

Reports & Announcements

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

REPORT:

Mobilization for Animal Rights:
Conference '81
Ocean City, Maryland
October 10-12, 1981

Animal rights activists from the United States, Canada, and Britain met recently in Ocean City, Maryland to establish a national coalition which will serve as a clearing house of information and as a coordinating structure for the animal rights movement as a whole in the United States and Canada. The formation of this coalition represents a major step forward in the forging of a consolidated political movement on behalf of animals. In the past the animal rights movement has suffered all too often from fragmentation and duplication of effort. The purpose of Animal Rights Mobilization (ARM) is to overcome these problems by providing a solid base for unified, coordinated, national campaigns.

The conference was organized by the Animal Rights Network and was attended by over two hundred activists representing some thirty-five organizations. It marked a continuation of the effort begun last July with the international Action for Life conference in Allentown, Pa., and included similar educational efforts. Training workshops were conducted by experienced animal rights activists on such key topics as vivisection, factory farming and vegetarianism, domestic animal problems, hunting, and trapping. The program also included talks by such prominent animal rights activists as Clive Hollands, Jessica Kesphol, Kim Stallwood, Robert Brown, and Richard Morgan.

On the whole, however, the conference was marked by a greater emphasis on tactics and strategy, and less concern with ideology and moral

issues. Not only did the program include, as in the previous conference, workshops on research and the use of the Freedom of Information Act, legal protection, demonstrations and rallies, lobbying, and publications and use of mass media, but fully half of the time was devoted to plenary sessions in which the details of the Animal Rights Mobilization coalition were worked out. The quarrels which took place were thus predominantly of a pragmatic rather than a philosophical nature.

In spite of crowded conditions and an extremely heavy schedule of events, however, the conference participants managed to arrive at a democratic resolution of all the principal issues concerning the establishment of the coalition. Coordinators were elected and four initial task forces were established. These are: blood-sports, mobilization against laboratory experimentation, legislation and lobbying, and use of mass media. All organizations which are in general agreement with the aim of liberating animals from exploitation and abuse will be invited to join the coalition and to participate in the task forces. Information on the coalition can be obtained by writing to:

ARM, Projects Office
P. O. Box 337
Jonesboro, Tennessee 37659

George P. Cave, President
Trans-Species Unlimited

CHANGE OF DATES

The dates for the Morris Colloquium (announced in E&A 11/3) have been changed to April 1 through 3, 1982.

ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS:

A Conference on
Theological Issues in
Environmental Ethics

The conference will be held at the University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education, Athens, Georgia, on June 4 through 6, 1982. The conference is jointly sponsored by Environmental Ethics, The University of Georgia, and the Department of Philosophy and Religion and Center for Continuing Education of that University.

Papers on any aspect of the relationship between theology and environmental ethics are welcome. Except that the submission fee is waived, the guidelines are the same as for publication in Environmental Ethics. Manuscripts and abstracts should be submitted in triplicate. None of the copies need be an original, but all must be clear and clean. All material, including notes, block quotations, footnotes, and abstract, should be double spaced. Footnotes should be placed at the end on a separate sheet of paper and numbered consecutively. The author's name should not appear on manuscript copies, and reading time should not exceed thirty to forty-five minutes. Authors should indicate that their submissions are for the conference, and not for journal consideration.

papers should be sent before January 15, 1982 to:

The Editor
Environmental Ethics
Dept. of Philosophy and Religion
The University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602