

PET TALK

By M. I. L.

THAT SPECIAL WEEK

The celebration of "Be Kind to Animals Week" was first recognized and received its first impetus in Massachusetts. To Henry F. Lewth, a Charleston, S. C., printer, goes the credit for the conception of the idea and the persistence for getting it before humane leaders. In 1914, at a meeting of the American Humane association a resolution for a "Be Kind to Animals Week" was adopted and the week got its start and is one of the oldest special weeks in existence in this country.

"Be Kind to Animals Week," from its beginning, has served as one of the most effective means for making the public aware of the work of the humane movement. The national observance of this week creates an inducement for newspapers, radio and TV stations, churches and schools to impress upon the public the moral obligation of man to be kind to the creatures who serve him.

This year, "Kindness Week" has been designated to begin May 5, with Humane Sunday, May 11. It should have a special significance for all Americans. Never before has there been so much need for the message of kindness, justice and good will. Kindness to animals does not go so far as kindness to our fellow men, but so far as it does extend, kindness to animals is treated as we should wish to be treated by a person who has us in his power.

Those who have pets of any nature or those who have animals in their care must assume a responsibility for them; if not voluntarily, then through law-enforced means. It is too often evident that humans believe, once an animal is out of sight, it doesn't really matter what happens to it. Abandonment of animals to shift for themselves with just a hopeful "maybe somebody will take it in" is a special sort of unkindness and is punishable by law.

To properly feed and house an animal is to keep it healthy and happy. A sympathetic attitude toward all animals who have a place in our daily lives can be counted as a credit to character. Let us extend Kindness Week to every week in the year, by a few more pets, commend instead of commands, recognition of a dog left at home to guard the premises. "Good boy" means as much as food to a dog and all animals like words of greeting and it only takes a little time.

The humane movement in America will have a rare opportunity, during the next few years, to keep in swaying world thinking toward kindness, justice and fair play. We hope it will seize the opportunity and meet the challenge with a long-range view toward a better world for animals, as well as men.

"Sympathy with animals is so intimately connected with what is good in character, that one may confidently affirm that he who is cruel to them cannot be a good man." - Schopenhauer.

Basic School Plan Will Be Discussed

Salem-UP—A major overhaul of the basic school support program - including a plan to place the fund on a biennial appropriation basis - will be proposed at a Senate Education committee hearing Tuesday.

Chairman Al Fiegel (D-Roseburg) said he planned public hearings on two basic school bills, one by Sen. Walter Leth (R-Salem) and the other a Ways and Means committee bill recommended by the Legislative Fiscal committee.

The present basic school grant is \$120 per on-ans child, but after the cost of special programs is deducted, about \$112 per child is available. This amount is then "equalized" to give a larger share to poor districts.

Gov. Mark Hatfield recommended an increase to \$130 per child.

Valley Man Arrested On Lane Warrant
Dewey Vincent Wardrip, Same Valley, was arrested by Jackson County sheriff's deputies last week on a Lane county warrant charging him with obtaining money by false pretenses.

Wardrip is scheduled to appear in district court here May 9 on misdemeanor check charges, sheriff's deputies said. He has been released on his own recognizance.

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