

ANIMAL CAVALCADE



George Caleb Bingham's "Daniel Boone Escorting Settlers Through the Cumberland Gap."

Greetings . . .

and welcome to the readers' circle of ANIMAL CAVALCADE. Ours is a different sort of magazine. It is intended for people who simply love animals and for those who are concerned with the care and health of their pets whatever they might be. Naturally, we hope that you will like the publication well enough to want to receive it regularly. We would be delighted to have your comments on the magazine, the articles in this issue, and any thoughts you may have in the field of animals in general. In succeeding issues we will carry a department devoted to communications from readers, and hopefully yours will be among them.

This year's National Dog Week, to be observed September 20 to 26, should be something special. Not only is 1970 the Year of the Dog (according to the Chinese calendar); it also marks the 100th anniversary of that great day on which Senator George Graham Vest gave in court his memorable "Tribute to the Dog." Read all about it in the lead article of this issue.

We could not go to press without something about today's pollution tragedy in which both man and his animals are caught up. We elected to tell the story of Rachel Carson (see "The Little Lady Was Right"). Years ago she recognized what was happening and was among the first to sound the alarm. Under the heading "Our Panting Civilization," a recent issue of *Medical World News* quotes from a speech warning against the continued widespread pollution of our environment by British economist Barbara Ward Jackson, "Humans breathe twice as fast as their grandparents because the supply of oxygen is impaired." Let us not forget that what is bad for humans is equally if not more harmful to our animal friends.

For many of us the yearly health check-up has become a must. Well, the same idea is taking hold in the animal field. The case of a complete annual physical examination for the dog, as an example, has been summed up as follows by William E. Ryan, D.V.M. of Iowa: "Dogs mature from 5 to 7 times faster than humans. Actually, during the first year a dog ages as much as its owner does in 20 years, and thereafter the dog's maturity rate is about 5 times that of man. So if an 'annual physical' is important to the owner's health—then a yearly check-up by the veterinarian is 5 to 7 times more important to your dog! Early detection of health problems, plus early treatment by your veterinarian as indicated, can help keep your dog healthy, vigorous, brimming with vim and vitality—and add many years to his life span."

ANIMAL CAVALCADE

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

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The Cover Painting

As a matter of policy ANIMAL CAVALCADE will seek to use as cover illustrations great paintings of historical interest featuring animals. For our first cover we reproduce, courtesy of Washington University Gallery of Art, St. Louis, George Caleb Bingham's "Daniel Boone Escorting Settlers Through the Cumberland Gap." The painting was created during 1851-52. No show of American art in the 19th century could fail to be represented by Bingham's work and the Boone painting was part of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's "Life in America" loan exhibition held during the New York World's Fair.

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T RIBUTE TO THE DOG

"Gentlemen of the Jury:

"The best friend a man has in this world may turn against him and become his enemy. His son or daughter that he has reared with loving care may prove ungrateful. Those who are nearest and dearest to us, those whom we trust with our happiness and our good name, may become traitors to their faith. The money that a man has, he may lose. It flies away from him, perhaps when he needs it the most. A man's reputation may be sacrificed in a moment of ill-considered action. The people who are prone to fall on their knees to do us honor when success is with us may be the first to throw the stone of malice when failure settles its cloud upon our heads. The one absolutely unselfish friend that a man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him and the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous is his dog.

"Gentlemen of the Jury, a man's dog stands by him in prosperity and in poverty, in health and in sickness. He will sleep on the cold ground,

where the wintry winds blow and the snow drives fiercely, if only he may be near his master's side. He will kiss the hand that has no food to offer, he will lick the wounds and sores that come in encounters with the roughness of the world. He guards the sleep of his pauper master as if he were a prince. When all other friends desert him he remains. When riches takes wings and reputation falls to pieces, he is as constant in his love as the sun in its journey through the heavens. If fortune drives the master forth an outcast in the world, friendless and homeless, the faithful dog asks no higher privilege than that of accompanying him to guard against danger, to fight against his enemies, and when the last scene of all comes, and death takes the master in its embrace and his body is laid away in the cold ground, no matter if all other friends pursue their way, there by his graveside will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws, his eyes sad but open in alert watchfulness, faithful and true even to death."

September 23, 1870. The "Old Drum" trial nears its end. Lawyer George Graham rises to speak . . .

CENTENNIAL OF A GREAT DOG EVENT

By MARY BLAIR

The courtroom was packed, the figures of people shadowy in the dim light of a kerosene lamp. Rain splashed relentlessly against the windows.

With his hands rammed deep in his pockets, the little lawyer with the fiery red hair stood before the judge making an impassioned final appeal.

Then he finished and everyone was crying shamelessly.

So ended one of the strangest trials in courtroom history. In legal terms the case was labeled, *Charles Burden, Respondent vs. Leonidas Hornsby, Appellant*. But in truth, the trial was about a dog, Old Drum, a black and tan Foxhound owned by Burden, and surprisingly involved four of the most prominent lawyers in all of Missouri. The litigation, which also encompassed four court sessions, spanned the period from Oct. 28, 1869, until the final verdict, Sept. 23, 1870.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of what is considered man's greatest tribute to his most loyal companion, his dog, an epilogue to the drama enacted that stormy night in the courtroom. The classic eulogy of less than 400 words, which tipped the scales in the trial, was a moving, extemporaneous address to the jury made by George Graham Vest, a 40-year-old lawyer destined to become a United States senator.

The story unfolding in the old county courthouse at Warrensburg in Johnson County, Mo., centered around Burden's favorite hound, who was shot to death as an alleged killer of sheep.

The setting was the western part of Johnson County, typical of many rural areas of the country in post-Civil War America, heavily wooded and with plenty of game.

Charles Burden was a farmer, a rugged pioneer type, working hard day by day and partial to sitting about an open fire after dusk, sipping a strong cup of coffee while listening



to the bugling of his dogs on the trail of a fox or 'coon.

A constant companion and leader of his pack, Old Drum was considered by Burden as an uncommonly valuable hound, "as good as they could start." He stated later from the witness stand, "He was good for varmints, wolves and such like, and was as good a deer dog as I ever had . . . Money would not have bought him."

On the fateful night of Oct. 28 Burden last saw his beloved hound when he came to the door near dark before leading the pack out. About 8 o'clock a gunshot sounded from the direction of the adjoining Leonidas Hornsby place. The music of the hounds stopped. Remembering that Hornsby, who was his brother-in-law, had vowed to shoot the first stray dog found on his property because he had lost many sheep, Burden was fearful that one of his dogs had been shot.

"I called my dogs," Burden said, "but Drum didn't come up."

The next day Burden saw Hornsby. "Lon," he asked, "have you seen anything of my dog Drum?"

Hornsby replied that he had not. "What dog was that you shot last night?" Burden demanded.

Hornsby said he didn't shoot a dog. But Dick Ferguson, his young nephew, admitted he had, a black-looking one, and that he'd only loaded the gun with grains of corn to scare him off.

Despite Dick's statement, it was not a black dog but the black and tan Old Drum that was found dead. Burden found him lying with his head in the water at Big Creek near Haymaker's Mill. He'd been riddled with buckshot. The underside of the dog was muddy and the hair ruffed up the wrong way as if he'd been dragged. Also, there were sorrel hairs on the body.

The sorrel hair played an important part in the trial because Hornsby owned a sorrel mule.

Burden now vowed he'd make someone pay for what he called the "murder" of his beloved hound. Although the evidence was circumstantial, he decided to bring suit for damages against Hornsby.

The first trial resulted in a hung jury, and in the second, Burden won. Hornsby countered by taking the case to the County Court of Common Pleas at Warrensburg, where the jury found for Hornsby.

Stubbornly persisting, Burden filed a motion for a new trial on the basis of new evidence and was successful. He bolstered his legal aid by securing the services of prominent Sedalia lawyers, Col. John F. Philips, who later became a United States District judge, and George Graham Vest. Hornsby was represented by another strong legal team, Thomas T. Crittenden and Francis M. Cockrell. The former became state governor and his partner, a United States senator.

Among the array of lawyers represented in the long litigation was David Nation, husband of the hatchet-wielding, saloon-wrecking Carrie Nation.

Easily the most eloquent and captivating advocate of the "Big Four" was the Kentucky-born George Graham Vest. A graduate of Centre College and Transylvania University law school, Vest moved to Missouri and began the practice of law in George-

town in 1854. Two years later he went to Boonville and entered politics and in four years was a Democratic presidential elector on the Douglas ticket. That same year he was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives.

When the Civil War broke out, Vest returned to his home state to offer his services to the Confederacy. He was representative and senator in the Confederate Congress and later served 24 years in the United States Senate, thus attaining the singular honor of serving in the highest legislative body of two nations.

It was said of him, "When all of Senator Vest's wonderful speeches in the Senate are forgotten, there is one that will live in history—his famous 'Dog Speech' delivered in Warrensburg."

The trial was a marvel of high-powered oratory delivered by the biggest legal lights of the Missouri bar. There were countless witnesses, examined and cross-examined.

Among them was young Dick Ferguson, who, under cross examination, naively declared, "My stars! I haven't seen Old Drum since I shot him."

When all the testimony was in, it was Vest's task to sum up the case, drawing upon his unusual knowledge of literature and history that few men of his day possessed. He ranged into antiquity to tell of man's love for his dog and the dog's great happiness in devoted, obedient companionship for his master.

Vest seemed about to complete his summation, then turned to the jury. As was his habit, the slight lawyer with the drooping mustache drew himself up so that he appeared taller than his five feet six inches. His blue eyes were as eloquent as his tongue as he said,

"Gentlemen of the jury: The best friend a man has in this world may turn against him and become his enemy . . . The one absolutely unselfish friend that a man can have . . . is his dog."

Every person in that courtroom recalled a dog he had loved and the lavish devotion of the dog to him.

There is precedent in legend for Vest's stirring account of the noble dog's loyalty to his master. One of the most famous of ancient dog stories is that of Ulysses' dog, Argus, who spent the days hunting and playing with his master. Argus was left

at home when Ulysses set out on his travels and when he returned 10 years later disguised as a beggar, no one recognized him except the dog, who was weak and crippled with age. He tried to lick Ulysses' hand, but was too weak to do so and sank dead at his master's feet.

Listening to Vest's words, "He will kiss the hand that has no food to offer," who would not be easily moved by the story of a Roman slave's dog who stood howling by the side of his executed master. Taking pity on the faithful dog, a spectator tossed a piece of bread to him. The dog took the bread and held it to his dead master's lips. When the slave's body was thrown in the Tiber, the devoted dog swam with it until overcome with exhaustion.

And in the final words of the eulogy, ". . . when the last scene of all comes, and death takes the master in its embrace and his body is laid away in the cold ground, no matter if all other friends pursue their way, there by his graveside will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws, his eyes sad but open in alert watchfulness, faithful and true even to death."

Yet repeated from historical times in the third century B.C. is the touching account of the devoted Hyrcanus, the dog of King Lysimachus who was killed in battle while fighting as one of Alexander the Great's generals. The dog sorrowfully followed the body as it was carried to the funeral pyre, and when the flames grew high, with a mournful howl, the dog leaped into the flames and perished.

The jury was out only a short time and when it returned Burden heard this final verdict: "We the jury find for the plaintiff and assess his damages at \$50."

Hornsby appealed his case to the state Supreme Court, which upheld the verdict of the lower court.

Old Drum was exonerated, and the judgment marked "paid in full," as noted in the margin opposite the recorded verdict.

The extemporaneous emotion-packed address to the jury is often referred to as the "Lost Speech." Not transcribed by a court reporter, it survives today through reconstruction from memory by other lawyers present, and as Professor William Lyons Phelps once wrote, ". . . we own this magnificent tribute to dogs not

because it was written or printed but because it has survived in the same manner as ancient epics, folk songs, ballads, cowboy choruses, sea chanteys and lullabies."

Old Drum made such an impression on the people of Missouri that the Johnson County Historical Society has acquired the old courthouse as an historical landmark in the town of Warrensburg and has begun its complete restoration.

On the wall is a bronze memorial tablet which reads, "Within these walls on Sept. 23, 1870, Senator George Graham Vest delivered his famous eulogy on the dog. He died Aug. 14, 1904, and was buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery, St. Louis."

Another memorial stands above the deer crossing on Big Creek, where Old Drum was found after he was shot. It was placed there by Fred Ford, a Missouri hunter and lover of hounds, who collected rocks from all over the world. Included were stones sent from the Great Wall of China, White Cliffs of Dover, Germany, France, Guatemala, Mexico, Jamaica, South Africa, Virgin Islands, Panama, West Indies and most of the American states.

A granite stone on the base depicts a dog treeing a coon. In one corner a deer is being chased, and in the other, a fox. The inscription reads "Old Drum — Killed, 1869."

A bronze statue of Old Drum, executed by Reno Gastaldi, a St. Louis sculptor, stands on the present courthouse lawn. People of every station in life, and of every creed and nationality, helped with funds needed to immortalize the famous hound. The memorial statue, which honors all noble and faithful dogs who have been the unselfish friends of their masters, was dedicated in 1958 by the attorney general of Missouri and Captain Will Judy of Chicago, then publisher of *Dog World*.

An engraving of the text of the Old Drum speech appears in a plaque on the marble base of the statue.

After that eventful stormy night of Sept. 23, 1870, when the famed eulogy was delivered, it took years for the wounded feelings of the two litigants to heal. Just as they had lived on adjoining farms, the brothers-in-law are buried in the same cemetery only a few yards apart. But their story is lost in the shadow of a dog and his eloquent defender.

A former resident of the White House herself, Margaret Truman has thoroughly researched her subject.

Presidential pets

By MARGARET TRUMAN

Author of "White House Pets"

There really is no difference between a White House pet and yours or mine except that those belonging to our Chief Executive receive more publicity. But that is one of the hazards the President's pets must face—it comes with the office.

Of those taking up residence at the White House or at a Presidential summer home, some arrive with their distinguished masters or are purchased shortly after the First Families are comfortably settled. Others are gifts from friends, well-wishers, or foreign officials.

George Washington, our first President, was also the first to receive gift pets. Admirers sent him some fine hunting dogs; from the king of Spain came a champion jack that he kept at Mount Vernon for many years. It should be remembered, of course, that Washington never lived in the White House, which was not completed until 1800.

A pet need not live within the confines of the White House in order to be officially considered a pet. There are eighteen acres of grounds around the White House and there are plenty of squirrels living among the trees. Birds, too, find the White House an attractive place.

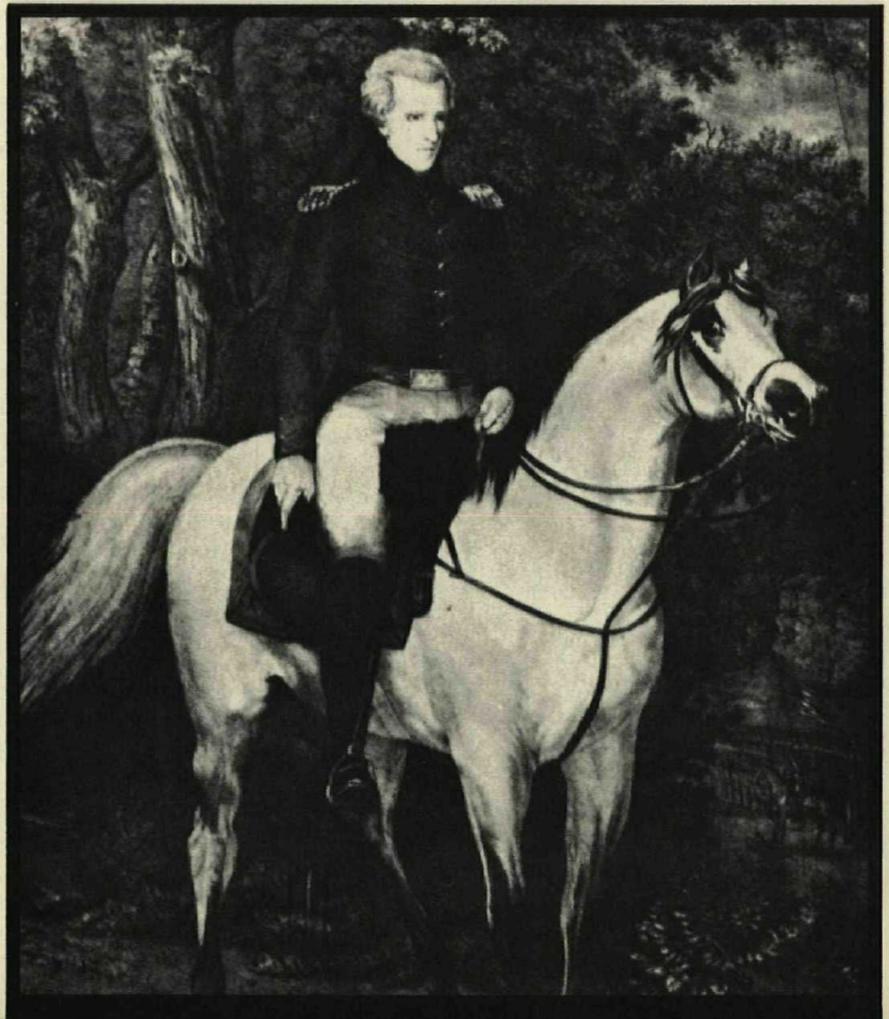
A most unusual case of an odd animal staying at the White House occurred during the administration of John Quincy Adams. General Lafayette had been touring the United States from July 1824 to August 1825, and spent that last two months of his trip in the White House. Among the many gifts he had received was a live alligator, which he kept in the East Room. Frequently visitors who wandered in came tearing out again—and very fast.

Mrs. John Quincy Adams also kept unusual "pets": silkworms that feasted on mulberry leaves and repaid their hostess by spinning the silk for the First Lady's dresses. I find that hard to believe, but it's supposed to be true.

For the average family, the word pet means dogs, cats, canaries, parakeets, hamsters, and in cases where a stable permits, horses or ponies. Generally, the same holds true for our First Family, except that their lofty position leaves them exposed to gifts that no family in its right mind

would contemplate for even an instant. Would the typical suburbanite accept an elephant as a present? Or a zebra? A pair of frisky, sharp-toothed lion cubs? A vicious bobcat? A baby hippo?

Well, at various times, several of our Presidents, including Martin Van Buren, Theodore Roosevelt, and Calvin Coolidge, have been notified that a friend, a foreign potentate, or government official was giving such a beast to the White House as a token of esteem. Presidents, being politicians, usually make a show of appre-



Andrew Jackson on Sam Patches

ciation at the thoughtfulness of the donor. Then they ship the animals to the nearest zoo, which in the case of Washington, D.C., happens to be the Washington Zoo on Connecticut Avenue.

Another problem that must be faced by the White House tenants is accommodations. Many homes boast a good-sized doghouse in the backyard; apartment dwellers allow their pets a corner of some room or even the freedom to roam as they wish. But cats and dogs arrive constantly, and as pets begin to pile up they must be quartered somewhere on the grounds.

Years before the Presidential mansion was called the White House, Presidents kept animals, usually horses and dogs. Washington had both carriage and hunting horses in stables at the Presidential residences, in the capitals located in New York City and Philadelphia and at his home, Mount Vernon.

Before the twentieth century all Presidents owned some horses. Horses served as transportation, both for the saddle, and to draw a coach or carriage.

Dogs were the White House staple as far as pets were concerned. Through the years, kennels have been scattered in a number of places on the White House grounds. Sometimes special buildings were hastily erected to house them. On occasion a spare

room at ground level, such as the Flower Room, was pressed into service as quarters for dogs. Favored dogs were allowed to roam about, at times sleeping in the bedroom of their master or mistress.

One of the most fetching dogs ever to adorn the White House scene was a small spaniel belonging to Maria Hester Monroe, daughter of President James Monroe.

According to an item in the *Washington Star* dated November 22, 1895, Mrs. Grover Cleveland received a nine-month-old, 1½-pound, black Japanese poodle. The dog, a gift from a Milwaukee man, August C. Klavel, was described as being the smallest pug dog in the United States. Obviously some mistake was made. Was it a poodle or a pug? Nobody is quite sure to this day, but in all likelihood it was neither. Probably it was a Pekingese and not from Japan but from China.

Friends of the President have a problem: what gift does one present to the daughter of a President of the United States? The safest is a pet. One fine day when I came home from school, I found that Bob Hannigan, the Postmaster General, had presented me with an Irish setter puppy. I named him Mike—what else can you name an Irish setter puppy given you by a man named Hannigan?

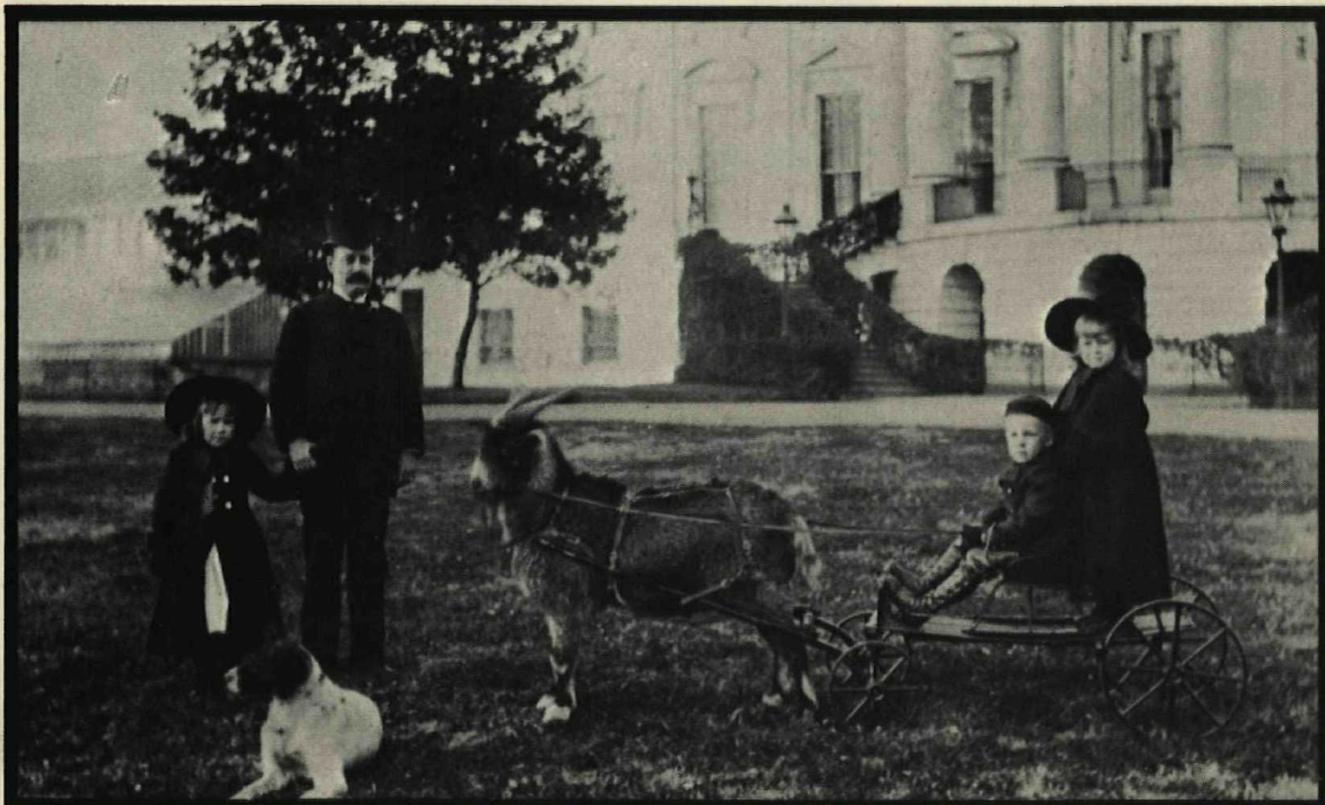
Mike was our only pet—Dad could

take or leave pets—and Mike developed into quite a dog—physically, that is. However, he never outgrew being a puppy. On numerous occasions I'd sit in a porch chair and promptly find myself covered with a lapful of dog. Mike had no compunction about leaping onto me whenever the opportunity presented itself.

Once Mike jumped into the garden pool and my mother's secretary, Reathel Odum, jumped in to pull him out. Reathel, knowing nothing about dogs, didn't realize he could swim. Result: one soaked, mad secretary; one soaked, delighted dog.

Mike's problems were compounded by the White House police. They kept feeding him candy. Since the setter couldn't refuse a handout, and ate anything and everything, in a short time Mike developed a case of rickets. He was cured soon enough, but I realized that Mike would be better off in someone else's hands. He was given to a man in Virginia who raised bird dogs. I learned later that he was quite happy in his new home.

President Eisenhower was quite fond of dogs and always had one or two about, even while he was European wartime chief. Then he had a black Scotty named Spunky who strongly resembled President Roosevelt's Fala. He gave this dog to his son John. One of his favorites, given to him while he was President, was



Library of Congress Photos

President Benjamin Harrison with goat he kept for his grandchildren

a brownish Weimaraner named Heidi. Weimaraners are an interesting breed, originally bred in Germany some 700 years ago as hunting dogs.

The President was quite taken with this one, so much so that he insisted on feeding her himself. Mostly Heidi remained at Gettysburg, the Eisenhower's residence near Washington. She didn't enjoy Washington with all the hubbub of noise, and people always in her way.

Richard Nixon's Checkers, the lovable, floppy-eared cocker spaniel, who was a *cause célèbre* in the 1952 election, has since been replaced by a stunning six-month-old Irish setter named King Timahoe presented to Nixon by his staff. The new dog's bloodline is impeccable: his forebears are champions.

Daughter Julie has a cuddlesome poodle named Vicky, and her sister Tricia owns a cute Yorkshire terrier she calls Pasha. The latter dog joined the Nixon household because both girls seem to know the secret of getting around their father. When Tricia asked for Pasha, she had fallen in love with the little Yorkshire at first sight. Mrs. Nixon had her doubts, but the President promptly said *yes* to her plea, which only proves that Richard Nixon is the typical father where daughters are concerned.

Kittens and cats have sometimes enlivened the White House scene. In

the case of one President, either he or a kitten had to go. The feline was called Tom Kitten, the President—JFK. There are several stories about cats such as Slippers and the diplomats, Tom Quartz and his feud with a dog, and the Lincolns' kittens.

Numerous Presidents and their First Ladies were fond of keeping canaries, parrots, mockingbirds, and other species. Thomas Jefferson's mockingbird was his constant companion. President Grover Cleveland's wife also had a mockingbird, as well as several canaries. But unlike Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Cleveland found the birds annoying on occasion, especially the mockingbird. One evening when he was up late working, the mockingbird's antics kept interrupting his concentration. He had the bird moved. Sudden silence and the fact that the bird might have been placed in a draft worried him even more. Mr. Pendel, his aide, spent part of the night moving the bird from place to place trying to find a compromise area where the mockingbird wouldn't catch cold, and where its warbling could not be heard by the President.

A friend sent a talking parrot to President McKinley. It was described as a "Mexican double-yellow-headed parrot" and reportedly was worth several thousand dollars. The President thought highly of this parrot, remarking that it was the most intel-

ligent bird he had seen. From all reports the bird was truly a rare one, gifted with political savvy that would have done credit to a veteran vote-getter. When a group of women, young or old, middle-aged or better, would pass his cage, he would cock his head and screech, "Oh, look at all the pretty girls!"

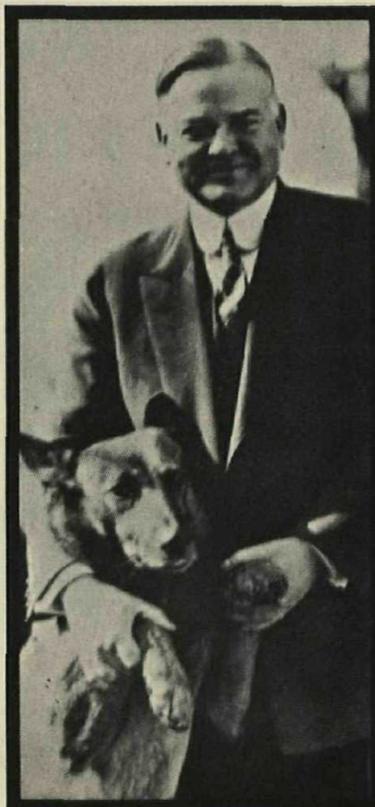
It must be remembered that Washington, D.C., was for a very long time simply a large cluster of houses and streets in a rural setting. Since the Chief Executives were familiar with farm life, it was quite normal to keep cows somewhere in the vicinity. President Rutherford B. Hayes was quite proud of his pedigreed Jersey cows. He also kept chickens, and so did Theodore Roosevelt and others. President William Howard Taft was the last President to keep a cow. Pauline, a handsome Holstein, had as her pasture the grassy area behind the State, War and Navy Building.

Goats also came into their share of popularity. President Benjamin Harrison, remembering his own goat cart rides of the past provided a similar rig for his grandchildren, just as his grandfather President William Henry Harrison had done for him.

Many White House pets defy all categories, but they provided good news copy in their day. One was a horned toad, another a green snake, a third was a kangaroo rat.



Kermit Roosevelt with terrier Jack



Hoover with King Tut



Mrs. Coolidge with raccoon

By JACK LEWIS
Editor, Horse & Rider

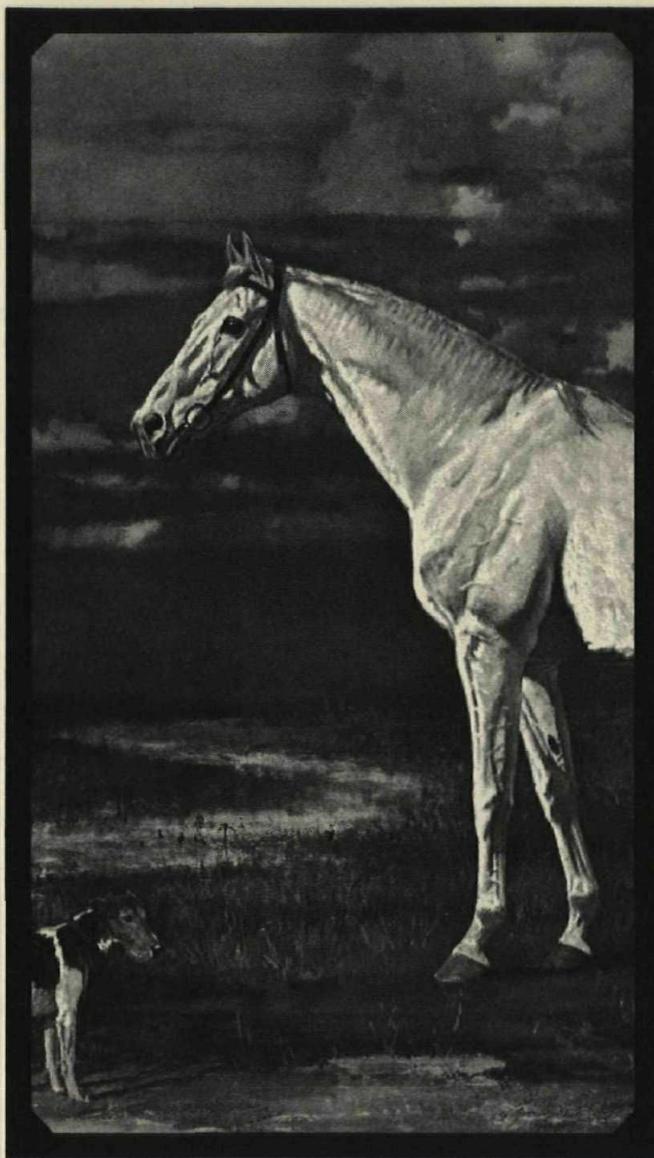
George Ford Morris was a man who undoubtedly wanted very badly to go down in history with the greatest artists; he may even have expected it, since he went to great lengths as late as the 1950s to have published a book with the rather unlikely title: "Portraits of Horses, A Few People, Some Dogs & Other Animals, With Autobiographical Comment and Narrative by George Ford Morris."

One does not have to delve too deeply into psychology to realize that Mr. Morris was one of two things: Either he was an egomaniac of the first order or he had a sly sense of humor and was hardly above poking fun at himself.

Be this what it may, there is no doubt that Morris was one of the finest portrayers of animal life — with emphasis on horses — of all time. Although he died a dozen or so years ago, the volume which bears his name and was created through his Fordacre Studios in New Jersey under a private, and though not limited, printing offers a good deal of insight into the man and his work.

To say that his professional career covered more than sixty-five years may sound as though the years are being stretched; but one must come to realize that he was drawing horses — and drawing them well enough to sell some — at the age of 12.

In later years, he was commissioned by all of the owners of great race horses to paint their winners: these included Man O'War, MacChesney and others, as well as the top horses of other breeds and pursuits. Morris seemed to have no favorites insofar as horses are concerned, so long as they showed the beauty and conformation that he felt adequate as subjects for brush or pen.



GEORGE FORD MORRIS AMERICA'S FOREMOST HORSE PORTRAITIST?

At age 12 his drawings were good enough to sell

In his earliest efforts, he did line drawings that were to serve as poster designs for horse shows and local race meets. Some of background of the man—perhaps even a note of personal bitterness and frustration—is reflected in his own account of his early beginnings:

"The love of horses and a sensitive, impressionable mind, possessed by a boy of 12; forced from school day-dreams into a world of activity by the invalidism of a debt-burdened father, to be the main support of his parents and six younger brothers and sisters; he was driven to do the thing he could do best for the most to be obtained, to meet the dire necessities thrust upon him.

"There was no time for education in art, or in any other line of endeavor, and even his grammar school attendance had been interfered with by his father's failing health and fortunes, which prevented his graduation from the final grade."

Morris, according to his own recol-

lections, was, in his first job, the office boy in an agency for book and magazines subscriptions. By his own admissions he "was not a brilliant success at this job, as he spent too much time pencilling animals on odd bits of paper."

His father found him another job, this one in the art department of a lithograph company, where he divided his time between designing labels for cans of vegetables, sweeping out the offices and emptying that necessity of the era, the cuspidor.

Again, Morris' talent and the needs of the job failed to mesh. As he puts it, "When horses were found grazing in the background of my tomato can designs, as well as elsewhere—attracting more attention than the vegetables in the foreground—the boss of the art department decided to let me go in search of other fields for my talents."

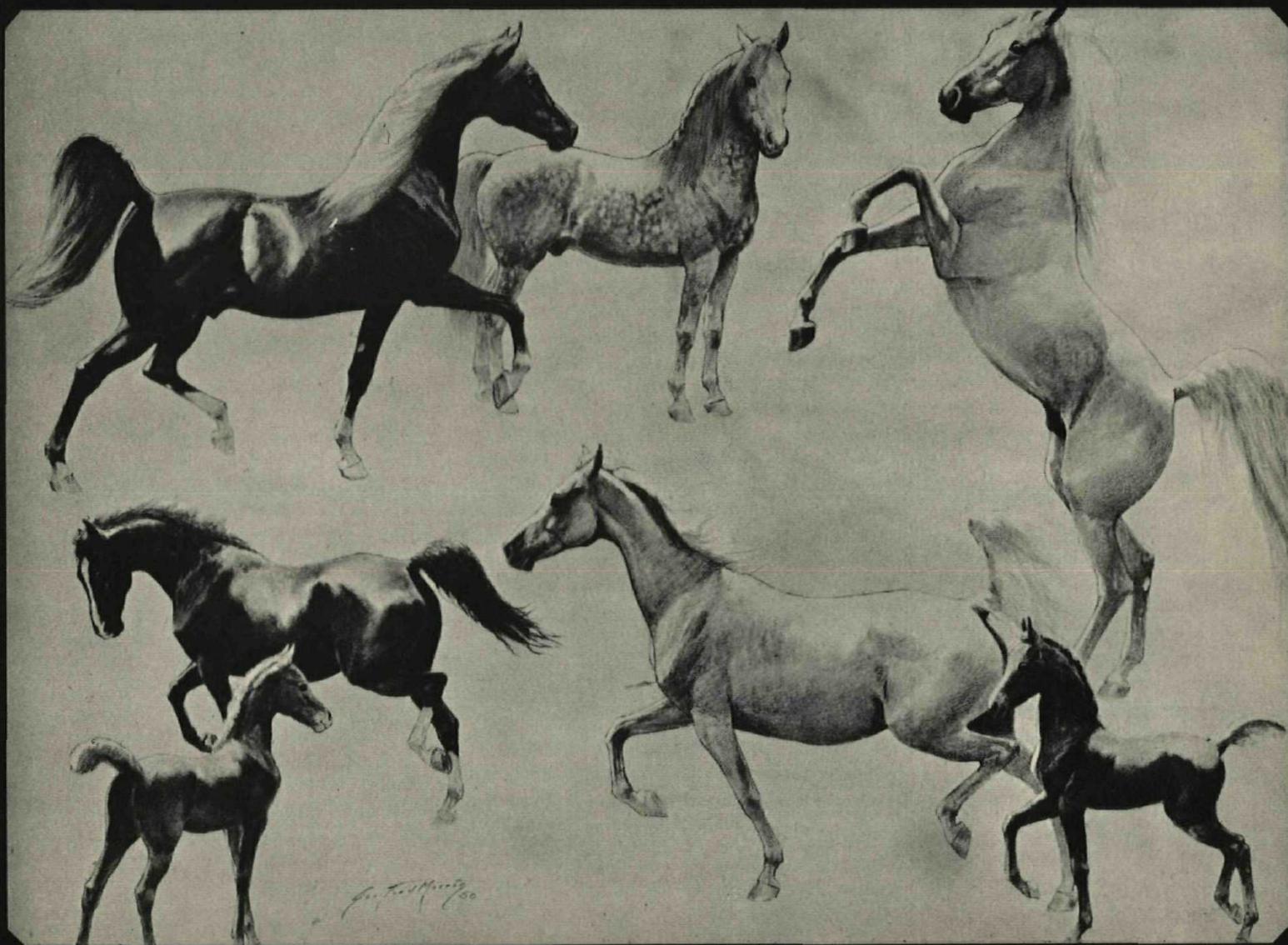
His next job was with the Orange-Judd Farmer, which was the leading agricultural publication in this coun-

try at one point. However, when Morris joined its staff in the 1880s, it already was being replaced by more modern publications.

Still in his early teens, the youth was given the chore of making pen and ink illustrations on how to make a baby crib out of an apple barrel, how to build a kitchen chair from a dry goods box, while on occasion, there would be "the opportunity of doing an occasional portrait of a champion Poland China pig or a prize-winning Cotswold ram."

This, however, served as background for other steps—replacing more formal training in art—and the next job he held was in the subscription department of a horse periodical, where he exchanged labor for lessons from the magazine's artist in drawing horses.

According to Morris' recollections, the owner "offered me a job keeping subscription books if I would take lessons of his (then) well known horse artist, J. Campbell Cory. Ob-



ject: ultimately to replace said artist at a much lower salary. (This was a secret, however, between the prospective incumbent and his employer.)

"The succession did not materialize, because the would-be student asked too many questions too fast and about the third lesson felt that he knew so much more than his instructor that he began to criticize the other's work."

This, Morris recalls in his memoirs, "led to an emphatic and somewhat profane ultimatum from Cory to the mutual employer that the offices were not big enough for the kid and himself and that the boss could take his choice between them." So Morris was relieved of his job.

But that was a beginning and it was not long before he had developed other techniques of drawing and invaded the offices of *The Horseman*, the leading horse periodical in America of that day.

Frank Whitney, the paper's special artist, had just departed for Paris to study painting and the result was that Morris—only 16 years old—was given a contract at \$25 per week.

"I could see myself riding high, wide and handsome, a great red horse over hill and dale—and all life's obstacles, in fact—one hand in his mane and the other waving triumphantly aloft to an onlooking world," Morris reported later, perhaps a touch of sly self-analysis creeping into his evaluation. During the same era, he did freelance work for *The American Trotter, Breeder and Sportsman*, *The Western Horseman*, *American Sportsman*, and other types of livestock paintings for *The Breeders Gazette*.

By the time he was in his early twenties, one horse magazine editor had said, "The name of George Ford Morris is known wherever a good horse lifts his head."

But as is often the case, the observer soon finds himself among the involved. It was not long before Morris—headquartered then in Chicago—was spending most of his earnings in riding, showing and breeding horses. It was during this period that he developed the Gentlemen's Derby Association in which horse owners of society rode their own horses in various events.

In 1907, Morris moved to New York City, where he did illustrations for such well known publications of the era as *The Century* and *Scrib-*



ner's, also turning out posters for the National Horse Show. Not satisfied, he formed several breed clubs, since he had become particularly enthralled with the American saddlebred line. With partners, he even began a breeding farm and several of their colts took top honors at the National Horse Show in Madison Square Garden.

But even in that time of success, Morris was not without his moments of self-doubt, an affliction experienced by most artists at one time or another.

"Here was going to be my best effort yet. As I worked, however—perhaps too hard and maybe with some pride in my powers—doubts would begin to assail me. Was I, after all, much of an artist? Was this thing near measuring up to the inspiration I had glimpsed when I started it?"

Often, Morris would take down the partially finished canvas, store it in a closet, then begin over again. "Months later, or sometimes a year, I might come across my discouraged effort. To my surprise and sometimes amazement, I would often find in it a character and convincing quality—as far as it had been carried—that made it every bit as promising as its successor and sometimes more so."

During the years of such work, Morris perfected a technique that was frowned upon by artists of the period as being "unartistic," but today is an accepted practice. In the beginning, he had to make drawings from often

bad photos sent in by advertisers to be used with their copy.

"As I look back upon this working from photographs, however, I realize that it was an invaluable training in knowledge of form and draftsmanship of horses that no amount of art school education could have rendered as effectively and advantageously," he contends.

Yet, there was a backlash that was a whip to his ego. While in his fifties, he was studying at the Academy Julien in Paris. It was here that fellow students decided that his horses all were drawn from photographs, "as the opinion was voiced that no one could draw them so correctly otherwise."

This led Morris to do some imaginary and mythological subjects showing horses in such extraordinary positions that "I knew no one could accuse them of having been done from photographs."

But all of this would seem to hark back to those early beginnings, when Morris was forced to use his abilities to feed his family. Out of this was no doubt born a feeling of inadequacy that, in spite of his reputation, would show through his armor from time to time.

As he pointed out, shortly before his death, "Gradually has been borne in upon my consciousness the suspicion that I have been letting horses ride me instead of me riding them."

At any age, this can be a surprising revelation.

PEOPLE ARE FUNNY ABOUT ANIMALS

Some episodes in the life of a veterinarian who appeared on an audience participation show.

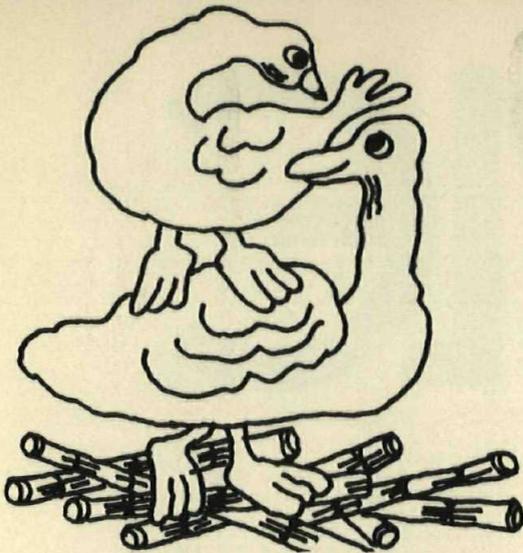
By CHARLES LAURENCE LIPPINCOTT, D.V.M.

Over a period of several years I was fortunate enough to appear on a radio show called "The Firing Line." It was an afternoon show, whose master of ceremonies was Mr. Dennis Bracken. The format of the show featured a guest personality who would discuss general topics with Mr. Bracken by way of stimulating audience telephone participation. After our chat Mr. Bracken would open up the telephone exchange throughout the Los Angeles area. The listeners were able to direct their questions directly to the guest or Mr. Bracken, and during the program's hour we were able to answer 16 to 18 questions.

You are probably familiar with the procedure of such programs. Callers would dial the station's number. The calls were answered and screened by a woman in an ad-

joining control booth. If the question was of a general nature, original and not controversial, the caller was placed on a stand-by hold until Mr. Bracken was free to speak. Some callers had to stand-by for up to an hour. The popularity of this type of audience participation show was astounding. The telephone company and the radio station kept a meter that manually counted the number of calls received during each show. The record number of calls received during a show that featured a veterinarian was 1350. These calls represented males and females of all ages and from every walk of life.

I feel that it might be fun to recall a few of the telephone calls that seemed to make it all worth while. Certainly, they represented a most interesting experience.



One day a woman called from Pasadena. She sounded upset and perplexed. She told me that her family wanted to raise some baby ducks. She went on to say that they already had two adult ducks at home, a drake and a gander. The drake and the gander would go out into a bamboo pile behind the house. The family felt that they were going into the bamboo pile to lay eggs. She then asked, "Doctor, what must I do to help my drake and gander have baby ducklings?" She was quite disturbed as I explained that she had a male duck and a male goose, and that having baby ducklings from a combination of this sort would be rather difficult.

A woman from Toluca Lake called one day and said that she had a solution to the problem of dogs digging holes in her back yard. She said that her dog used to dig holes that all but ruined the plants and grass in the back yard. Her solution: use the garden hose and fill the freshly-dug holes with water. Then she said, "I take my dog and stick his head under water until he blows bubbles. Then I pull him out of the water and say, 'Don't you ever dig in this spot again!'" Mr. Bracken and I felt that this sounded a bit harsh, so he said to the lady, "Madame, how many water-filled holes are there in your back yard?" "Oh," she answered, "there are water holes all over the yard, but he never digs in the same place after my treatment."

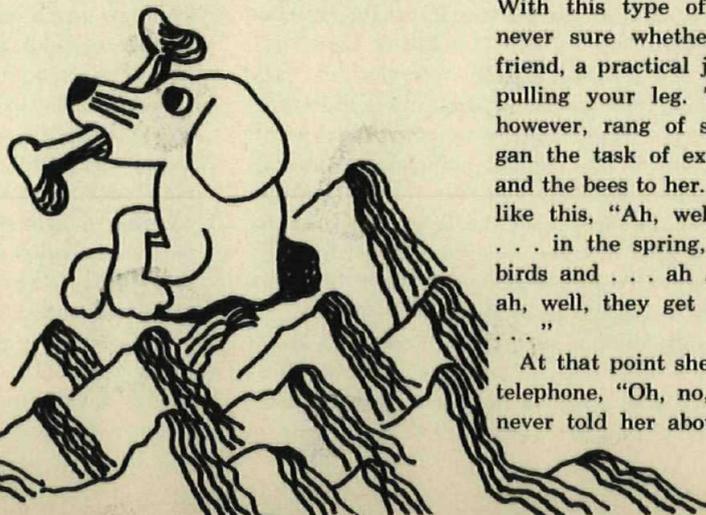
As the woman hung up, Mr. Bracken remarked, "Well, it's true that the dog didn't dig again in the same spot, he just moved over a foot and dug a new hole." We both hoped that the dog was a spaniel or a water retriever of some type.

Once a young gentleman called and

asked, "Where can I find a fertilized green duck egg?" He said he wanted to sit on the egg and hatch it! As the hatched duckling emerged from the egg, the duckling would see the man and "imprint" on him. Imprinting means that the duckling would think that the man was his mother and would follow him all over the house, quacking happily. Our first reaction to this call was to guffaw loudly. But stifling our laughs, we tried to give the caller a serious answer. We directed him to the State Fish and Game Commission, which just might know of a fertilized green duck egg that was looking for a foster mother.

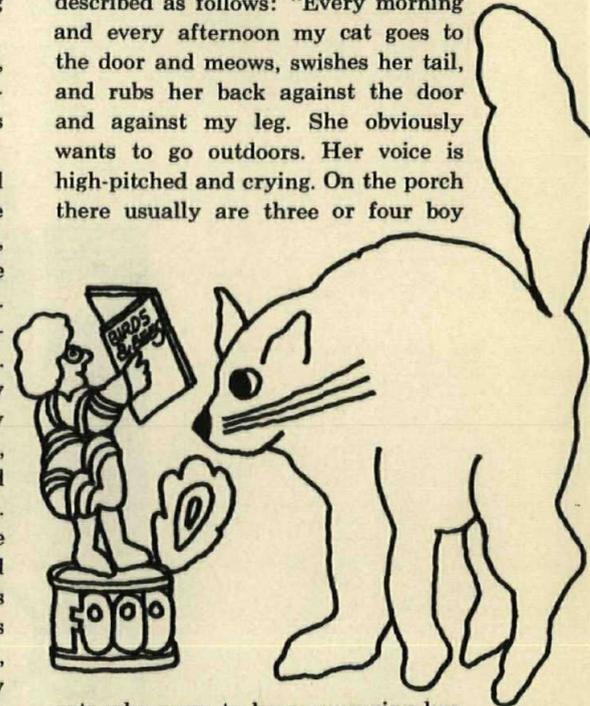
The program was service oriented, but even so many of the calls flabbergasted us and probably our listeners as well.

On yet another day, emotion and sadness entered our studio via the telephone line. A very young girl, from whose voice we judged to be about 6 or 7 years of age, called. In her childish voice she said, "Doctor, I've just come home from school. My mommy's not home, and my baby kitten is lying in the box very sick. She's not breathing very well, there is yellow stuff in her nose and eyes, and she feels very warm to me. What can I do?" Everything in the studio control room stopped, as we all felt empathy and sympathy for this child and her sick pet. The symptoms sounded like terminal cat distemper, so I explained to her that her kitty had a very bad disease. I added that her kitty may go to kitty heaven very soon, and that she must be a brave girl. I also told her that if the kitty did die and go to heaven it would be in good hands, since God loves all kittens, sick or well. I had no sooner finished speaking when the child said, "Doctor, my kitty is not breathing any more. Thank you very much,"



and hung up. A commercial had been scheduled for that time, but Mr. Bracken cancelled it while we all paused and regained our composure and what was left of our hearts and voices before we again turned to answering calls.

Another call that sticks in my memory came from a lady in Downey. We judged her to be middle-aged or older. She said that she lived alone in a small home, and that her only companion was an eight-month old female cat. She asked us to help her with her serious problem, which she described as follows: "Every morning and every afternoon my cat goes to the door and meows, swishes her tail, and rubs her back against the door and against my leg. She obviously wants to go outdoors. Her voice is high-pitched and crying. On the porch there usually are three or four boy

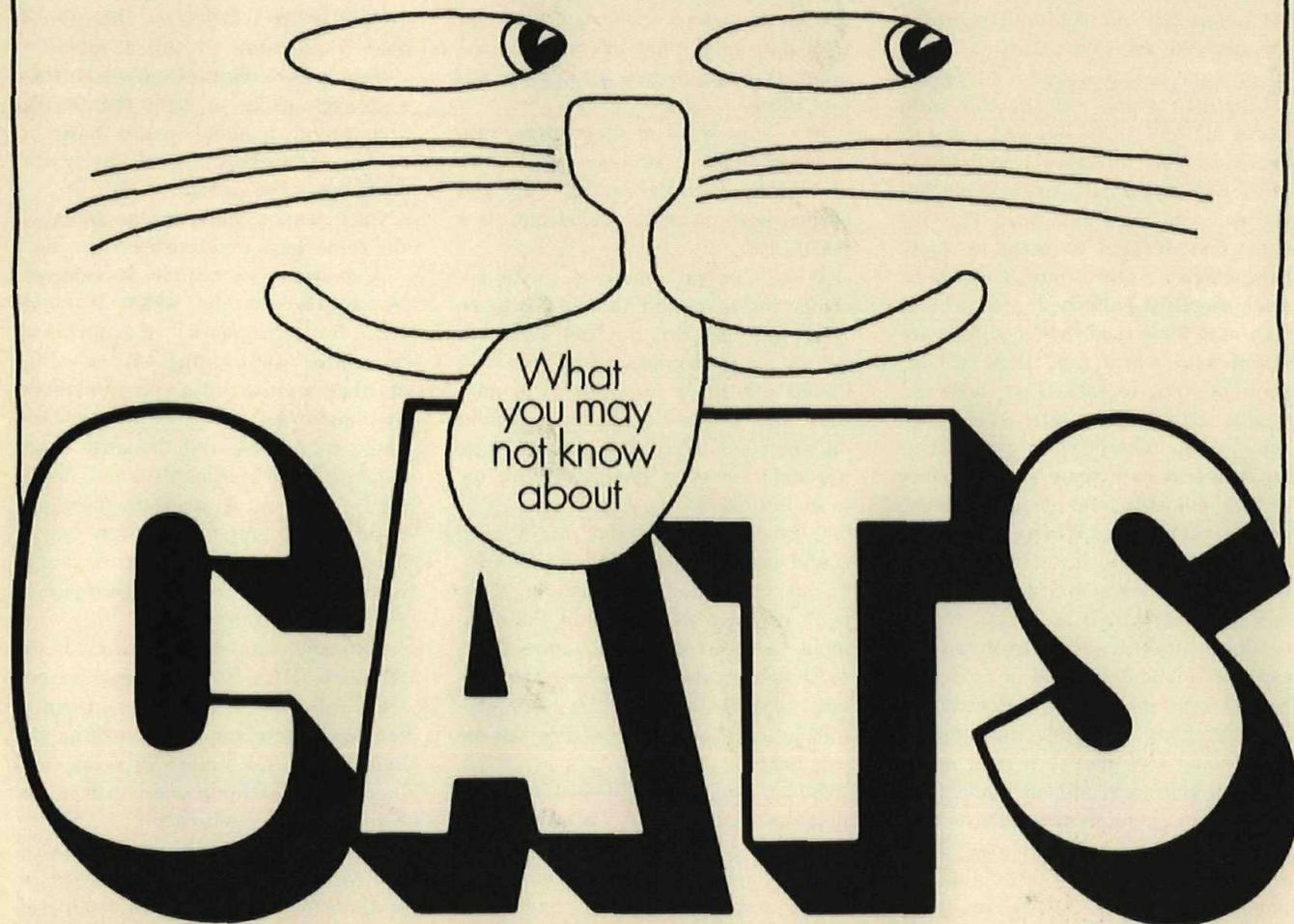


cats who seem to be encouraging her. Now, I'm sure, that my Fluffy just wants to go out and play in the park with the other cats. But, can you tell me, please, why is she acting so strangely all of a sudden?"

Mr. Bracken had his hand over his mouth, fighting back his hysteria. He slipped me a scribbled note that read, "You're on your own when you tell this woman that her cat is in heat!" With this type of question, one is never sure whether the caller is a friend, a practical joker, or a relative pulling your leg. This lady's voice, however, rang of sincerity, so I began the task of explaining the birds and the bees to her. It went something like this, "Ah, well, ah, . . . m'am . . . in the spring, you see . . . the birds and . . . ah . . . the bees . . . ah, well, they get together . . . and . . ."

At that point she shrieked into the telephone, "Oh, no, not my cat. I've never told her about THAT!"

Some facts to help you better understand your feline pet



By LEON F. WHITNEY, D.V.M. *Author of "Training You to Train Your Cat"*

Search as one will through all the published studies of psychologists, one derives the distinct impression that cats have been studied less than any other common species of animal. We know vastly more about rats than we do about cats. Even raccoons and monkeys have been studied far more in proportion to their economic importance.

But patient psychologists have devoted many years to giving us such information as the following:

Cats are color blind. They can see only black and white shades, as we see an ordinary photograph. They can distinguish degrees of brightness clearly, however.

Cats can distinguish small forms and can differentiate between squares, triangles, and circles accurately.

They do not like uncommonly bright

lights; they prefer shade or semi-darkness.

They get more pleasure from eating and drinking than from any other acts in life, so says a scientist after making two hundred experiments to test their reactions.

Unlike puppies, each kitten has its own teat on the mother's belly and does not change from one to another.

Many cats nurse their young until and after full growth. It is not unusual to see a grandma cat nursing her grown kitten which in turn is nursing her kittens. But Grandma refuses to nurse her grandkittens.

From birth until three weeks of age, the mother cat initiates suckling by the kittens. From three to six weeks of age either the mother or the kittens initiate suckling. After six weeks it is up to the kittens. Cats do not

produce milk until the kittens begin to nurse; then the mother manufactures it during the nursing process. (This is so with all species, even cattle.)

Cats vary greatly in their abilities to solve problems. There are some much "smarter" than others. In some studies, there were some cats almost incapable of learning to do things which other cats learned quickly.

Cats learn a little watching other cats learning, but their ability in this respect is very limited.

Sleeping cats probably dream, as may be deduced by watching their eyes, ears, vibrissae and leg muscles twitch.

You have heard of the cat's whiskers. The real name is vibrissae. And few persons understand what an important organ of touch they are.

Everyone knows that a cat measures the size of an opening it can crawl through by the vibrissae. And everyone is wrong because most cats can negotiate much smaller openings than the whiskers measure. These hairs are almost like radio antennae; they receive impressions of objects ahead so clearly that blind cats can get about without colliding provided the vibrissae are intact. But cut them off and the cats are almost helpless.

Cats can stand considerable rain and some love to go out and get wet. Some cats do their best mousing on rainy nights. Do cats instinctively kill and eat wild mice and rats? This instinct has seemed to intrigue many psychologists, and there have been some excellent published observations. You may have read that if kittens are raised with white rats, they will always be kind to rats. This, however, applies only to the rats with which they were raised. One explanation for it is that both come to smell more or less alike, the rat acquiring some of the cat's odor. When kittens are raised to maturity in isolation, about half will kill rats and mice without any learning.

When cats are raised in a rat-killing environment such as a barn, before the kittens are four months old, most of them are killing rats or mice of the kind they had seen their mothers kill, and some kill all kinds.

Grown, hungry cats behave very differently toward strange rats. They will eat baby rats and gray rats but not white rats, if they were raised with white rats. However, they will eat white rats which have been shaved.

If cats are non-killers and are kept with cats that are killers, the non-killers soon become killers just from watching the others.

The more kittens are handled during the first month of life, the more precocious they are. Kittens left entirely alone are less likely to be as satisfactory pets when they're grown.

Cats do not have territories as many other species have. Song birds have their territories and sing to tell other birds of their species to keep away. Dogs have their territories which they protect when able to do so. Cats, on the other hand, roam everywhere.

Cats and dogs seem to supplement each other's wants in neighborhoods. The flight instinct of cats is stimulated by dogs, and the chasing in-

stinct of dogs by cats. Each gets certain enjoyment from the presence of the other.

Cats and dogs, though natural antagonists, develop mutual tolerance for one another; even wild cats and dogs do so in time. Both are natural predators, the cat for rodents and birds, the dog of the same and larger species including the cat. But when they find they must tolerate one another through propinquity, they adjust nicely.

Not only does a cat's pulse rate increase when it becomes emotionally excited by a dog's barking; the red corpuscle count in the blood increases markedly.

When one cat among a group becomes the dominant individual, there is no fighting. But put the dominant cat in another group which has also sorted out itself in order of dominance and you will surely have a fight on your hands. In this respect, cats are reminiscent of groups of boys (or even adults).

Cats can localize the origin of a sound far better than human beings.

Not all white, blue-eyed, or pink-eyed cats are deaf, despite the commonly held opinion. But some yellow-eyed white cats are. Before any cat-owner condemns a cat for being stupid, he or she should be sure the cat can hear.

Some students believe they have detected extrasensory perception in cats.

Cats have three types of vocalizing: (1) murmurs or sounds made with closed mouths (purring); (2) basic vowel sounds starting with the mouth open and gradually becoming closed; (3) sounds made with the mouth held open in one position. Cats may seem to talk because the sounds vary in intensity. They definitely can make their wants known.

Cats are more repetitious than many other species. In escaping from puzzle boxes in laboratory studies, once a cat learns that by touching a certain lever it can escape, it constantly repeats this movement, rather than attempt to use other levers. The cat's learning is the acquisition of new signals for action by associating signal and act.

Cats love to pull strings, even shoelaces and yarn, which can be used as the basis of ingenious experiments and tricks. Why don't cat-owners arrange doorbells with strings for the

cat to pull when it wants to come in?

In a crude way, cats can exhibit some foresight, and they have good memories.

Cats can be taught to be highly competitive. They will race for a goal such as food. Who ever heard of a cat race? But it might be fun. Imagine ten cats racing after a stuffed mouse around a fifty-yard track, like Greyhounds pursuing a stuffed rabbit!

Cats under conditions of weightlessness are unable to right themselves, and thus float about in any position. A man can right himself by visual cues, but a cat cannot.

Cats can be made insane in much the same ways as human beings can.

A neurotic cat exhibits its neurosis by chronic anxiety, which it manifests by restlessness, trembling, crouching, and hiding; it is easily startled, and its pulse and respiration are disturbed. The latter are not likely to be observed. Because a cat exhibits these actions does not necessarily mean it is neurotic, however; it may be frightened in a new environment. The neurotic cat does not recover quickly from its neurosis as a frightened animal will.

Neurotic cats do not want to be handled. Hungry neurotics become more refractive if one pushes them to the food container. Even making the animal fast for longer intervals and increasing the hunger drive does not help overcome neurosis.

Cats may be made alcoholic. Alcohol will disorganize newly learned responses. Neurotic cats will often seek alcoholic drinks which they have learned will ameliorate their neuroses.

The ability of cats to discriminate odors and tastes is probably similar to the order of human ability, which is probably just as well, especially for those living in human civilizations. Compared with dogs in these respects cats hardly recognize odors that to dogs are powerful.

A catta (author's term for female cat) comes in heat several times a year. If she does not copulate, she goes out of heat and shortly comes in again and again.

A dog with rabies will make its condition evident, by its actions, especially its boldness, but a rabid cat will usually go off and hide. It will attack other animals at times. It may bite cows in barns or may hide under a sofa and attack the ankle of a person who sits on it.

Attention they receive compares with that accorded our fighting men

SUPERB HEALTH CARE FOR

VIETNAM WAR DOGS

By JIM WEBER (SSG)

Jungle warfare is a struggle in which the slightest advantage for one side or the other often means victory or defeat. To help tip these scales in their favor, U.S. forces fighting in Vietnam employ war dogs to assist in essential scouting and sentry duties. In this way, man's best friend has become an extension of the soldier's natural senses.

To provide trained dogs for these important duties, extensive programs have been devised to educate dogs as sentries, scouts, trackers, and now even to sniff out tunnels and those

many ever-threatening booby traps.

With this greatly increased use of dogs, research and techniques in the field of veterinary medicine has proportionally expanded to meet the challenge of maintaining the health of these valuable animals. There are many good reasons for taking good care of the dogs. One is financial consideration. A healthy German shepherd or Labrador retriever costs upwards of \$150. It takes roughly six months to train him while he consumes enough food to get the 5,000 calories a day he requires. Each dog repre-

sents an estimated investment of \$5,000 by the time he arrives for duty in Vietnam.

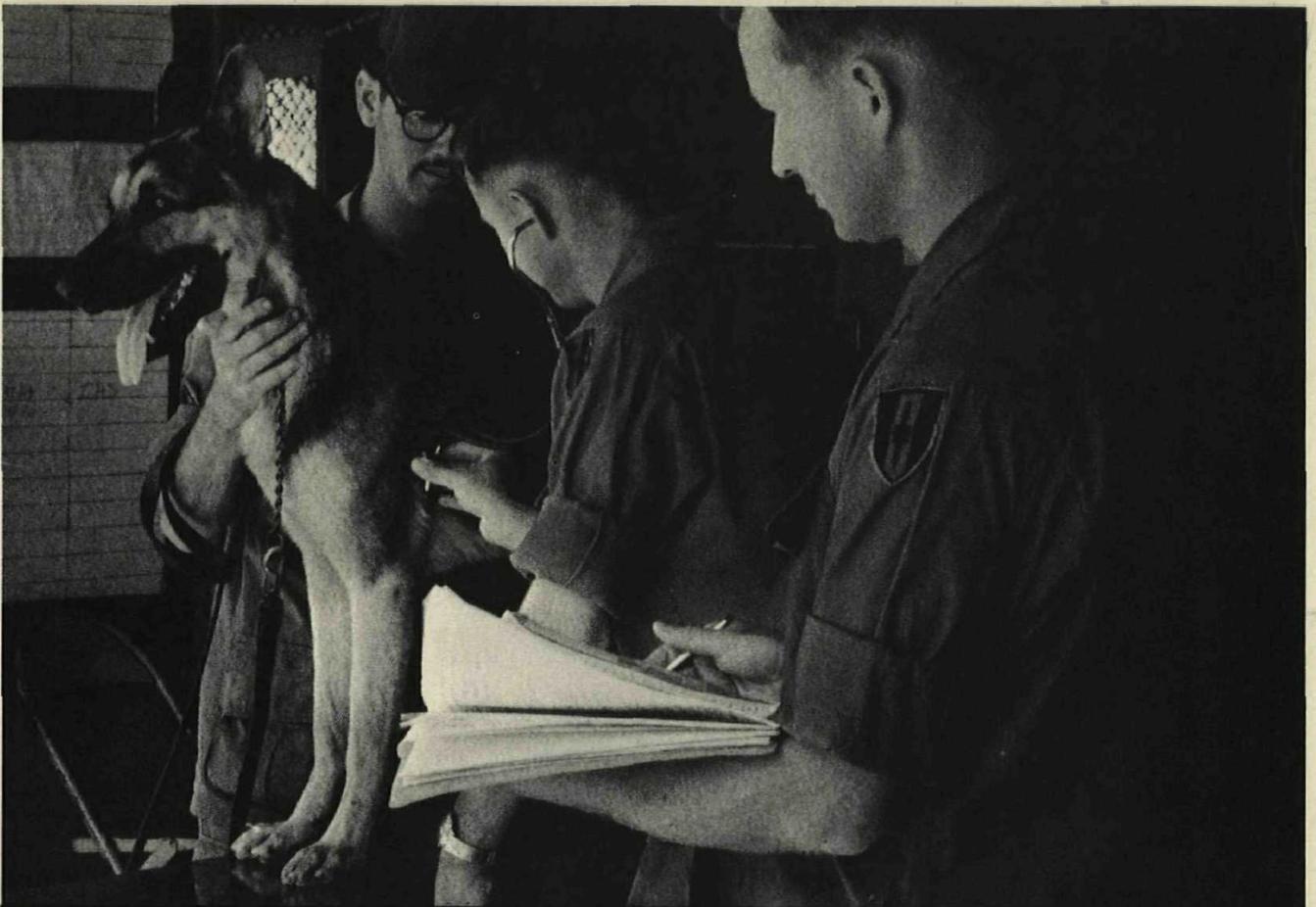
Medical care for canines parallels that of the soldiers he protects. He is treated for skin problems; heatstrokes, cut feet (paws), and when he grows old, kidney problems and occasionally heart attacks.

In Vietnam, care for an Army war dog is provided by three important individuals: the veterinarian, the veterinary technicians, and the dog's handler. Their concern for these dogs begins as soon as a new dog disembarks from the plane at Bien Hoa Air Base, the main port of entry. There he is met by a member of a local veterinary detachment. He is removed from his metal cage and

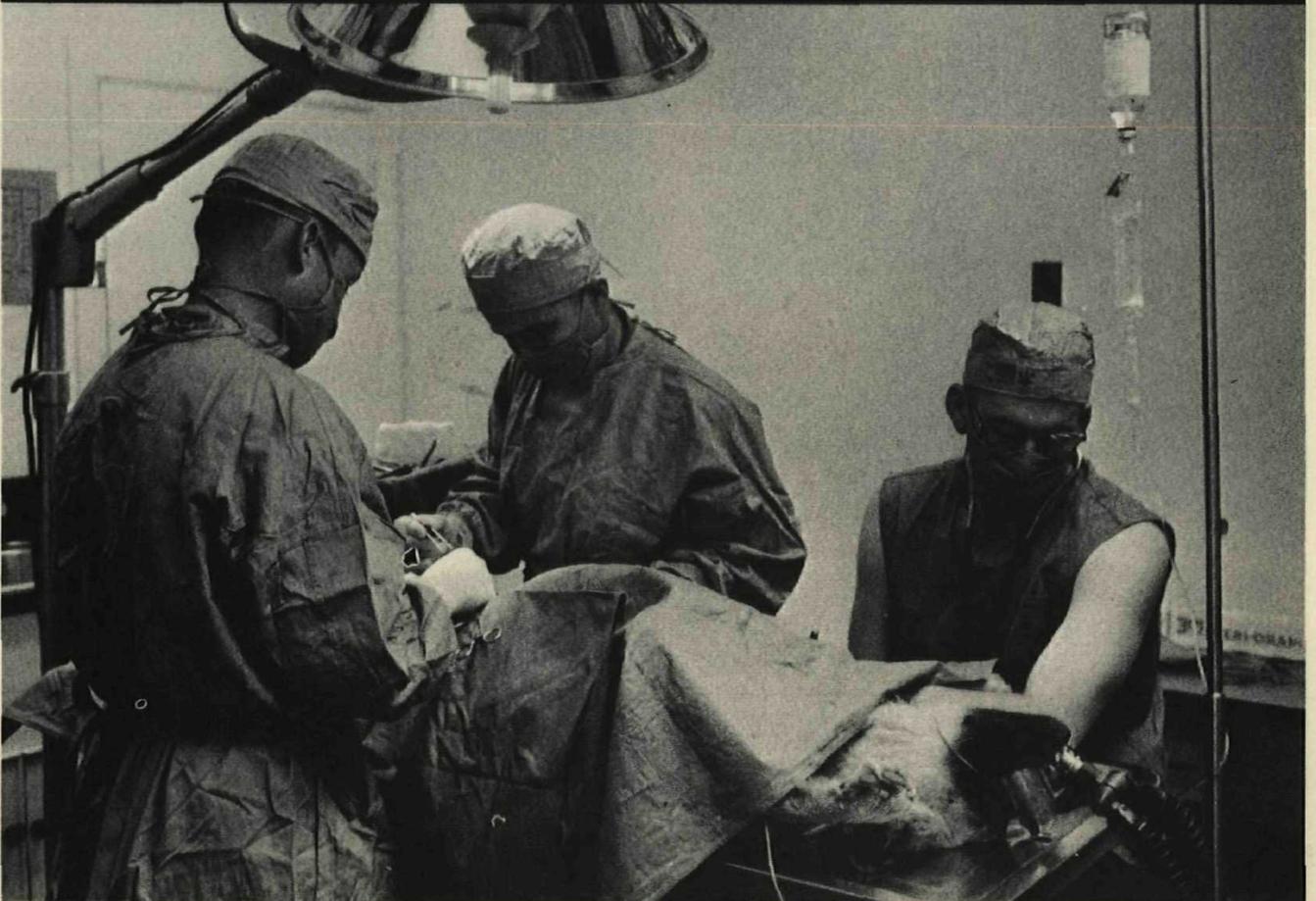
immediately subjected to similar in-processing procedures experienced by soldier replacements.

He receives an entry physical examination and his medical records are checked to determine the need for any additional vaccinations. From the airport the dog is transported to the United States Army Vietnam Dog Training Detachment at Bien Hoa where he finds a temporary home in one of the 104 kennels.

This is where he is first introduced to his new handler who will train with him for two weeks to determine if the two can function as a team. The dog soon learns that he has just been introduced to a most important man who will insure his care. As famili-



Here (top) a war dog receives a complete physical at the Army's 936th Veterinary Detachment at Long Binh. Below, a war dog undergoes surgery to repair a broken leg.



U. S. Army photos by PFC John Pore

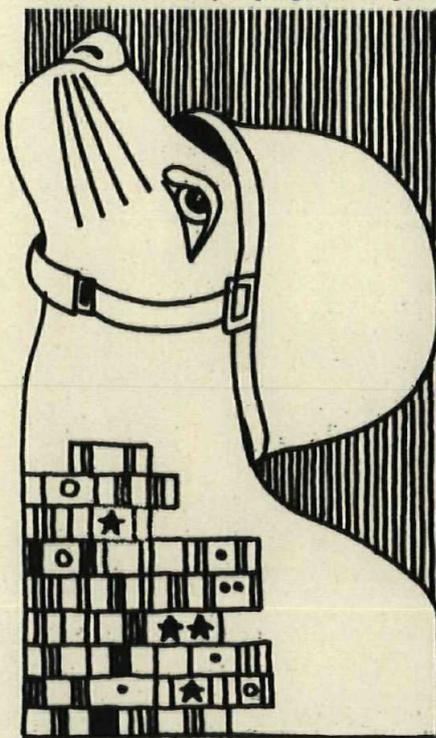
arity grows, knowledge of the dog's peculiarities, characteristics and capabilities enables the handler to view his dog's performance with a critical eye. Thus, initial medical service for a war dog is that care provided by his handler — grooming, daily checking of the dog's ears, teeth and paws, and general hygiene. Of equal importance is the handler's ability to spot trouble. Perhaps his dog is not displaying his normal alertness; he may be working at a slower pace; or he may be seeking shade more frequently. All of these clues tell the handler that the dog needs attention.

What if the dog and his handler are out working in the jungle and the animal begins to lose his effectiveness? The handler will take these steps depending on the circumstances. If the dog is showing signs of heat-stroke for example, the handler will stop the operation to inform the team leader that a rest period is necessary. When tactical operations prevent this, both dog and handler are pulled to the rear of the element and continue at the dog's pace. In the event the dog is disabled, either by a combat inflicted wound or by one of the many disablers in the field such as thorns, snakebites or leeches, the handler will immediately apply first aid. When a dog is injured to such a degree that he must be removed from the field, he is "dusted off," or medically evacuated by helicopter just like a soldier. Depending on the seriousness of the injury the dog will either be evacuated to a main animal hospital or to the platoon's veterinary dispensary, where second echelon medical care is performed.

Assigned to every infantry scout dog platoon in Vietnam is a veterinary technician. He is to the animal what a medic is to the foot soldier and the dispensary in which he works is much the same as an out-patient clinic for soldiers. Whether the animal is brought from the field to the platoon's rear area because of a minor injury or because of normal work rotation (the dogs generally spend no more than three or four days in the field at one time), the veterinary technician is there to perform minor treatment, applying ointments and dressings, and performing the many preventive medicine-type functions that keep the dogs healthy and working. Since the animal's medical records are kept by the veterinary technician at the pla-

toon's dispensary, a constant surveillance of the dog's medical history can be made. "Shot" records are kept up to date and a laboratory check sheet for each animal assures each dog of getting the all-important medical attention he needs. The dog's weight is checked twice a month; eye tests are performed monthly; temperatures are taken daily; and constant screenings keep tab on the dog's white blood cell count. In addition, fecal screens and Knotts tests are conducted to determine the dog's worm count.

Supervising the veterinary technician in the Army's program of pre-



ventive care is the veterinarian. He provides emergency and routine care on an area basis, usually supervising the medical operation of two or three scout or tracker dog platoons in his area. Operating in much the same manner as a country doctor, the veterinarian makes weekly, and in some cases, daily visits to his dog platoon dispensaries. And it is not at all uncommon for a veterinarian to be called from bed in the middle of the night to perform emergency surgery on a wounded animal.

In a situation where extensive surgery and prolonged treatment is deemed necessary, the field veterinarian and his platoon dispensary is replaced by the highest level of medical care—the animal hospital. The 936th Veterinary Detachment operated at Long Binh and the 176th at

Cam Ranh Bay have the same capabilities and equipment for animals that regular hospitals have for humans. They have emergency treatment areas, x-ray capabilities, laboratories, pharmacies and operating rooms. Complementing these facilities are a well equipped kennel and exercise area where recuperating patients get their daily work-out prior to returning to the field.

Among the more common operations performed in the animal hospital are those to pin broken bones, repair fractured jaws, treat fragment wounds, and replace or cap teeth. On one occasion last year a cornea transplant was performed on a sentry dog with cataracts. The dog has since returned to duty.

General medical and surgical disorders provide still another major category of problems. A characteristic of the German shepherd is his tendency to develop fatty tumors under the skin. When detected, these tumors must be removed surgically, a procedure which removes the dog from duty for several days. More important are diseases such as leukemia, hepatitis, and the various kidney problems that plague older dogs. These are treated with drugs, antibiotics or even blood transfusions as the case dictates.

Perhaps the most significant medical problem affecting war dogs in Vietnam is IHS, or idiopathic hemorrhagic syndrome, a bleeding disorder that has killed a number of dogs in recent months. Field samples are currently being gathered from both affected and non-affected dogs in Vietnam and sent to the Army's Walter Reed Hospital. One clue has arisen from the mass of research so far is that the disease appears to be tick borne. Army medical personnel continue research to find a cure to this deadly disease.

Time, training and money—these are the ingredients that prepare a war dog for his job. Expert medical care—from preventive medicine to complicated surgery; from the lowest level of medical attention to the highest—this is what keeps these dogs on the job. Is it worth it? Any handler will tell you that when a scout dog doing his job saves even one human life, he has more than fulfilled his mission in Vietnam and earned the highest respect from his two-legged soldier counterpart.

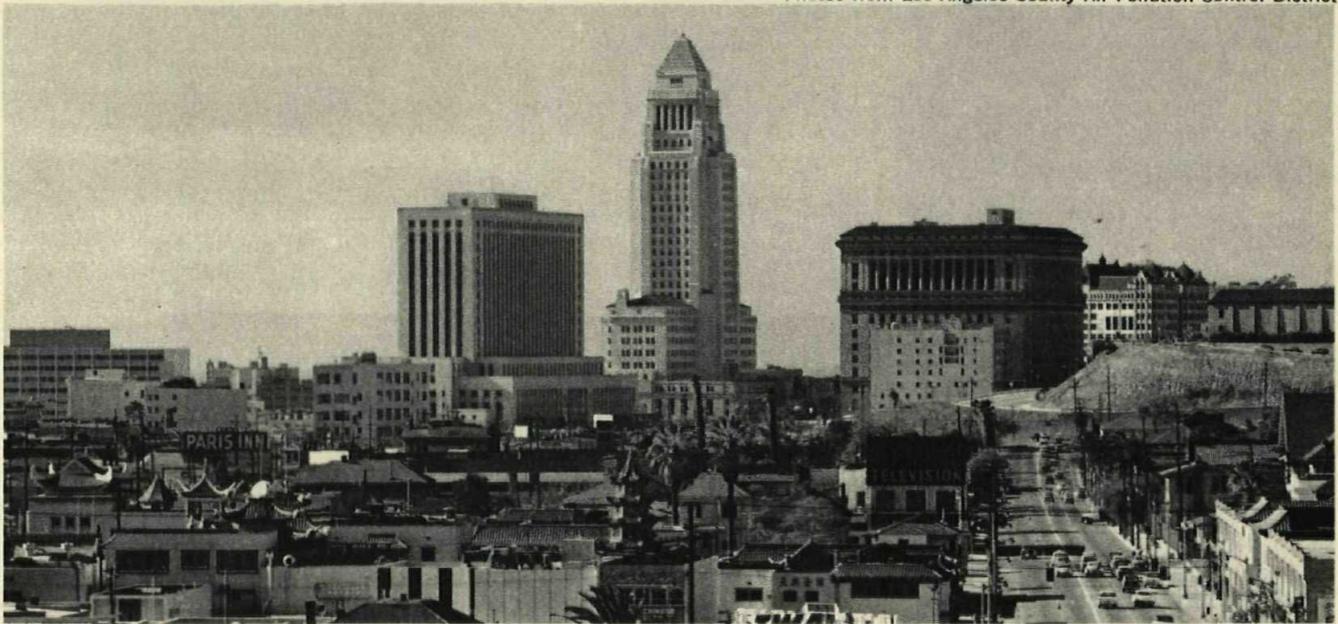
*Everything—and more—foreseen
by Rachel Carson in her
SILENT SPRING is coming to pass*

**THE
LITTLE
LADY
WAS**

B R E A K I N G



Photos from Los Angeles County Air Pollution Control District



View of Los Angeles on a clear day.

Only lately have the alarmed cries of ecologists and biologists reached sufficient volume to be heard by the press, a few concerned citizens and a number of politicians. These scientists are telling those who will listen that mankind, in fact, does have a subtle, almost invisible, power to destroy all life on earth.

Some say it is already too late to stop the collapse of the ecosystem. Others predict that within a generation, unless immediate action is taken, all living things, with the possible exception of man and a few other hardy and highly adaptable forms of life, will have vanished.

One scientist in fatalistic terms describes a controversy in the circles of conservationists, ecologists and biologists as being between the optimists who predict that by the year 2000 trees and other plant and animal life will be only memories, and the pessimists who say there will be no living thing able to exist on earth in 30 years.

What will bring about this ecological doom? More and more blame is being laid to man's increasing dependence on and use of chemicals, the resultant pollutions, and especially to the widespread, indiscriminate use of chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticides, like DDT.

But these prophets of ecological di-

saster are waging the fight without the voice of one of their first and finest leaders, Rachel Carson, whose book *Silent Spring* eight years ago carried warnings of the predicament mankind is facing today.

Silent Spring, published in 1962, predicted this peculiarly modern crisis, and along with its biological warning was the insistence that technological man could prevent a catastrophe if he would but pause and take stock of his works and contamination of the environment.

Her message was taken seriously and heeded by a few fellow scientists, but for the most part it met with ridicule, protest and harsh criticism. Controversy continued for Rachel Carson until her death in 1964, but even as the arguments against her claims raged on, these small numbers of concerned scientists and citizens took up her banner in increasing numbers, particularly when evidence that she was right started accumulating with frightening frequency.

One such standard bearer is Frank Graham, Jr., conservation author and a field director of Audubon magazine. In his recently published *Since Silent Spring*, he describes the controversy brought on by *Silent Spring*, the effects on the quiet woman who wrote it, and what has taken place since its publication.

Graham is an unabashed admirer and defender of Rachel Carson, and lashes out with little mercy at her critics in industrial and scientific circles. The book, he says, was attacked on much the same grounds that, a century before, Louis Agassiz had challenged Darwin's *Origin of the Species*: 'A scientific mistake, untrue in its facts, unscientific in its method, and mischievous in its tendencies'."

That *Silent Spring* was able to survive and become an American classic and oft-quoted ecological reference, Graham feels, is because of the skill of the prominent scientists and conservationists who spoke out in its favor.

Graham relates the gallant efforts of the book's and lady's defenders, but he reserves special enthusiasm for an assault of high venom on Miss Carson's fellow scientists who joined the battle against her by either defending industry or by judging her work as unscientific, a hoax or the emotional rantings of a faddist.

This latter accusation particularly disturbed her, according to Graham, because she had as a scientist always questioned the pseudo-scientific approach made by food faddist, health quacks and other cultists. "Inevitably, she was made uncomfortable by those semi-mystical groups which detect a murderous intent behind any use of

modern chemicals," Graham wrote.

He quotes James Westman, Chairman of the Department of Wildlife Conservation at Rutgers University, as comparing the danger of DDT to that of alcohol, and dismissing them both by saying, ". . . since we have become familiar with their properties, we have had no fear of using them to suit our needs and purposes." To this Westman added "Amen". This sort of comment, says Graham, makes Rachel Carson look very good today.

Rachel Carson allowed most attacks to pass over her head. One incident, however, upset her because the criticism came from a scientist she respected. A. W. A. Brown, a zoologist at the University of Western Ontario, said "individuals concerned with wildlife work, having a vested interest in opposing pesticides and pressured her into taking an extreme position." This was profitable for Miss Carson, he suggested, but hard "on some 'competent public servants' who had to pay for it all."

Other scientists, including many doctors, nutritionists and conservationists, refuted statements she had never made, Graham writes. He points out what any thorough reading of *Silent Spring* reveals, that what Miss Carson was questioning were the overall methods used in the war against insect-borne diseases, she did not rule out the use of pesticides in all cases.

Graham reviews the concluding chapters of *Silent Spring* wherein she calls for extensive research into the longterm effects of the chemicals on all forms of life, including man. She wrote that to restrict this massive infusion of chemicals into the environment will require the development and application of alternate methods of pest control. She called for more selective use of pest controls and weed killers, and was especially interested in biological controls such as artificially introduced insect diseases, predators and sterilizers.

Graham says again and again that what Miss Carson advocated was not the complete abandonment of chemical pesticides, but rather directed her attack at the long-lasting chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticides whose movement through the environment cannot be contained and whose residues, being fat soluble, are stored in animal tissues and recycled through food chains.

Her final words on this were, "I contend . . . that we have allowed these chemicals to be used with little or no advance investigation of their effect on soil, water, wildlife and man, himself. Future generations are unlikely to condone our lack of prudent concern for the integrity of the natural world that supports all life."

In *Since Silent Spring*, Graham points out that the spark of interest and concern set off by Rachel Carson led to second thoughts about the use of man-made chemicals and subsequent investigations into the dangers to life. The flow of funds and the pace of research toward alternate controls were speeded by her book.

But, today one needs to read the daily newspaper or view an occasional television program to realize that the warnings put forth by Rachel Carson were right. We need but visit the seashore to see for ourselves that the California brown pelican has all but disappeared and the tide pools are ominously empty of living forms. The destruction of both has been traced directly to the pesticides Rachel Carson talked about.

Graham titled his final chapter *A Light at the End of the Road*. In this section he describes some of the accomplishments made in research and the legislation enacted banning or partially prohibiting the use of these toxic chemicals. The reader, however, gets the feeling that Graham's, and perhaps mankind's only light at the end of the road is the fact that Rachel Carson has been vindicated. Perhaps, correctly, this is the reason for his book. But neither his or other reviews of this dilemma offer much reason for hope or joy when individuals contemplate the future.

Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* was intended to shock man into action. It is apparent eight years later this was not enough. Daily reports about the existence of cancer in commercially consumed fish and evidence of DDT in mother's milk seem to get little but passing attention. Perhaps mankind and his environment must die on a large scale before action is taken.

But, by then, will it be too late for anything or the heeding of any words but the ghost of Rachel Carson saying "I told you so"?

Who was Rachel Carson? Was she qualified to make such pronouncements and judgments? Was it a co-

incidence that she was proven right?

She was that rare combination of poet and scientist. She had the gentle soul of a nature-poet, and the keen, inquiring, methodical mind of a scientist. She had that special ability of quiet people to make loud, bustling people uncomfortable.

Although admittedly a slow writer who enjoyed the pursuit of research far more than the drudgery of turning out a manuscript, her joy of all nature was such that she was compelled to convey her findings and thoughts to others.

Her other books include *Under the Sea Wind*, published in 1941, *The Sea Around Us*, published in 1951 and *The Edge of the Sea*, in 1955. Each effort received considerable critical acclaim and made her a literary celebrity.

Born in Pennsylvania, she entered the Pennsylvania State College for Women intending to become a writer, but finished as a biology major. Following receipt of a master's degree in biology from the Marine Biological Laboratory in Massachusetts, she became a teacher until the Depression forced her to give up this career for a position with the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries, now part of the Fish and Wildlife Service. She continued work as a biologist until demands of her writing and family responsibilities made it more practical to devote her full time to her studies and books.

The undertaking of her final book *Silent Spring* was prompted by a letter from a friend living in Massachusetts. The friend described the shocking occurrence of planes spraying the marshes, ponds and fields of the area in which she lived as part of a mosquito control program. The planes repeatedly crisscrossed the area, dousing everything in their paths.

Miss Carson was horrified by the incident, but was equally appalled by the justifications offered by both industry and the government for the unrestricted use of these chemicals.

She became convinced that man was, more and more, approaching the earth not with humility but with arrogance. She began assembling evidence of the havoc of man and preparing for the undertaking that ultimately made her a controversial, yet important contributor to and defender of the earth, the sea and animal life she knew and loved.

*Parakeets still the most
popular of cage birds*

During the past 35 years, parakeets, those magical "little people" that talk, whistle and perform acrobatics have fascinated millions of Americans.

Although the boom, which peaked in the 1950's, has leveled off, shell parakeets or budgerigars (budgies for short) are still the most popular cage birds.

They were originally brought from Australia, where, in their wild state, they're green with yellow heads and black barred wings. But through selective breeding all the beautiful shades and combinations of blues, yellows, greens and solid white have been developed. One very popular shade right now is turquoise.

At the height of their popularity there were an estimated 30 million pet parakeets in American homes. One book on their care sold five million copies.

Owners, with the enthusiasm of young mothers talking baby formulas, discussed their bird's diet, vitamins and conditioners and bragged about their amusing antics and the new words they'd mastered.

One bird I heard about could recite the entire "Lord's Prayer". Another was house-broken — he used ashtrays. A lost parakeet was quickly returned to his owner when he said very distinctly to the people who captured him, "My name is Peter. I live at 1218 Crestview Drive".

As many parakeets die at two or three years of age, some owners think they're short lived. But actually, if properly cared for, they may live up to 20 years. And as some birds never learn to talk or do tricks, some owners get discouraged and lose interest. But this may be due to a wrong start, wrong bird or lack of know-how and patience.

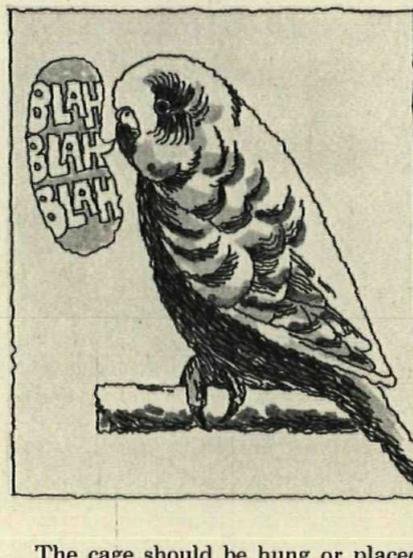
Here's what the experts advise:

If you just want something alive and attractive around, get two parakeets — they'll keep each other company but they'll never talk. But if you want an intelligent, talkative and entertaining little companion, buy only one.

From a reliable dealer select a healthy bird in your favorite color, 6, 7, or 8 weeks old, preferably a male — the best talkers. Provide him with a roomy wire cage with perches, food and water cups with hoods so droppings won't get in them, and removable tray on bottom for easy cleaning.

TALKING OF BUDGIES

By ELOISE KEELER



The cage should be hung or placed on a stand fairly high up and away from heaters and windows as too much heat, cold, draughts, dampness and direct sunlight can be lethal.

Your bird should be given fresh water and fed daily. Many birds starve to death from owners mistaking husks in their cup for seeds. They need a good parakeet mix with millet, oats and canary seed and treat food containing proper seeds, vitamins and conditioners. When you first get your bird put some seeds on cage floor as he may not find them immediately in the food cup.

As your bird grows older some greens should be added to his diet such as romaine lettuce, celery, carrot and beet tops (but not head lettuce or parsley).

He'll also need some form of mineral grit to keep his beak from becoming overgrown. For this cuttle bone should be placed inside the cage near the perch. A hard boiled egg shell without any egg left on it is

also good for him to peck. And he'll enjoy pecking at a millet spray.

Ask your pet supply dealer about the different seeds, treats and conditioners available for parakeets.

Special paper should be placed on the cage floor and sprinkled with gravel for parakeets. The paper should be changed and cage cleaned several times a week. Perches should be scraped. If washed they should be thoroughly dried before being put back in cage as damp perches can cause rheumatism.

Once a month both bird and cage should be sprayed for mites. (Avoid spraying eyes.)

To tame and train your bird, move very slowly and quietly around him. Never frighten him. While feeding and caring for him, talk to him softly. And as he gets to know you, after about a week, put your hand in the cage. Keep doing this for several days until he gets used to your hand. Then place your index finger under his feet. Soon he should step on your finger or on a perch you hold out to him.

After a few days you may be able to take him out of the cage . . . but be sure all doors and windows are closed.

When you get him to stay on your finger without flying away, it's time to teach him to talk.

Decide what you want him to say . . . "Pretty bird" . . . or "I can talk," "Can you fly?" or "Birds are for ecology!" Parakeets can learn difficult as well as simple phrases — if you repeat each phrase over and over, very slowly and distinctly and in rather a loud voice. And don't start on a new phrase until your bird has mastered the first. Some say it's easier for women than for men to teach them, as women's voices are higher.

Practice for as long as you can hold your bird's interest without tiring him — about 10 to 15 minutes three times a day. The owner who described this technique taught her bird to repeat some 80 phrases, many of them complicated such as "the nearest galaxy of stars is 100 million light years away."

The more time and attention you give your bird, the more interesting and responsive he'll become.

Formerly, if a parakeet became ill the best owners could do was to consult a book or the pet dealer who sold them the bird. But now on increasing number of veterinarians are treating birds.

His "home away from home"



Photo by Virginia Kay

Actress June Lockhart, "the cat lady of Brentwood Alley," at the beach with one of her pets



Packing dog's travel needs.



Photo by N. W. Ayer & Son



Photo by author

Secure perch and seed and water cups in bird's traveling quarters.

Are pets in your travel plans?

By ELEANOR PRICE

It's vacation time and an automobile journey is planned. Should your pet go with you or should he be boarded while you are away?

If the pet is prone to chronic car-sickness or if for other reasons it does not seem feasible to include him, try to place him with an animal hospital boarding pets or with someone who will function in conjunction with a veterinarian. This offers an opportunity for the pet to have a physical check-up if need be, and other special attentions.

Dr. Ray Swart, small animal clinician at the Kansas State college of veterinary medicine, has prepared a checklist for pet owners who wish to make the trip for their pets as safe and comfortable as possible. We particularly like these thoughts: The pet should have a general physical examination before the trip, and should receive any necessary immunizations at least two weeks before the trip begins. Tranquilizers can overcome nervousness in the pet, and may also ease the problem of motion sickness. If trouble develops on the road, play it safe and see a veterinarian. He'll be able to handle small problems quickly, and can cope with the major problems before they get out of hand.

With advance preparation, it is possible for almost any healthy pet to travel in a car. Children in the family will be delighted and will worry less than if their pet is left behind. Also,

children will more easily make friends in campgrounds or wherever, as a pet gives youngsters a conversational wedge.

Examination of a car and contents may be made at various places. So before leaving home, have a veterinarian write a note stating the pet is yours (to prove you didn't pick it up illegally along the way), listing identification marks, and certifying the pet is, to the best of his knowledge, in good health and recently has had any needed vaccinations. In some instances, you may need a collector's permit from your state Fish and Game Commission, or a license from the Police Department to own the pet.

Don't attempt to take a pet out of the country unless you are thoroughly aware of regulations covering re-entry of pets.

If possible, the pet should wear an identification tag with a veterinarian's address or that of a friend to whom the pet could be sent if he became lost from his traveling owner.

Every pet needs his own secure quarters. (It is very unnerving when a pet such as a lizard slithers out of sight in a car. It is worse when a turtle gets under the pedals!) Avoid a carrier with solid metal sides, as it holds heat. Don't transport rocks inside the carrier with the pet. In many instances, the carrier can be fitted into a snug cardboard carton to protect the pet from drafts and help insulate him from cold. Be absolutely certain the carton used has not previously been disinfected for roaches. Even faint fumes may kill a pet. Usually a few layers of newspaper can be slid between carrier and carton for extra protection.

Take along the pet's food (at least some of it), large thermos of water, bedding, extra blanket or two, large pieces of cloth, toys, and needed swivel ground screw and chain, an extra leash and collar if the pet wears them, roll of paper towels, roll of aluminum foil, newspapers, and, if possible, an ice chest. For some pets, you may need strips of woolen cloth twice the height of the carrier. Sew them so there are no ravelings. These often come in handy to drape over wires of the carrier lid (pinned securely) to provide extra warmth at night from lid to floor.

If you have no car air conditioning and the weather gets hot, hopefully you can purchase enroute a plastic bag of ice cubes. Wrap it in a layer of aluminum foil, then with cloth. Place it in a corner of the carrier. Sufficient coolness should come through to keep the pet comfortable.

Don't chill a pet with air conditioning. And never leave him in a car parked in sun. Park in shade and roll windows down a short way. (Remember, shade moves.)

At stopovers or your destination, do not heat a car, cabin, tent, or camper with charcoal, as this organic matter uses up oxygen. A heated rock

well covered with aluminum foil and then with cloth securely pinned around it will provide some warmth. Be certain it is not hot to the touch and that the pet isn't the type to nibble through coverings. As long as there is some air to breathe, most pets can be left overnight in covered carriers inside the car. The bathroom of a motel can also be considered.

DOG

In some cases, it is best that a dog not be fed a meal just before embarking. A few white crackers with his evening meal may lessen chances of his having diarrhea in the car next day.

A dog can usually ride on a car seat. Tie his leash to a fastened seat-belt so the pet can't suddenly jump around nor fly forward on quick stops. Don't let him hang his head out the window. You may prefer to keep him in a wire crate with bedding and toys. If air is hot, spray him now and then with water.

Exercise the dog on leash whenever possible. Examine the area first to be certain there are no burrs and pieces of broken glass. Offer drinks of water, but don't let him tank up.

If your destination is a campground, secure the dog to his ground swivel and chain (not a leash he can chew) during the day unless you are walking him on acceptable paths. He can sleep on warm bedding in his crate at night, or with you. Don't let him run free to annoy other campers or to tangle with a possible bear, skunk, or rattlesnake.

CAT

A cat carrier with a handle is the cat's best traveling friend. He should be accustomed to it before a trip. Place it up high enough so he can see out when riding, and cover it somewhat when he looks sleepy. Disposable litter trays and litter are conveniences. When he is not in his carrier, he should wear a figure-eight harness and leash, and be controlled by a capable person.

Never turn him loose in a strange area. You may never see him again, identifications notwithstanding.

Needs of an exotic cat are somewhat similar. The exotic is more easily upset over confusion, and he draws confusion along with the attention of strangers. He also may catch cold easily. Do your best to keep him warm and comfortable.

HAMSTER

Fiberboard is better insulation between the carrier of a hamster and the carton than is newspaper. A hamster can work newspaper into the cage and cover the water tube's spout. Blanket the carton, except for an air hole, if car air conditioner is working.

If daytime temperature is overly warm at a camp area, work up earth in shade and wet it down. Place the pen on the wet spot. Wring out cloths in cold water and drape over the cage.

Should nights be cold, be sure the

pet has ample warm nesting material and a cover over his carton and carrier.

GUINEA PIG

A Guinea pig (Cavy) needs same care as a hamster, except he drinks from a flat-bottomed dish (bird bath will do). He does not climb, so strips of woolen cloth at night will help keep him warm.

RABBIT

A mature rabbit is quite hardy. Carry him in a nonchewable cage inside a carton. Include a water bottle with a plug and nipple. Shredded paper serves as nest box lining. He may appreciate wool strips hanging from his pen when nights are cold, also a blanket over most of his quarters.

Although he won't walk as eagerly as a dog, a rabbit can wear a figure-eight harness and a leash, and be exercised.

BIRD

A bird clings quite easily to a steady perch, but remove any swing in his cage. Lower the cage into a snug carton. If he's a paper shredder, insulate with fiberboard if there is space.

A talking bird will pick up new sounds on a trip and delight you for days to come.

Be certain to keep him out of drafts and cover him against cold at night.

DUCK

A grown duck can travel, but not a baby one. Provide dry bedding and a constant supply of water. If the duck is "imprinted" with a family member, he can be taken out in a safe area and walked around.

He will enjoy playing in mud or damp earth.

MONKEY

A monkey is sensitive to drops in temperature, so try to arrange not to take him on a trip. If you do, train him to a leash, also permit him to cling to your arm at times for security. Keep clothes on him, or at least wrap a piece of blanket around his stomach. Treat as you would a human baby.

FISH

Goldfish can stay home several days in a bathtub full of water. Provide greenery for them to nibble. If possible, have a friend come in to give other food. If you do travel with them, keep water temperature even.

Tropicals are sometimes moved, with the help of an attachment connected to an auto cigarette lighter. As for taking them on trips where temperatures fluctuate, you are courting disaster.

IF DEATH COMES

If a small pet owned by children dies in a campground, its demise will be easier on youngsters if you permit them to have a little funeral to which other campers' children are asked to come. Don't toss the dead creature into the woods with the suggestion children just forget it.

WILD ANIMALS AS PETS

The case for

By Donald R. Collins, D.V.M.

Both the American Veterinary Medical Association and the American Humane Association are on record as opposing the keeping of wild or exotic pets. They argue that most persons who keep wild animals keep them only as status symbols, don't have the emotional stability to cope with such pets, and are totally ignorant of the physical needs of animals from the wild.

While the example most often used is that of the insensitive lady who has everything and buys a cheetah or ocelot as a prestige pet, a more typical example is the youngster who picks up a fledgling bird or baby squirrel and doesn't know how to care for it. The kid isn't trying to impress anyone—all he wants is to satisfy his curiosity and own a living

creature on which to bestow a little of his affection.

Virtually all of us making a career of conservation, display, or control of wildlife began our careers (and our undying love for animals) with a pet squirrel, toad, snake, crow or praying mantis. This urge to make a pet of a wild creature is as natural as growing up. I've always felt, as a naturalist and veterinarian, that my responsibility was not to discourage this normal urge, but to direct it toward the development of love and respect for our natural wilderness and its inhabitants.

Neither books nor second-hand knowledge can substitute for the thrill a youngster experiences on the morning an old mama fox he has followed for 10 days leads him to her den and he gets the first glimpse of what he knows is going to be his new fox puppy. Nor can books describe the experience of seeing a gill-breathing pollywog make that miraculous change into a tiger salamander that breathes air and snaps worms from one's fingers like a miniature bulldog. Who will deny that such experiences increase our appreciation of our natural heritage and our awareness of the importance of conserving every little bit of wilderness we have left?

Continued, top of page 28

The case against

By Frederic L. Frye, D.V.M. and
Jean-Paul E. Cucuel, D.V.M.

For the past three years, we have rendered veterinary medical and surgical services for the owners of exotic pets in our area. Colleagues have been very cooperative in referring such cases to us. Our general policy has been to accept anything that walks, crawls, flies, or swims.

While much can be said in support of Dr. Collins' thesis that the small wild rodent, reptile, or amphibian pet perhaps led many of us to our profession, we feel this circumstance in no way justifies the present drain on such endangered species as the cheetah, ocelot, and margay—to mention only a few. To meet the pet market's present demand for these exotic species, females with cubs are usually shot and their litters taken from the den. The resultant mortality to the

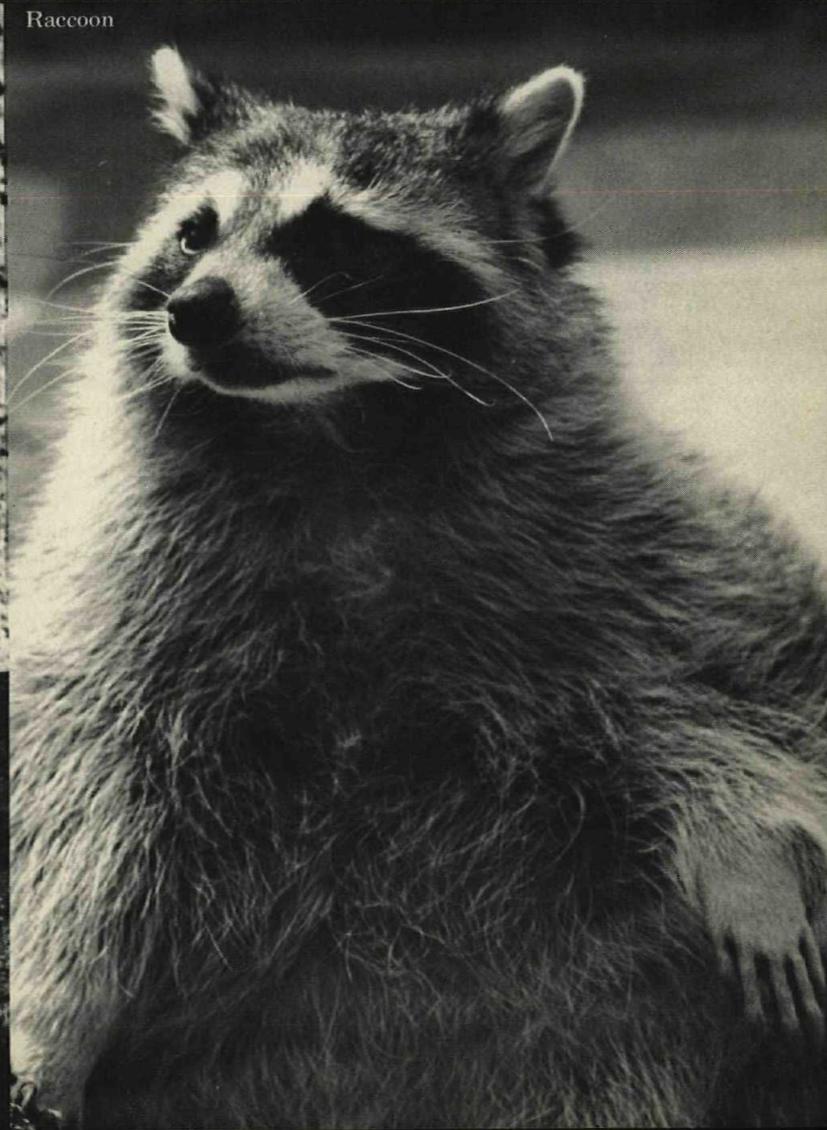
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Capuchin-monkey
Ocelot



Coati-Mundi
Raccoon



The case for

The youngster who raises a fox squirrel or orphan fawn is not likely to grow to be the man who carelessly drops a lighted match in the forest.

Owning a wild animal pet can be an educational experience that creates a sense of responsibility, kindness and consideration which is often greater than that gained from owning a dog or cat. Most important of all, even a child can successfully make a pet of a wild animal. This is not to say that success in keeping a wild pet can be achieved simply by acquiring, caging and taming the animal. Any pet must be cared for constantly. It requires regular feeding, watering, cleaning, environmental control, and proper medical care.

The process of successfully making a pet of a wild animal begins with a quest for information about proper food and housing for that pet, a step which should be completed before any attempt is made to obtain the

pet. By careful study, the owner not only learns what to feed his pet but, in the process, begins to appreciate where that animal fits into nature's scheme. After the types of food required are known, a survey must be made of the sources of such food, as essential food for some wild pets may be available only during certain months of the year. If an adequate supply of proper food cannot be provided at all times, the animal should not be kept in captivity.

A study of the animal's own selection of housing in the wild will help determine what its requirements are in captivity. The owner's capability of meeting these requirements will determine whether the animal should be kept as a pet.

Taming an animal does not mean turning it into a docile, subservient beast without a mind of its own or a threat left in it. Many Brahman bulls are considered tame, but their owners don't caress a bull's ears or kiss it on the muzzle. The taming of a wild animal is the operation of conditioning it to accept the changes which have taken place in its new environment.

The cardinal rule in taming any wild creature is *patience*—both with one's self and the animal. It is im-

possible to tame an animal unless the owner gains its confidence. The wild pet should be attended at least once a day to remind it that it has nothing to fear and to reassure it that no harm will come to it at the hands of its owner. If the pet is amenable to handling, it should be handled daily.

Many keepers of wild animals are not aware of the wild captive's need for occupational activity. The captive animal is denied the many activities associated with finding food, escaping from enemies (to avoid becoming food), finding shelter or water. These activities must be replaced by appropriate exercise or recreation.

Medical attention is a most important element of care. With 18 orders in the class of Mammalia alone, it is unlikely that any veterinarian could, on demand, offer complete medical care for all species. However, a practitioner's obligation is to acquaint himself with at least one colleague who is competent in the field. If the practitioner is in a large city, he probably can refer these patients to someone in the same city. If, however, he lives in a small town, he may wish to familiarize himself with routine immunization schedules and emergency procedures necessary for the commonly seen wild animal pets.

The case against

breeding population is exceeded only by the subsequent morbidity and mortality of the young. It has been estimated that approximately 80% of these cubs die before they ever reach their ultimate destination. Most of the survivors succumb before the end of their first year in captivity as a result of improper husbandry and disease. Much the same dismal picture can be painted of the pet-monkey market.

There is nothing redeeming about such wanton waste of natural resources just to satisfy the whims of persons who cannot find satisfaction in domestic species.

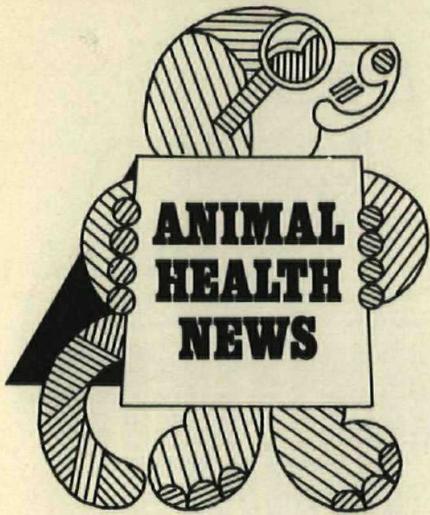
Exotic cats and monkeys have comprised the bulk of wild species treated in our practice. Many of their owners, in an attempt to make an already unsatisfactory pet less traumatic to live with, have resorted to such elective procedures as defanging and castration in both monkeys and cats, and to onychectomy in cats. It is true that castration and onychectomy are performed routinely in domestic cats, but for different reasons: *i.e.*, to prevent damage to furniture and to minimize some of the unpleasant secondary sex manifestations in intact tomcats.

As practitioners who have a genuine interest in exotic pet practice, we feel that to serve the best interests of our profession and clients, and certainly our patients, we must report in the veterinary literature, technicals, case reports, and pertinent data in relation to these animals. But we feel we must also try *a priori* to dissuade

the inquiring prospective owner of an exotic pet from taking on an animal he or she is ill prepared to care for properly.

After the novelty wears off and no one wants to cope with attempting the safe handling of an adult exotic pet, the animal finds its way to a zoo or animal shelter. Thus, many public zoos have become depositories of unwanted exotic cats, monkeys, raccoons, badgers, opossums, boa constrictors and many other wild species too numerous to mention. However, with sophisticated management and quarantine policies presently in force in most zoos, most of these animals are not particularly welcome. Euthanasia is all too often the sad end to this situation.

We fully realize that, because of human nature, the unusual pet animal will always be with us to some extent, but we make a strong plea for sober restraint in advising the husbandry of wild species as pets.



AGES OF ANIMALS IN RELATION TO MAN

A dog's age is popularly supposed to be one-seventh that of man, so that a dog seven years old is equivalent in age to a man of 49 years. David P. Willoughby, Honorary Associate in Vertebrate Paleontology at the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History, does not go along with this thinking, and in an article in *Natural History* he gives his own "prediction formulas" of relative ages to man of the horse, dog and cat which take into consideration such factors as average age at maturity, average age at death, and reported maximum age. His specific conversion formulas: Dog's age = .333 man's age —5.5; cat's age = .385 man's age —7.0; and horse's age = .406 man's age —3.5. Using these formulas for elderly members of each species, he finds that a dog of 28 years, a cat of 32 years, a horse of 38 years is equivalent in age to a man of 102 years.

DOGS NEED MORE THAN MEAT, SAYS A.V.M.A.

Although no owner of a dog would consider an all-meat diet suitable for himself, an increasing number of dogs are being fed by their owners just such a diet. Why? Because so many owners have been led to believe that meat alone is suitable for their dogs' diet.

So says an editorial appearing in the *Journal of the American Veteri-*

nary Medical Association. Its editor said he's frequently asked whether carnivorous animals—which includes dogs—don't have meat in their natural diet. His answer:

"Such persons either do not know or else choose to overlook that even wild carnivores do not subsist on muscle meat alone. They consume not only some skeletal and glandular tissue but viscera likely to contain vegetable matter. Zoo veterinarians learned the hard way that muscle meat alone is not a balanced diet for captive wild carnivores.

"Without question, dogs like meat, but palatability alone shouldn't govern the formulation of rations for any species. Children like candy, too."

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT ON CAT COLORS IS NOTED

The urban environment is causing a significant genetic adjustment in cats, Neil B. Todd, Ph.D., of the Carnivore Genetics Research Center, Newtonville, Miss., said in a paper presented before the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science.

"Cat populations of cities tend to be composed of more individuals with darker coat colors and patterns, while in rural populations lighter colors and patterns predominate," he stated. "Furthermore, as urban pressure increases and accumulates, so does the frequency of the genetic factors causing dark coat colors."

New York has the largest proportion of dark cats. Less urban cities, such as Boston, and relatively younger cities, such as Chicago, show intermediate frequencies of dark animals. Cities which were essentially rural until recently, such as Columbus, and purely rural areas, exemplified by southern Missouri, have a very low frequency of dark animals.

COMEBACK OF HORSE BRINGS RESEARCH CALL

The U.S. Agriculture Department has told Congress that it is time to renew research on horses to help owners with growing equine problems caused by a remarkable return to saddles and spurs.

Today there are an estimated 7.5 million horses in the country, compared with a low 5.5 million in 1950

and the peak of around 21.4 million in 1915 when the nation was still geared to horsepower on farms and city streets.

Worm parasites alone, said T. W. Edminster, of the Agricultural Research Service, cost horse owners an estimated \$112 million annually. In all, he stated, losses from infectious diseases and parasites run more than \$400 million a year.

Edminster said other research needs include improving reproduction performance, care and feeding of horses and management.

The American Horse Council estimates that the country's horse industry totals more than \$7 billion a year. Its figures also indicate that an average horse owner spends \$735 a year an animal on feed, equipment, tack and drugs alone, or more than \$5.5 billion annually.

U.S. CURBS SALES OF A WEED KILLER

The Federal Government has taken steps to halt the use of the controversial herbicide 2,4,5-T as a weed killer around homes and ordered suspension of its use as a defoliant in Vietnam, where reported cases of birth defects and miscarriages in villages were attributed to the use of defoliants.

The actions followed new information reported to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare indicating that "2,4,5-T, as well as its conterminant dioxins, may produce abnormal development in unborn animals."

The orders immediately halted interstate movement of the liquid form of the herbicide. The non-liquid forms not considered imminently harmful will remain on sale until hearings and possible appeals are completed. None of the actions affects the use of 2,4,5-T for control of weed and brush on the range, pasture, forest, rights of way and other non-agricultural land.

The most recent study showed that even pure 2,4,5-T—which has never been commercially produced—was as liable to cause birth deformities as those dioxins normally found in it. Dr. Jacqueline Verrett had testified before a Senate sub-committee that the dioxin contaminates found in this and other herbicides "were more potent than thalidomide" in their ability to cause birth defects.

BRITAIN HALTS ENTRY OF CATS, DOGS AS RABIES THREAT

Britain has banned the importation of all cats and dogs as an anti-rabies measure. The Ministry of Agriculture also extended to a year the quarantine on dogs and cats now waiting in approved kennels for admission to the country. The quarantine period had been raised recently to eight months from the previous six-month quarantine.

The system worked fine until last fall when the first case of rabies was reported in more than 50 years. This resulted in the shooting of hundreds of animals and birds in the area where the rabid dog had roamed. The tougher measures stem from the more recent discovery of a second dog that came into the country from Pakistan. This animal died of rabies three months after the six-month quarantine.

Because of the restrictions long in effect in the country, Britons have been reluctant to take their pets with them on vacations abroad because of the need to place them in long quarantine on return.

CHIMPANZEE WENDY REACHES 46TH BIRTHDAY

After a long career of contribution to medical knowledge Wendy, the oldest known captive chimpanzee, goes right on providing information on long life and geriatric conditions. She belongs to a lusty species whose life-span ordinarily is about 35 years, Wendy has reached the age of 46 in good health. She shows her years only by moving somewhat more slowly and by taking life more calmly than the younger apes. Wendy, who lives in the animal colony of the Yerkes Primate Research Center of Emory University, Atlanta, has 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grand children in the present Yerkes collection.

OLDEST FLEA FOSSIL FOUND IN AUSTRALIA

A 120-million-year-old fossil of a flea has been unearthed at Koonwarra in the Australian state of Victoria.

The flea fossil, 80 million years older than flea fossils found in other parts of the world, was excellently preserved in siltstone.

The Koonwarra flea's long thin

legs suggest that it lived on the outer surface of a sparsely haired animal, unlike today's fleas that burrow through their hosts' fur. The long feelers on the head support this view. Modern fleas have much shorter feelers, which do not impede burrowing through thick fur.

If the Koonwarra flea did not burrow, its host's fur must have been short or sparse so that the flea could reach the skin to feed, scientists believe.

CHEMICAL APPROVED AS BIRTH CONTROL FOR PIGEONS

Pigeons are a public health problem and carry germs to pets and people in many American cities.

The Food and Drug Administration recently approved use of a chemical, 2-ortho, 25-diazocholesterol dihydrochloride, as an antifertility agent for use against pigeons. Dr. Stephen L. Beckwith at the University of Florida in Gainesville reports he has developed bait in the form of kernels of corn covered with the chemical. The substance works with birds other than pigeons, but the size of the corn kernels generally would prevent smaller birds from eating it, Dr. Beckwith thinks. "There is evidently no effect on mammals, at least rodents," he adds.

LEUKEMIA TRANSMISSION BY CATS UNPROVEN

Reports that pet cats may transmit leukemia-causing viruses to humans have caused undue alarm among the nation's cat owners, Dr. Charles G. Rickard of the New York State Veterinary College at Cornell University said in a statement released in Ithaca.

In his statement, Dr. Rickard said that "it would be unwise to blame cats for human cases of leukemia on the basis of present knowledge."

Dr. Rickard, a professor of pathology, continued:

"Research on cat leukemia and on certain other tumors have revealed that they are caused by specific viruses. Some of these cat viruses have been transmitted experimentally to dogs, rabbits and monkeys. They also grow in human cells in test tubes. But there is no evidence at present that cat leukemia viruses infect humans or cause leukemia in humans."



DOCTOR'S ADVICE

Readers with health and other pet problems are invited to send their questions to ANIMAL CARE. Those with the greatest reader interest will be handled on this page. The material below has been adapted from "Progress in Veterinary Medicine" by permission of American Veterinary Publications, Inc.

Summer Itch Treatment

Q: Please outline an up-to-date regimen for treatment of summer itch in dogs? —S., Michigan

A: The diagnosis of "summer itch" must be made on the basis of a complete physical examination, including a search for external parasites. Skin tests may identify causative allergens for which specific therapy including desensitization can be given. The immediate aim of the treatment is to stop the itching. The therapy for this should include at least one bath with a medicated shampoo, which must be thoroughly rinsed from the dog with a flowing stream of water. Then anti-inflammatory medication, such as prednisolone, prednisolone - aspirin combinations, or antihistamines, should be initiated. While itching is being brought under control, desensitization may be attempted by repeated injections of a histamine-protein preparation. For animals which are helped by these injections, it should be recommended that another series be given during the following spring before itching occurs. —Waldo F. Keller, D.V.M.

Estrous Cycle Of Cat

Q: *What is the estrous cycle of a cat? How many days between seasons and for what period does each season last? —P., Utah*

A: There is a tremendous variety in the estrous pattern of cats but in general they are seasonally polyestrous. Cats living under natural conditions in temperate climates usually come into heat in mid- or late winter and again in late spring or early summer. Actual signs of heat are present for several days and recur at variable intervals till the cat conceives.—*Jean Holzworth, DVM*

Burro-Stallion Breeding

Q: *Will a burro female breed to a male pony, as a mare bred to a jack? If so, what would you call the offspring?—F., Virginia*

A: A female burro (ass or donkey) will breed to a stallion. The offspring is a hybrid differing from the mule in having a bushier tail, like a horse, a body disproportionately large in comparison with the legs and a gentler disposition. The offspring is referred to as a hinny. The gestation period of the burro carrying the hinny is 8 to 12 days less than the usual gestation period of about 365 days.—*L. E. Boley, DVM*

Thawed Canned Foods

Q: *If canned dog food becomes frozen without breaking through the cans and then is allowed to thaw will it be safe to use?—S., Michigan*

A: Since the contents of canned dog food are commercially sterile, freezing and thawing would have no effect whatsoever on their bacteriologic content. This presupposes that the seams were not stretched enough to permit the access of air-borne contaminants. There may be a slight effect on the physical condition of the canned contents, since freezing tends to destroy the gelatin gel and also retrogrades the starch.—*H. M. Burgess*

Handling Budgerigars

Q: *How to trim the beak of a budgerigar without inducing shock? —H., Ontario, Canada*

A: Provided the bird is a normal healthy specimen, being neither debilitated, excessively old or of an unusually nervous temperament, there is no reason why trimming of the

beak should induce shock, if handling is carried out correctly. During restraint it is important not to squeeze the bird; the only part of the anatomy which may be firmly gripped is the head on either side of the mandibular articulations. In addition to incorrect handling, shock may also result from excessive hemorrhage if the blood vessel in the midline of the mandible is cut. Silver nitrate cauterization is, however, usually an efficient hemostat.—*I. F. Keymer, MRCVS*

Age For Castrating Cat

Q: *How old should a male cat be before castrating? Will castrating at 4 or 5 months vs. 1 year be any more apt to result in the formation of urethral calculi?—D., Oregon*

A: A tomcat should be physically mature before castrated unless preserving some of the physical characteristics of the kitten is desired. Preferably, the animal should be 6 months of age or older at the time of castration. It is unlikely that there is a single cause for urethral obstructions by calculi in male cats. Because they generally occur at the same location, however, it is likely that anatomical differences among tomcats do influence—not the formation of calculi, but their becoming lodged near the end of the urethra. It seems reasonable to predict that when the other factors which promote formation of calculi are present, an animal with a smaller than normal urethra will be more susceptible to obstruction.—*E. J. Catcott, DVM, Ph.D.*

Effects of Catnip

Q: *Cats appear to like catnip leaves and blossoms. Is catnip a stimulant, a tonic, or both? H., Massachusetts*

A: Catnip (*Nepeta cataria*), which is of the mint family, has, over the centuries been recognized as a narcotic-like plant. The scent of the volatile oils causes rapturous delight and overpowering emotions in the cat. Not all cats will respond in the same manner and, occasionally, one sees a cat that does not respond at all. The apparent effect of the plant, and its use as catnip tea in human medicine in some sections of the country for the alleviation of toothache and colic, would suggest that it may be an alkaloid that acts upon the parasympa-

thetic nervous system.—*Robert L. Stansbury, DVM*

Coprophagy in the Dog

Q: *Is there any compound which when fed to a dog will impart a bitter enough taste to the feces to curtail coprophagy? P., Missouri*

A: Oral administration of glutamic acid in the form of capsules may be effective in some cases of coprophagy to change the feces and make them unpalatable. One of the satisfactory methods has been the application of kerosene or 10% creolin solution to the feces as soon as possible after elimination. If the owner will persist in the procedure for several days it may frustrate the dog enough to stop the vice. It is also well to have the dog checked for atrophy of the pancreas; coprophagy is a characteristic of this disease.—*Lloyd C. Moss, BS, DVM*

Unusual Sound in Horse

Q: *What could cause an audible thumping sound in the left flank of a horse following moderate exercise? Respirations, heart sounds, and general physical condition appear normal.—H., Missouri*

The condition referred to is sometimes called the "thumps." This is a spasm of the diaphragm and it probably is caused by irritation of the nerves that innervate the diaphragm, or by direct irritation of the diaphragm itself. It almost invariably is seen following moderate to heavy exercise, and produces no serious consequences unless the spasm should become so severe that a rupture of the diaphragm would occur. The antispasmodic drugs seem to be of some benefit in treating this condition.—*R. Scott Jackson, DVM*

Vaccinating Pregnant Bitch

Q: *Is there any evidence that vaccination of pregnant bitches with modified live-virus vaccine (especially rabies vaccine) is harmful to the fetuses? Is it advisable to give such vaccines to a pregnant bitch? —S., Washington.*

A: Some strains of distemper virus are less modified than others, and a virulent distemper is capable of causing fetal deaths. For this reason it was concluded at a recent symposium concerning distemper immunization that vaccination of pregnant animals is not prudent, despite a lack of specific evidence about effects on fetuses.—*L. E. Carmichael, DVM, Ph.D.*

First Reaction

Two puppies watched a group of teenagers dancing. One turned to the other and said: "If we acted like that, they'd worm us."—*Edgar A. Moss in Dog Lover's Digest*

A Matter of Choice

A man bought a canary from an animal dealer. "You're sure this bird can sing?" he asked.

"He's a grand singer."

The customer left. A week later he reappeared.

"Say! This confounded bird you sold me is lame!"

"Well, what do you want—a singer or a dancer?"—*Sunshine Magazine*

Signs of the Times

In a Houston pet-shop featuring St. Bernard puppies, "Guaranteed double your dog in a month or your money back."

In the window of another pet shop, "Chock Full of Mutts."

On a parakeet display, "Two can cheep as lively as one."

Sign advertising Dachshund puppies, for sale, "Get a long little doggie."—*Catholic Digest*

MARITAL RELATIONS

Speaking of marital relations, a cat named Toot had two kittens and a youngster of 4, seeing them for the first time, asked if her neighborhood friend, a male named Theo, was the father. The answer was no. Theo is an "it."

"Well, if Theo isn't the father," the boy pursued, "what is he?"



"The kittens' uncle," his mother replied diplomatically.—*Matt Weinstock in Los Angeles Times*

Doggone Good

The teacher was explaining: "Quite a number of the plants and flowers have the prefix 'dog.' There's the dog-rose, dog-wood, and the dog-violet, for instance. Can any pupil name another?"

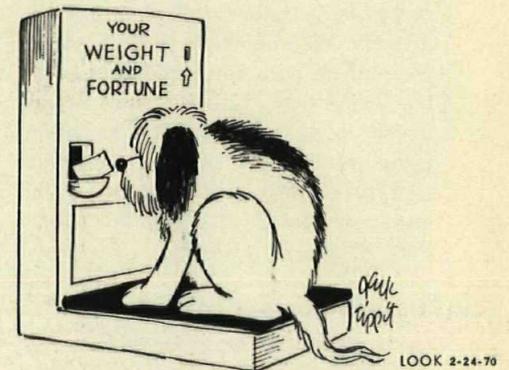
There was a silence, then a happy look appeared on the face of a youngster in the back row.

"Please, teacher," he asked politely, "how about collieflower?"—*Modern Maturity*

A Close Call

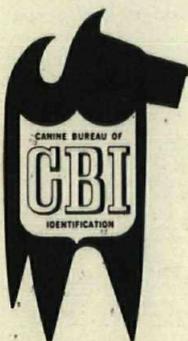
A clergyman owned a horse who responded only to religious commands. When he wanted the horse to gallop, he said, "Thank God", when he wanted the horse to stop, he said, "Amen."

One morning as he started his ride with "Thank God", the horse suddenly went out of control and headed straight for a cliff. The clergyman forgot the command for stop and blurted, "Whoa, slow down," which of course wasn't successful. As the horse neared the cliff's edge, the minister finally remembered and uttered "Amen." The horse stopped just in time. "Wow!" said the grateful clergyman aloud. "That was a close one. Thank God!"—*Hyman Danzig in Rortarian Magazine*



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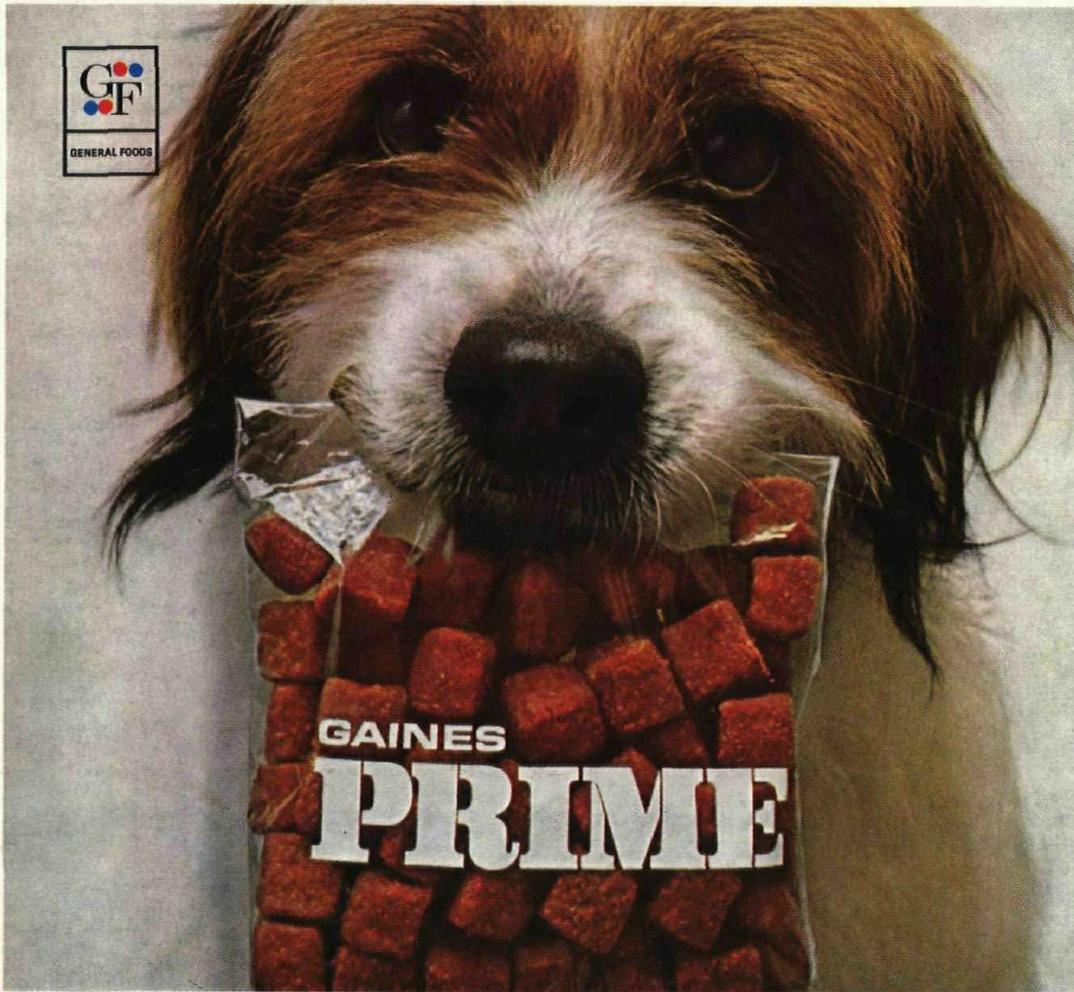
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