page 4

Q. Is milk alright for dogs?

A. Milk is an excellent food, and if dogs like it there is no reason why it shouldn't be fed as part of the daily diet.

Q. Why do horses need more dental work than other animals?

A. Unlike most other animals, horses have teeth that continue to grow in length, by being pushed out of their of their sockets, throughout most of their lives, and unless the grinding surfaces wear evenly, sharp points of enamel will form and cut the horse's tongue or cheeks. This is painful and the horse may not eat enough to stay in good condition, and therefore most veterinarians automatically check the teeth once a year, usually when the horse is wormed.

Q. How many stomachs does a cow have?

A. The cow has one stomach consisting of four parts, which in the order traversed by food are the rumen, reticulum, omasum and abomasum, the last being the true glandular portion where digestion occurs. The rumen is a large storage compartment, which in a big cow holds as much as 50 gallons. Along with the reticulum and omasum it is sometimes referred to as one of the cow's forestomach, which may be why some people think of the cow as having four stomachs.

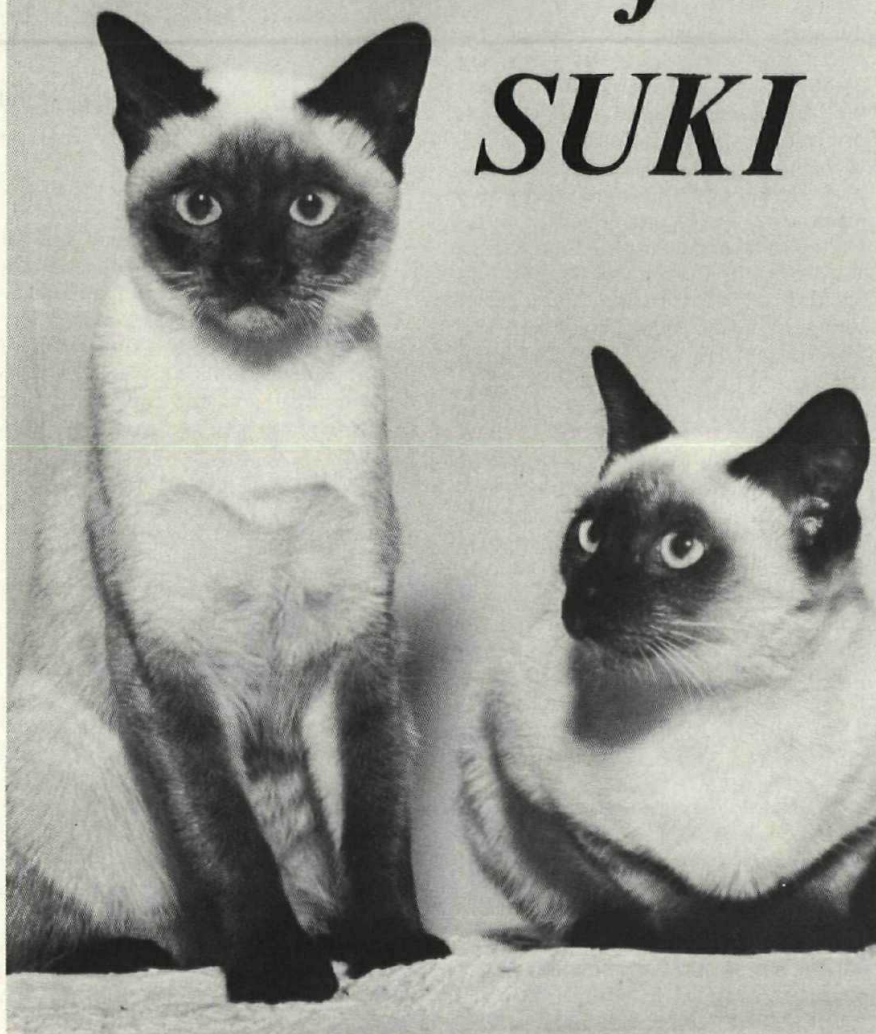
Q. Where does a cow get its cud?

A. The cow evolved as a grazing animal adapted for eating a large amount of grass in a short time, after which it would seek a safe place to ruminate. This it does by regurgitating a fist-sized bolus (ball) of food from the rumen, chewing it thoroughly and then reswallowing it after it is mixed with saliva. The bolus is commonly called a cud, and when a sick cow stops ruminating she is said to have lost her cud.

Q. Where can I get help in treating a pet snake?

A. Many veterinarians treat pet snakes or can refer you to one that does. For minor problems that may be related to care and feeding you probably can find a book at a pet shop. Snakes have some special requirements for housing and nutrition, faults in which may be related to various diseases.

a sitter for SUKI



Now Culver had Suki and Marcia had Sebastian!

By Janet Rhine

Pet-sitting can be a humorous and hazardous occupation, but it is a serious responsibility. It's a good idea to get to know the pet you'll be sitting for before the owners go out of town.

Marcia crumpled the half-written letter and pitched it toward the wastepaper basket. As it bounced off the wall, a cat batted the paper across the room before dropping it into her sitter's lap. Nuzzling her velvet nose against Marcia's hand, she purred.

"That's what gets me!" Marcia smiled, shaking a finger at the cat. "You make me mad enough to scream, then you do something like that."

Unexpectedly the playful creature lashed out at Marcia's hand, drawing blood.

"You Siamese Jekyl!" She fumed. "So you want to play? Well, count me out! If your master wants a weekly

report, he'll get one . . . right now. Reaching for pen and paper, she wrote:

Dear Culver,

I'm through. The book, "All About Siamese Cats" didn't help.

Suki's idea of "being friendly" is frantically rubbing her whiskers on my chin when I'm trying to read, and biting my nose while I'm asleep. She doesn't seem to understand my resentment at her for chewing up my only pair of fur gloves.

Non-appreciative perhaps, but I think you'd better find another sitter.

Marcia

Suki's owner replied instantly: "Return impossible. Advertising for replacement. Increase wages for staying. Try bribing Suki for obedience.

Minnows from fish pond will help. Culver"

"Increased wages!" Marcia flung the letter down and furiously began straightening up the room. Buy affection from that temperamental creature? All of Arabia's wealth wouldn't change her mind about that minx! Nor would she touch those slimy fish in the back yard. If she was smart, she'd have left long ago. How did she get into this mess anyway?

At the time, she recalled, it had sounded like easy money. The want ad read: "Short term cat sitter; owner away on business; salary plus apartment privileges."

With a \$400 charge account bill owed at Sally Sands Boutique, she welcomed the thought of extra money. And cat sitting had to be easy!

Marcia's fury abated, she reread Culver's letter. Admittedly, losing her cool wouldn't help; but until a replacement arrived, she'd not even try to be friendly. She'd ignore the animal entirely.

When Suki began to play the game too, her guardian had to admit she missed the cat's antics. Knitting wasn't the same without mischievous paws batting her yarn around. Nor did she enjoy reading the now intact evening paper unmolested. She even missed picking up the shredded facial tissues and hair rollers Suki used to scatter around the bathroom.

But when the cat refused food for three days, Marcia became really concerned. Maybe Suki was sick. If anything happened to her, Culver would suspect foul play.

"I'm silly," Marcia told herself, "Letting a cat upset me; but I'm calling the veterinarian."

"A little listless but otherwise, an A-1 feline," Dr. Perigrene confirmed after examining Suki. "Why not try a new brand of food?"

Marcia remembered the fish pond. Arriving home she took a pail from the closet and donned rubber gloves, while Suki eyed her suspiciously. When she reached for Culver's net, Suki began to pace restlessly back and forth at the door.

Whether it was the net, Marcia's concern at the veterinarians or the question: "Does Suki want fish?" she couldn't tell. But as Marcia bent over the pond, Suki pounced upon her shoulder and nibbled her ear.

"Suki, you rascal!" Marcia squealed with glee as she caressed the lithe creature from the top of her sleek, chocolate head to the tip of her crooked tail.

"Hey! We can't forget the fish!"

The cat uttered a low "Meow" and clung tightly to Marcia.

That night when she wrote Culver,

Continued on page 26

Continued from page 21

someone in the family had said, "Teach that dog some manners, or out he goes."

From "Blazer" to "The Blaze"

I hadn't realized exactly what I was getting myself into when Blazer and I began training. Not only did we have to attend weekly sessions but we also had a lot of homework. Day in and day out we had to practice what the instructor demonstrated in the obedience classes. Dogs are creatures of habit and learn only by repetition. Dogs just beginning in obedience need extra hours of practice because they first have to learn *how* to learn. It is an exasperating process.

For man and dog to be considered a success at obedience school, the dog has to learn to *sit and stay*, to *lay down and stay*, to *stand, come when called and heel by the handler's side*. These events are, appropriately enough, called exercises. The one exercise that seems to be the toughest for novice dogs is the *come when called*, or *the recall*. When given this command the dog is to come to the handler at a rapid pace and sit directly in front of him. The handler then gives the dog another signal and the dog walks around to the heel position.

Blazer and I worked particularly hard on the recall exercise and after a time he began to do it with some consistency. He was even coming at a run which is unusual for a Saint. I was anxious to show off his progress. When our chance finally came, I called sharply, "Blazer, come!" At the same instant, someone dropped a folding chair, startling everyone, especially my Saint.

Blazer, earning the nickname "The Blaze," ran past me without so much as a glance. "No!" I shouted, "No, come back!" I ran after him and gave him my best flying tackle. The two of us came to a sliding halt at the foot of an unsuspecting stranger. But with a wave of his hands he said, "You're safe!"

Everyone in the building broke out with laughter except the kind stranger. He held out his hand and helped me up. He gave my dog a pat on the head and said, "Son I hadn't seen anyone hit the dirt like that since the Battle of Okinawa."

That obedience class was only the beginning for "The Blaze." We won the second place (medium sized) trophy graduation night and from there entered one obedience trial after another. Competing on an even basis with all the old timers and the pros, we still did our share of winning. But, most importantly, the training school "taught that dog of mine some manners," and helped us win a few of the

best kind of prizes at home.

become more conscientious pet owners.

The AVMA public information staff hopes these events will also lead to additional public relations opportunities later for both participating local veterinarians and AVMA.

The shopping center exhibitions are a first for the pet industry. PFI executives believe the person-to-person contact made possible in the malls will add impact to educational messages aimed at helping people understand the role of pets in society and a pet's need for proper care.

Carmelita Pope Present

Carmelita Pope, the Pet Food Institute's Pet Ambassador, conducts a series of pet-care classes for youngsters during each day of the exhibit. Each youngster who attends a session becomes a Junior Pet Ambassador and receives a certificate, on pet, pledge card, and booklets on pet care and owner responsibility. Miss Pope also serves as mistress of ceremonies for other presentations by local animal welfare organizations, dog and cat clubs, dog training clubs, groomers, and others interested in pet owner education.

The exhibit covers 1,500 sq. ft. of floor space in the shopping mall. Included are a spectator seating area, information booths, cages to display animals from local shelters, and four 4' by 8' information modules. Each module has a theme — the contribution of the animal welfare organization to the community, health care for pets, selecting a pet, and pet owner responsibility. A "PFI Little Theater" continuously shows a filmstrip on pet care and owner responsibility. Youngsters can also enter an art contest that offers prizes for pictures of favorite pets.

First "Pets 'n People" Events

The first "Pets 'n People" event took place September 28-30 at Yorktown Shopping Center in the Chicago, IL, suburb of Lombard. An estimated crowd of 80,000 attended the program, which was supported by the Chicago V.M.A.

The second event was held October 18-20 in Willowbrook Mall, Wayne, NJ. Veterinarians from the Metropolitan New Jersey V.M.A. took part in this event. On hand to talk about various aspects of pet health care and to answer questions were association president Dr. Carmen S. Scherzo (COR '65), Dr. Donald D. Jacobs (UP '69), and Dr. Arthur Baeder (ILL '73). Dr. Alvin Rotberg (UP '49), consultant to the Associated Humane Societies of New Jersey, also participated in the three-day program which was attended by an estimated 75,000 people.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Continued from page 3

veterinarians and this cost must be passed on to the clients.

If you are not sure what the fee for the service will be, always ask. A misunderstanding about fees can destroy doctor-client relationships faster than anything else. Remember, you usually get what you pay for and most veterinarians know what their services are worth. Most veterinarians have clients of long standing, an indication of satisfaction.

With your confidence, your respect for his time, and your loyalty, you should have no trouble obtaining the veterinary care you want for your animals and you will be giving a big assist to the control of the veterinary energy crisis.

C. M. Baxter, D.V.M.

HEALTH NEWS

continued from page 10

CONTRIBUTIONS TO VETERINARY CENTER CONTINUE

The proposed center for veterinary education at University of California, Irvine moved closer to reality with the recent contribution from Merck Sharp & Dohme of \$5,000. Dr. George T. Walters, Merck's West Coast veterinary representative, delivered the company's check to UCI Chancellor Daniel Aldrich on December 12th.

In presenting the contribution for the new center, Dr. Walters expressed Merck Sharp & Dohme's pleasure in being able to participate in such a worthy program. According to Dr. Walters, his company is very much aware of the need to expand veterinary education opportunities, and it would continue to support such programs to the level of its ability.

In accepting this latest contribution for the veterinary continuing education center, Dr. Aldrich reemphasized UCI's enthusiastic interest and support in broadening continuing education for the large southern California veterinary community.

You too may soon join the Animal Health Foundation. See the May issue. (*Animal Health Foundation is providing for Junior Membership soon.*)

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A SITTER FOR SUKI

Continued from page 24

Marcia was more herself. "I'm beginning to see," she scrawled, "how my taking this temporary job is doing us both a favor. (Incidentally, I'll stay if you still want me.) I didn't realize the rut I'd gotten into living alone. It took your cat to reveal my self-centeredness! P. S. You were right about the fish pond."

In coming weeks Marcia learned to cope with the cat's unpredictable moods and bizarre affection. When Suki did something like drink from the faucet or swing on the door knob and caterwaul, she wrote Culver about it with delight.

Their happy companionship was shortlived. A telegram from Culver arrived: "Mission accomplished. Home Sunday. Bringing friend. Culver"

So soon? In two days Suki would no longer need her. She hadn't realized how inseparable they'd become!

When the doorbell rang Sunday morning, Suki was in Culver's arms almost before he dropped his luggage.

She is fickle! Just like the book said, Marcia thought, but what could I expect? She was his before . . .

"Marcia!" Culver's welcoming voice interrupted her thoughts. "I can't begin to thank you . . ."

ily toward a brown carton near her master's bags, sniffing it from every angle.

"We'll let your sitter open that, Princess," Culver grinned, placing the box at Marcia's feet. "A bonus for a job well done!"

Happily, she peeled back the lid.

"Oh no, it can't be! How could you have known?"

"The note is self-explanatory," Culver beamed, as he reached in for a Siamese kitten replete with a red collar and bearing the message: "I'm Sebastian. Papers are forthcoming. Also a check for services rendered to my sister Suki during her owner's absence."

Marcia fought back tears of gladness in time to see Suki nuzzle her master's ear, but now it didn't matter. She had Sebastian . . . and a whole new way of looking at things.

PLEASE PATRONIZE THE ADVERTISERS. THEY ARE FULLY BEHIND THE ANIMAL HEALTH FOUNDATION AND ANIMAL CAVALCADE.

"I READ IT IN THE CAVALCADE"



Lemurs, such as this male and female mongoose lemur pair, are becoming an endangered species. Some races of the primate are already extremely rare.

Lemurs

THREATENED TO BECOME ENDANGERED SPECIES!

Lemurs, primates with large eyes, soft fur and long tails which are native only to Madagascar and adjacent islands off the southeastern coast of Africa, are being saved from possible extinction through efforts of Gerald Durrell at his Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust.

Mr. Durrell, well-known naturalist and author, established the trust on the Jersey Islands in the English Channel off the coast of France to build up breeding colonies of endangered species.

Among the rare animals he is working to save are the lemurs, with emphasis on a gravely endangered race, the mayotte brown lemur. This project is being funded through the Morris Animal Foundation, Denver, which is dedicated to improving the health and lives of zoo and wild animals, dogs, cats and horses through scientific research.

"It is considered that there are only 22 mayotte brown lemurs in captivity, none of which has as yet reproduced," Mr. Durrell pointed out. "This means that through the generosity of the Morris Animal Foundation we have a fourth of the entire world captive

population in the trust's collection."

Lemurs are pre-simian, having evolved before the monkeys and apes. With no natural predators on their islands, through thousands of years they have developed into several species and sub-species living primarily in the trees.

Then man started taking over their islands, cutting down the trees and clearing the land of vegetation. While making room for himself, man pushed the lemurs into smaller and smaller habitats with less food and space, threatening the very survival of the little animals.

Mr. Durrell perceived the problems of the lemurs and decided the best way to save them was to increase their numbers through regulated breeding colonies, as he is doing with other threatened species.

Knowing the Morris Animal Foundation, a public, non-profit organization, is interested in propagating rare species, he contacted them for funding. The foundation agreed,

donating money to him given by zoo and wild animal enthusiasts.

"If this primate is to survive," commented Roger Caras, also a well-known naturalist and author and chairman of the foundation's zoo and wildlife division, "the mayotte brown lemurs at the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust must be bred and must produce offspring."

Founded in 1963 by Mr. Durrell, objects of the Jersey Trust are: 1) to build up, under controlled conditions, breeding colonies of species threatened with extinction in the wild; 2) to study these animals and collect data which will help towards protecting them in the wild; 3) to promote interest in wildlife conservation throughout the world.

Ultimate goal of the trust is to be able to return the progeny of the threatened species to the areas where they have become extinct. When this is not possible, the trust will act as a permanent breeding area so the species do not vanish altogether.

DID YOU MISS THE BOAT? SEE PAGE 26

Continued from page 19

idea is to get him, the horse, as dry as possible before that inevitable, ecstatic roll in the dust.

The whole concept of grooming is a matter of applying common sense to what you're doing. It is a collection of things that you should know enough to do or have sense enough to avoid. An example of using horse sense would be knowing enough to not use pointed scissors when trimming inside a horse's ears. Short, blunt scissors are available for this purpose, even if you have to go to a variety counter and get a pair.

One of the few grooming operations that really deserves special instruction is that of hoof cleaning. First of all, face toward the horse's tail end when you're picking up feet for cleaning. Also, make sure he knows what you're about to do and that putting all the weight on three feet isn't going to cause any problems in maintaining balance.

We've already mentioned health as an important benefit of grooming. As regards the feet the idea of health and well being takes on special importance. Using a hoof pick, you can scrape gently from the rear to the front of the foot to remove packed manure, pebbles and so on. Now, not counting the packed manure, it may be possible to detect the presence of diseases such as thrush or hoof rot by your sense of smell. The presence of these diseases often is evident as a result of noticing a distinctly foul odor.

More common sense: Don't make sudden moves. Don't, for example, just grab a leg and start pulling when you want to get a foot up. Work deliberately and think ahead. Speak quietly and reassuringly as you go.

Raise a front foot by first running your hand down along the shoulder toward the lower part of the leg. Stay close to the horse, facing toward the rear, perhaps exerting slight pressure with your shoulder against his as you lift the foot. This move will help him to shift his weight to the other three feet.

Mr. Dirt started to pick his teeth with the hoof pick and at first bent over to work on one of his horse's front feet while facing the wrong direction, but these were minor errors. As for the rest of it he caught on fast and worked well.

We noticed that our man, Cinderella, walked with a limp . . . something he now diagnosed as "rotten hoof." He said, however, that his horse was sound as a dollar (a dubious quality these days) and — with the pride of a new father — exclaimed, "She has the grace of a prima ballerina and can leap like Nijinsky!" Well, Smudge at least looked better and seemed to feel a lot more frisky now that there was no more ring around the collar.

Smudge had brightened considerably as a result of grooming. In fact, you could even say she looked like an entirely different horse as she was led to the center of the stable area. Mr. Dirt was so overjoyed at the sight of his proud new prancer that he forgot to take his ecstatic roll in the dust and, instead, turned his attention to thinking of a more noble name.

Mulldavyan, as it happens, is the only tongue that has to be translated directly into Eskimo, then into Magyar before it can be put into any other language. This probably has a lot to do with why Mulldavya has been practically unable to communicate with the

rest of the world. At any rate, the new name turned out to be, "Gamyla," which, multiply translated, means, "Rising Star."

We've come all this way without once asking, "What's Mr. Dirt really like?" Actually we'd have had trouble answering that question since we only saw him when he wasn't really himself. The very act of cleaning anything — even a horse — was a hypnotically-persuaded betrayal of his true character and, according to our earlier impressions, cooperation of any kind would have been equally out of character for this infamous boyard of the Mulldavyan social register.

We can, however, tell you something about Ronnie Graham, the man who wears the grimy clothes and says, "Park your car, sir?" as if he were making a threat. He is a writer, a director and an actor who also plays piano and makes up funny songs and stories about his mythical Mulldavya. Before successfully testing for his current run as Mr. Dirt, he was a writer for the Bill Cosby show and has now been signed as a comedy coordinator and to make some appearances on the new Jonathan Winters show. As far as what he did for us is concerned, Graham said it wasn't all an act: He likes horses and enjoys riding.

Not since Sandy Duncan "skinny dipped" before millions of television viewers or played a befuddled bank teller who struggled hopelessly with the spelling of Jonopoporopolos — "Mind if I call you Nick?" — has any personality this side of Watergate gained prominence so quickly. Mr. Dirt is now know far and wide as head of the international "Grime Syndicate." We couldn't resist having him clean up on his horse.

OF HANDS AND HEART

In Memory of Sweetsie

*My loving little cat, delightful little friend,
You purred at my feet; these hands you took up.
You looked into my eyes; this heart you took in.
You trusted these hands, had such faith in this heart.
You asked for milk; these hands filled the bowl.
You asked for love; this heart gave its all.
You raced through the house; you leaped onto my lap.
You pawed these hands; you caressed this heart.
You slept by my side; trusted hands stroked your head.
My innocent angel, sweet and gentle, faithful pet,
How you trusted these hands, had faith in this heart.
Yet, too soon, the day arrived; anguished, the heart wept.
You purred as these trusted hands delivered you to death.*

Ann Elizabeth Bleacher Lancaster, Pennsylvania

MIXED MENAGERIE SOLUTION

from page 11

1. TIGER
2. MOUSE
3. GOPHER
4. LEOPARD
5. SLOTH
6. BEAVER
7. ZEBRA
8. HORSE
9. PANTHER
10. BADGER

Reference: Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, 1973

ANSWERS TO HIDDEN ANIMALS from page 20

1. Lion
2. Elephant
3. Monkey
4. Horse
5. Steer
6. Heifer
7. Lamb
8. Boar
9. Calf
10. Tiger

WHY NOT A HAMSTER OR GUINEA PIG FOR JUNIOR?

A guinea pig or hamster makes a very popular pet for your child. They are inexpensive, clean, easy to keep and make excellent pets for children. They are easy to handle and become very tame but they must be handled frequently for them to remain tame.

The guinea pig is an alert, docile animal and practically never bits. Guinea pigs are rodents and do not have tails. Their life span is four to five years. Unlike most animals, except primates, guinea pigs require high dietary levels of vitamin C or else they will develop scurvy (a disease that once plagued the early sailors). Fresh fruits and greens are high in vitamin C and may be used to supplement diets.

Hamsters are also rodents and have a short tail. The hamster is nocturnal in habit and most of its activity is carried on at night. When roused during the day, it soon goes to sleep again. The hamster hoards its food in cheek pouches on each side of its face. The cheek pouches can hold about half the animal's body weight in food. Hamsters have a life span of two to three years.

A hamster can breed one month after it is born and after a pregnancy of 16 to 20 days, a litter of four to ten is born. The little hamsters' ears and eyes are closed and they are without hair. A female can have four to five litters by the time she is nine months of age. Needless to say, hamsters are very prolific and unless offspring is wanted it is best to keep the males and females separated.

Like many other desert animals, the hamster goes into what is falsely called "sleeper disease," a state of rigid immobility known as estivation which may occur at temperatures of 70 to 80 degrees. Estivation refers to the adaption in an animal that enables it to survive a hot, dry summer. Once disturbed they will return to normal in about five minutes.

In cold weather hamsters may go into hibernation. If a hamster appears



Hamsters enjoy a bed of redwood shavings.

"dead" it should be disturbed to make sure it is not simply estivating and if it has been in the cold, warmed up to make sure it is not hibernating.

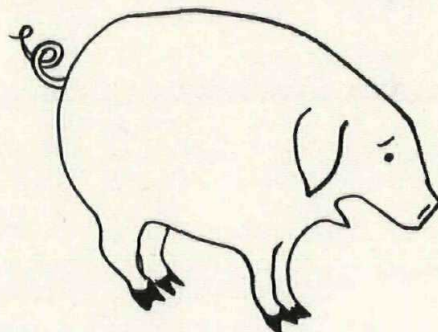
To lift a guinea pig or hamster pick it up as you would a ball, palm down, and fingers securely around its body. Gentleness and firmness should be used when handling the animals.

Rodents must have something hard to gnaw on to wear down their teeth that grow constantly, otherwise, the

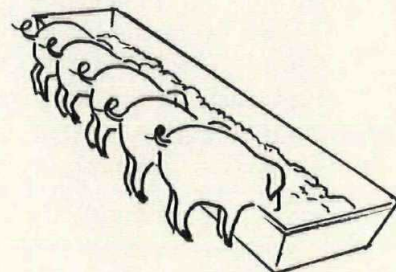
teeth will overgrow and become very long. When this happens the rodent has difficulty eating properly and often refuses to eat.

Being small and easily handled the pets are often dropped by children and children should be warned of this in advance.

Excellent government publications and books are available for those wishing more information of these small friendly pets.

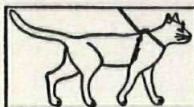


Cresci



**"NOW REMEMBER WHAT THE DOCTOR SAID, CHILDREN ...
CHEW YOUR FOOD SLOWLY AND DON'T MAKE PEOPLE OF YOURSELVES."**

SAFEGUARD YOUR PET

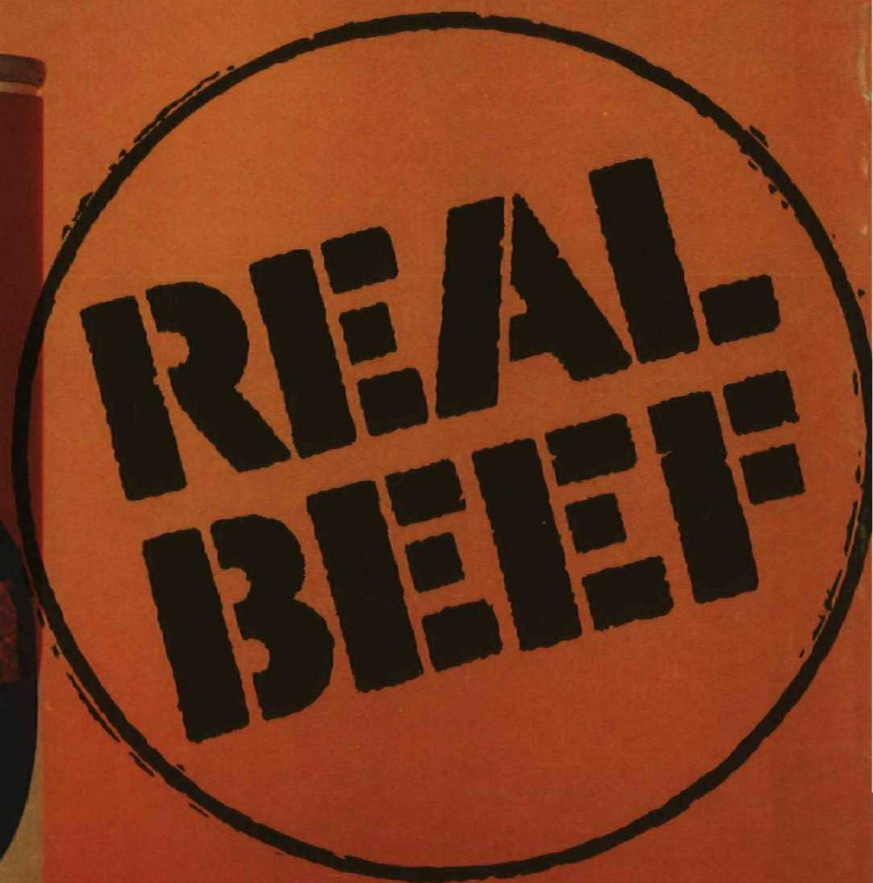
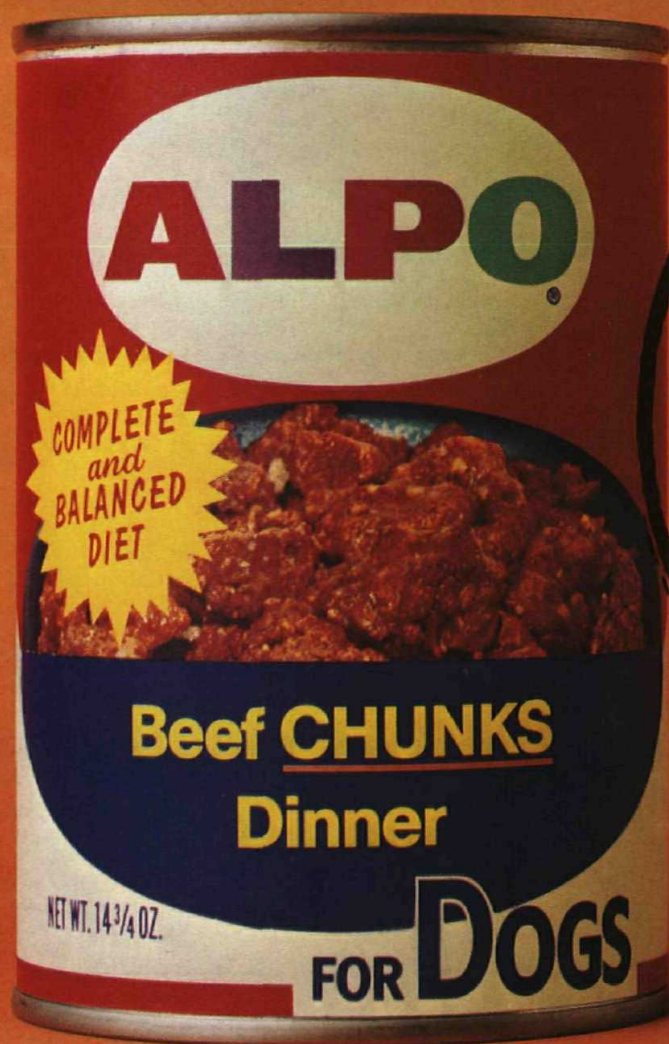


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