

Humane Slaughter Decision Nearing

Washington (CQ)—Fred Myers of the Humane Society of the U.S. was telling about the time he became ill while building up a case for humane slaughter legislation.

"I was up in New York State watching them slaughter hogs in the usual way. I felt sick and dizzy at the same time. I had to get out of there. Somehow, I made it out to the parking lot before I started getting sick. And even then I knew I had to watch slaughtering operations again and again."

That was seven years ago. Since then he has visited scores of slaughter houses as executive director of the 21,000-member Humane Society. He has kept down his lunch by telling himself that only eye-witness information would convince Congress to pass humane slaughter legislation. The next few weeks will show if he was right.

Basic Issue

The basic issue is this: Should Congress pass a law telling slaughterers how to kill animals or trust the industry to work out humane methods by itself? Congressional offices have been swamped with mail on the issue, most of it in favor of humane slaughter legislation.

The House Feb. 4 passed a humane slaughter bill. Now it is up to the 15-man Senate Agriculture Committee to decide whether to send the bill to the Senate floor for a vote. Senate hearings on slaughter bills ended May 1. Chairman Allen J. Ellender (D-La.) of the Senate Agriculture Committee said it is probable his committee's decision will be made May 21.

"I want it clearly understood that I'm not sitting on this humane slaughter bill," Ellender said. "I'm for humane slaughter as much as anybody. But I'm not convinced the House-passed bill is strong enough. Why shouldn't all slaughterers be required to slaughter humanely, not just the ones who sell to the Government?"

House Version

The House bill would apply only to those slaughterers who sell meat to the Government. Myers and other humane slaughter proponents admit the bill is a watered-down one, but feel it will bring widespread humane practices because so many slaughterers want to sell meat to the Government. They see Senate passage of the House bill as the quickest and surest way to get humane slaughter rules into law.

Ellender, who has received more mail on humane slaughter than any other issue since he came to Congress in 1937, predicted his Committee will report out some kind of a humane slaughter bill. Myers said "I'm sure we have the votes to pass the bill once it gets out on the floor. But it's pretty even-steven right now on the Senate Committee."

Thirty Year Fight

Myers' organization, other humane groups and the General Federation of Women's Clubs insist that the meat industry will not adopt humane slaughtering methods on its own. They say it has been promising to do so for the last 30 years. They point to a few packing plants like George A. Hormel & Co. which have worked out humane methods and to countries like England, Holland and the Scandinavian countries which require them.

Meat packers, chiefly through the American Meat Institute, contend they too favor humane slaughtering. But they say there has not been enough research to de-

termine the most humane methods. They say following methods prescribed by Federal law will cost them money and therefore raise the price of meat to the consumer. They want to be allowed to work out humane methods on their own.

The agriculture Department also is against the humane slaughter legislation. The Department says it would be hard to administer the House-passed rules requiring the animal to be "rendered insensible to pain by a single blow or gunshot or an electrical, chemical or other means that is rapid and effective" before being hoisted up for stabling.

The Jewish community is split on the House bill. Orthodox rabbis oppose it on grounds it infringes on religious freedom while other Jewish groups do not object because the bill says they can still use the Jewish ritual method of severing the animal's jugular vein.

Slaughter Method

Humane societies term present slaughtering methods as "cruel, barbaric and immoral."

The Senate Agriculture Committee refused to watch a sound film of this slaughtering process.

Hormel has worked out a system humane organizations endorse. Animals are driven into a tunnel filled with carbon dioxide. This knocks them out painlessly before the slaughtering process begins. Some other plants use special hammers and gun devices which knock out the animal instantly.

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Last Rites Held For Skelton's Son

Hollywood — Funeral services were scheduled today for Red Skelton's 9-year-old son, Richard, who died Saturday night after a long battle against leukemia.

Actor William Lundigan, a close friend of the red-haired comedian, was to deliver the eulogy at services conducted by Dr. Vista Stewart of the Beverly Vista Community church, at Forest Lawn's Church of the Reformation.

Skelton, who swore after his son's death that Richard shall not have died in vain, asked that donations be made to leukemia research in lieu of sending flowers.

The comedian pledged himself to devoting all the time he can in the future to fighting cancer.

"It is something I have to do," Skelton said. "Richard's death shall not be in vain."

Richard's death came at the UCLA Medical Center, about a year and a half after the red-haired boy was stricken with the disease. Skelton took him to Europe to seek treatment and to let his son see some of the things he had read about in books.

Visiting Day Slated At Phoenix School

A children's visiting day will be held at Phoenix Grade school Thursday, May 15, for all children who will be starting in the first grade next fall, according to John E. Myers, principal.

Parents are asked to bring children to school at 1 p.m. and pick them up again at 2:30 p.m., he said. The visit makes it possible for the children to familiarize themselves with an actual school situation, the principal explained.

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

ART VAN HORN relays a story about a traveling salesman who got lost in the feudin' country near the Blue Ridge mountains and found refuge with two hillbillies who never had been more than a mile from their primitive shack.

When the salesman left the next day, he gave his hosts a portable radio as a token of appreciation for their hospitality. That night one of the hillbillies, out of curiosity, fiddled with the radio dials. After fumbling with them, he tuned in a speechmaker at a political rally.

At bedtime the politician still was roaring over the radio and the mountaineers didn't know how to turn it off. In desperation one of them picked up an ax and struck the set. The voice stopped. However, it had only jarred the set and the next morning the second hillbilly was awakened by organ music from the radio. He woke his pal.

"You know that guy you killed last night?" he said. "Well, they're burying him today."

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Children Declared Being Exploited In Summer Camps

New York — Summer camps exploit children for money, says a veteran camp counselor who could contribute to children's development and overcome their feelings of inadequacy.

"Camping has become big business. But it should be a profession, not a business. Today, it exploits children for a dollar," said Mrs. Fannie Spectorsky, who has been in camping for 41 years.

She is 80 years old and still runs Camp Lenore, the first girls' camp in the Berkshire Mountains near Tanglewood, Mass. She and her late husband founded the place in 1917.

"Too many camps are run by persons who visit them only on week ends. They don't know the children and they don't hire dedicated counselors. They think they can run a camp because they can run a kitchen," she said in an interview after a meeting of the American Camping Association. It represents all camping interests and approves camp standards.

11 Per Cent Attend

More than five million boys and girls, or about 11 per cent of all school children in the United States, are expected to attend camps this summer, the association said.

There are 13,000 organized camps in the country, worth \$400 million.

Mrs. Spectorsky taught kindergarten and English, studied singing and lived in Paris nine years. She took up camping because she felt

St. Helens Boy Found Unharmed By Search Group

Goble, Ore. — A 7-year-old St. Helens schoolboy, Jimmy Helton, was found safe and asleep, by searchers Monday afternoon after being lost some 23 hours. The youngster, although bleary-eyed and admittedly hungry, was in good condition.

Up to 500 persons took part in the search. Bloodhounds were pressed into the hunt Monday morning.

Wants to Go Home

Jimmy was found by two teenagers, part of a group of more than 200 high school students in the search, who came upon him lying on the ground fast asleep. When the two, Bob Kraus and Frank Merritt, both 15, awoke the boy the first thing he said was "I'm hungry and I want to go home to my mother."

The boy was found about 3 p.m. He became lost about 4 p.m. Sunday.

Helping With Cattle

The boy's mother, Mrs. Rosemary Helton, had taken Jimmy and her two other children, Sandra, 5, and Clyde, 4, to visit her parents on Mothers Day. Several cows strayed out of the feed lot during the afternoon and Jimmy became lost while helping round them up.

Jimmy told searchers he was unable to find his way back. He was found in a gully about a quarter of a mile from a farmhouse and three-quarters of a mile from his grandparents' home.

Five in Family Die In Head-on Collision

Indio, Calif. — Five members of a family, including three little girls, were killed Monday night in a head-on crash with a semi-truck and trailer.

Officers identified the dead as Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bennett and their three daughters, aged 6 months, 4 and 5 years. A fourth daughter, 7-year-old Carol, was in serious condition in a local hospital.

Fish Conservation Depends Upon Use Of Three Resources

(Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of articles concerning Conservation Week, being observed in the county this week).

By COLE M. RIVERS, Fishery Agent, Oregon State Game Commission

Basically, conservation of fish is dependent upon the orderly use and respect of the three chief natural resources; namely, soils, waters and forests.

Wise use of our fishery resources does not start with the angler on the stream or lake. It must begin with all related uses of the ground, timber and the varied uses of the water that is produced from the watershed.

Why Fish Disappear

People often wonder why some of our fish disappear so rapidly when it is so obvious all couldn't have been caught by fishermen. Research and fishery science has recently found that unorderly logging, road construction, poor farm practices and indiscriminate use and abuse of water has had a great deal to do with that decline. In many places throughout the nation, this was realized too late.

The rush of people to the Rogue valley was comparatively late in history, and coincidental with learning what we have to do to keep our important fish species, the picture for the future is not as black as it may seem.

As more people become conservation-minded with respect to activities affecting our natural resources, they also become more interested in conservation and management of fish and game.

Economic Value

Only recently have people of the Rogue valley realized an economic value to its fishery. Before, it was just a small group of "nuts" that would spend their time out

Beginners Day Set At Oak Grove School

A beginner's day is planned at Oak Grove school starting at 1:15 p.m. Thursday, May 15. Beginners will be guests of the first grade, and parents will meet in the cafeteria for an informal coffee session.

Officers of next year's Parent Teacher association will be introduced, and the procedure to be followed concerning health examinations for beginners will be discussed.

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