



Incorporated 1879

100th Anniversary

Wisconsin Humane Society

**One Hundred Years of Caring  
The Wisconsin Humane Society  
1879-1979**

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Virginia A. Palmer

As two riders urged their mounts forward to drink from the circular watering trough, a flock of pigeons flew skyward and a burst of applause arose from the crowd assembled in Market Square at noon on April 29, 1891. Many members of the Wisconsin Humane Society were in the crowd, together with officials of the City of Milwaukee and other interested persons who were gathered to witness the dedication of the statue of Henry Bergh, the old man with the crippled dog. This joyous occasion coincided with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in New York City.

## Founder Henry Bergh



Attorney Gerry Hazelton, an eloquent speaker with an interest in and love for animals, accepted an invitation to

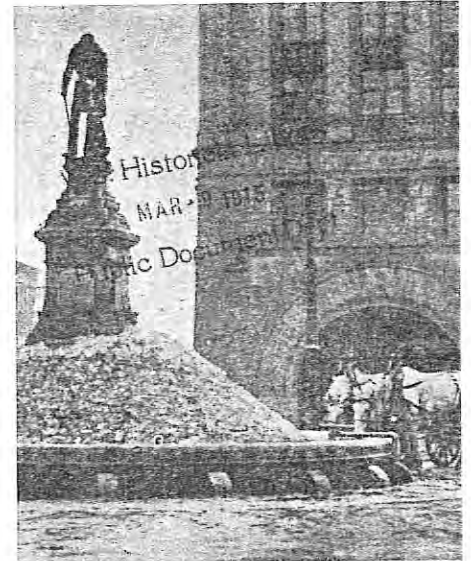
be principal speaker for this event. He reminded his listeners that Henry Bergh, the subject of the statue, had been responsible for the introduction of the humane movement into the United States. A widely traveled man, Bergh was much troubled by the cruelty toward animals which he observed on the streets of Moscow, London, and New York City. His efforts to correct the mistreatment of horses by wagon drivers earned Bergh the title "The Great Meddler" and convinced Bergh that the task was too much for one frail man. An organization was needed to carry out an effective program of prevention, education, and legislation against cruelty toward animals. He gathered together a group of like-minded persons in Clinton Hall, New York City, on April 10, 1866 for the founding of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Henry Bergh was elected its first President. At this time George Angell, a Boston lawyer, became greatly interested in what he had heard and read about the organization. He placed an advertisement in the Boston newspapers inviting readers interested in righting the wrongs suffered by domestic animals to attend a public meeting and, as a result, many influential Boston citizens stepped forward to become patrons of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, officially organized in March, 1868. Within the next few

years, additional societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals were formed in neighboring states.

In 1874 a concerned citizen described to Henry Bergh the plight of eight year old Mary Ellen, a child who was cruelly beaten every day by the woman who had charge of her. The citizen pointed out that there surely should be an organization to provide legal protection from abuse for helpless children, just as there was for animals. Bergh's investigation of the complaint led him to take the case to court where Mary Ellen was quickly placed in surroundings where she would receive better care. Elbridge T. Gerry, grandson of a signer of the Declaration of Independence and Bergh's counsel in the case, was instrumental in the founding of the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in the same year. Bergh believed that more could be accomplished in New York City by having the organization for animals and its resources kept separate from the new society for children. There were many localities, however, where sufficient funds or personnel for two organizations did not exist and in this case, a single organization was formed for both, called a "humane society". The dictionary says that humane means "marked by compassion, sympathy, or consideration for other human beings or animals," and these organizations took for their stated purpose: "To promote a humane sentiment among the general population."

At the Bergh statue dedication in Market Square,

Attorney Hazelton reminded his audience of the beginnings of the Wisconsin Humane Society in Milwaukee. The Fortnightly Club was made up of many prominent Milwaukee citizens who gathered to listen to guest speakers lecture on matters of current interest twice a month. After reading newspaper accounts of the activities of humane organizations in the eastern United States, club members issued an invitation to George Angell of Boston to come to Milwaukee to speak to club members and their guests. Angell accepted and announced that his topic on October 25, 1879, would be "The Relation of Animals That Can Speak To Those That Are Dumb."



The Henry Bergh statue and watering trough in Market Square, early 1900.

In forming the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Angell said, Henry

## Incorporation of the Wisconsin Humane Society

Bergh had been "moved by a deep sense of the importance to Society of the practice of humanity to animals, as well as justice to creatures committed to our care." Fortnightly Club members recognized that many of the evils which Bergh's organization sought to eliminate were present on the streets of Milwaukee, as well as in New York City. Almost everyone in the audience had seen horses and mules overloaded, underfed, or beaten to make them go faster, and some which were simply abandoned on the street when they were too sick or old to work. Sheep, cattle, and poultry enroute to market were crowded into cattle cars and clumsily killed at the stockyards. Pet animals which were no longer wanted were abandoned or tortured, dog and cock fighting brought large crowds, children were neglected or beaten by intemperate parents or guardians or bound out to earn money as acrobats or beggars. And persons who could not speak for themselves were often cruelly treated in prisons, hospitals or other types of institutions. During the general discussion which followed Angell's talk, someone in the group cited an editorial which had appeared in Milwaukee's German-language newspaper, *The Herald*. "We know of no more helpless condition than that of the street car or omnibus horse or mule owned by a company that is more interested in money than in the animal. Treatment of the animal is left to drivers whose only interest is to get cars through on time, even if it means heavy pulling of overloaded cars."



As a direct result, many who had been present at this meeting of the Fortnightly Club brought their friends to a meeting held a few weeks later in the parlor of the Plankinton House to organize the Wisconsin Humane Society and select its officers. The Articles of Incorporation were signed on December 5th, 1879, by James Mallory, Winfield Smith, and John W. Woodhull. At least three hundred prominent citizens in the state agreed to lend their names as sponsors of the infant organization. Edward D. Holton was the first elected president, but ill health forced his resignation a few months later. His place was filled by the Rev. Gustavus E. Gordon of the First Unitarian Church. Robert C. Spencer, president of the Spencerian Business College, was elected Secretary. Soon after it was organized, the Wisconsin Humane Society affiliated with the American Humane Association, formed in 1877 to enable societies interested in the prevention of cruelty to animals and children to secure national legislation in these areas.

At the close of Gerry Hazelton's brief review of the humane movement, Sherburn Merrill Smith, the five year old grandson of Mrs. S. S. Merrill, a director of the Wisconsin Humane Society since its founding, stepped forward. The small boy pulled a cord and unveiled for the crowd the only statue in the United States honoring the founder of the humane movement in America. Bergh had died in 1888, but his nephew was present and assured Society members that the

sculptor, H. H. Mahoney of Indianapolis, had depicted his uncle in a characteristic pose. The nine foot bronze statue, paid for by private subscriptions, was mounted on a pedestal in the center of a three foot high circular watering trough to be used by horses and dogs alike. Members and directors of the Wisconsin Humane Society hoped that, while the drinking trough would serve the needs of animals, the statue would further serve the purposes of the Society itself by reminding Milwaukee citizens of the work the Society was attempting to do. Although the membership had grown since the beginning of the Society, there was



Mrs. S. S. Merrill, a director of the Wisconsin Humane Society since its founding and Vice President from 1887 - 1906.

still a great need for more members interested in its work.

The Constitution of the Wisconsin Humane Society was adopted on October 30, 1879. It established the levels of membership fees; Active Life Members, \$50.00, Associate Life Members, \$25.00, Active Members, \$5.00, Associate Members, \$3.00, and Branch Members, \$1.00. The Constitution also provided for a Board of at least twenty elected Directors. The first act of the newly elected Directors was to hire Richard D. Whitehead as Superintendent of the Society at an annual salary of "Not more than \$1,000 plus the expense of one horse". The Superintendent was responsible for receiving and investigating all complaints of cruelty to animals or humans. The Society did not seek out acts of cruelty, but acted to correct matters when complaints were brought to their attention. The Superintendent was instructed to try to eliminate further cruelty by persuasion and to place the offender under arrest only as a last resort. At the request of the Society, Whitehead was vested with police powers by the Governor of Wisconsin to enable him to make arrests, if necessary. The Wisconsin Humane Society, however, differed from similar organizations elsewhere in the United States in that no portion of the fines imposed by the courts upon arrested persons were to be returned to the Society. Thus, unnecessary arrests were not likely to be made. The earnestness and aggressiveness with which the warmhearted Whitehead carried out his duties were soon noted by the Board.



Richard D. Whitehead, first Superintendent of the Wisconsin Humane Society.

An interested member made funds available to the Society in 1880 to acquire a substantial oak animal ambulance. It was especially constructed by John Groll, a Milwaukee wagonmaker, to specifications provided by the American Humane Association. The ambulance could be borrowed when an animal became injured, on the street, at any time of the day or night to convey it to its own stall where it could best be treated. Many animals were thus saved which would previously have been destroyed.

## Prevention of Cruelty to Humans



President Gordon discussed with Society Directors the fact that although emergency aid could be offered

animals, there was no provision for similar aid for humans who met with sudden serious accidents or illness on the street. Unfortunate persons who became ill or injured on the street might expect to be taken to a nearby police station, if they were lucky. Otherwise, they would have to accept whatever care they might receive from a passerby. As a result, with Gordon's prompting, the Directors recommended to the County Board of Supervisors that they open immediately a small hospital suitable for such care in the downtown area. Several years were to pass, however, before the Emergency Hospital Association was formed which rented quarters for emergency care in a building on Broadway near Mason Street.

The Police Department practice of confining adult criminals with the boys and girls awaiting trial in the adult courts for some misdeed also disturbed the Board. The Milwaukee Common Council ignored the Board's protests, but the Society learned that this matter also concerned the adult leaders of the Boys' Busy Life Club at Plymouth Congregational Church. These and other interested adults soon formed the Child Betterment League and brought about the establishment of a Juvenile Court in Milwaukee in 1901, patterned after the first such court in the country in Chicago in 1899. Child Betterment League efforts also led to the opening of a detention home for children in 1903

to separate them from adults awaiting trial and from convicted criminals.

Humane organizations throughout the Country recognized the problems created by transportation of livestock and poultry to markets in wagons or by train. In Milwaukee, Superintendent Whitehead made this one of his early concerns. He met with stockyard and railroad personnel to discuss changes in their practices. Stockyard and meat packing officials recognized that the common practice of shipping wounded or sick cattle and hogs could lead to the loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars in meat thus made unfit for human consumption. Mixing grown cattle with small calves in the same railroad car led to injuries to the calves or even death before they arrived at their destination. Poultry were cramped in shipping crates without sufficient food or water. Although Whitehead did his utmost to persuade shippers to correct these problems, livestock transportation continued to present problems for the Society for many years.

Recognizing that feelings of kindness and gentleness must be instilled in the younger generation at an early age, George Angell began the Band of Mercy in 1882, patterned after groups with the same purpose in England. That same year, the Wisconsin Humane Society invited children throughout the State of Wisconsin to form Bands of Mercy in their public schools, church schools, or orphanages. Each child who became a member was permitted to wear a five-pointed star membership badge as evidence of

their pledge to "Be Kind to all harmless living creatures and protect them from cruelty." Illustrated cards with lessons on kindness were awarded for attendance at meetings. A popular program at Band of Mercy meetings was a lecture on humane education illustrated by stereopticon slides.



Reverend Gustavus E. Gordon, first President of the Wisconsin Humane Society.

Out of a growing interest in the condition of the poor came the Associated Charities movement. It began in Buffalo and was copied in other American cities. The founding meeting was held in Milwaukee in 1882 attended by representatives of churches and other organizations frequently called

upon to provide relief for the poor. They learned that the purpose of banding together as Associated Charities was to discover, by keeping careful records and making investigations, the causes of poverty and to eliminate the supply of relief to the undeserving. Where necessary, however, food and fuel were provided the poor while their investigation was pending. President Gordon, Superintendent Whitehead and his wife, and several directors of the Wisconsin Humane Society became charter members of the organization whose motto was "not alms but a friend." Whitehead was pleased that he would be relieved of this type of investigation and could give more time to dealing with the cruel, the vicious, and the criminal. The Associated Charities changed its name to Family Welfare Association in 1921 to reflect its broadened scope of activities.

In January, 1883, a disastrous fire destroyed one of Milwaukee's leading hotels, the Newhall House, on Broadway south of Wisconsin Street. The fire resulted in at least eighty deaths among hotel guests, employees, and fire fighters, as well as many who were severely burned. Tragic though it was, this event proved to be a blessing in disguise for the Wisconsin Humane Society. The efficient manner in which the Society arranged to receive donations of cash, food, and clothing and distribute them to those in need attracted the attention of Milwaukeeans who had not previously been aware of the existence of the Wisconsin Humane Society. A few months later, the

Wisconsin Society of the Red Cross was formed to relieve suffering that would surely arise from similar calamities in the future. This infant organization, which later evolved into the Greater Milwaukee Chapter of the American Red Cross, was temporarily located in the Wisconsin Humane Society office.

It soon became apparent to the Society's Board that preventing cruelty without at the same time interfering with someone's privilege or financial gain was a difficult task. The efforts of Superintendent Whitehead to right wrongs against humans or animals were met with resentment by those who were the cause of suffering. In 1895 a Milwaukee newspaper published a series of complaints against Whitehead, accusing him of "unnecessary meddling" in the course of his duties. Once the



Artist's sketch of a drinking fountain in 1901. Superintendent Whitehead was collecting funds for this project at this time.

complaints had been made public, they threatened the image of the Society, so the Board appointed a special committee to investigate all charges against the Superintendent. After hearing testimony from complainants, the Committee announced that the charges against Whitehead were without foundation in fact and that the Board continued to place confidence in their Superintendent.

Whitehead was encouraged and supported in his work by his wife, Cynthia, but after her death in 1905 his sense of the amount of work to be done and the limited resources available to accomplish it overcame him. He resigned his position as Superintendent of the Wisconsin Humane Society and, the following year, organized the Badger State Humane Society. Its stated aims were "to provide means for the prevention of cruelty to animals, children, women, aged, dependent people, and criminals of the State, and to cooperate with other humane agencies". Although Richard Whitehead as Superintendent of the Badger State Humane Society applied for its equal recognition with the Wisconsin Humane Society as a humane organization, action was repeatedly postponed. Governor Francis McGovern was again considering the Badger State Humane Society application when Whitehead died in June, 1911. After Whitehead's death, Wisconsin Humane Society Board members approached Badger State Humane Society officers with an offer to merge the two organizations and their resources. As a result, the two

became one society under the Wisconsin Humane Society name in January, 1912.



A horse watering trough erected through the efforts of Superintendent Whitehead on the intersection of 16th, Pearl and Bow Streets in 1910.



## Superintendents and Managers



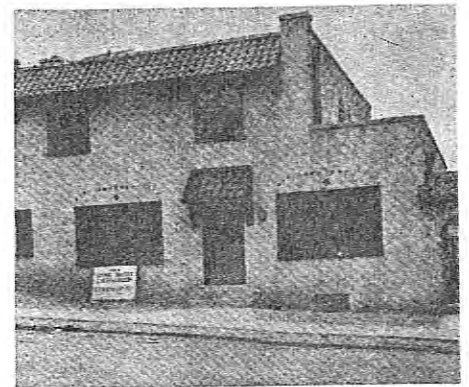
When Richard Whitehead resigned his position of Superintendent of the Wisconsin Humane Society in 1905, a former Deputy Sheriff, Zachariah Clayton, was hired to fill this position. In 1919, Dr. A. M. Benson of Hartland was appointed State Humane Agent by the Wisconsin State Legislature to assist counties in organizing humane societies. Dr. Benson had been publisher of the *Wisconsin Humane Herald* from 1912 to 1917, when it failed for lack of funds. This newspaper contained news of forty Wisconsin Humane Society branches throughout the state in an attempt to coordinate activities. The appointment of a State Humane Agent meant that the Wisconsin Humane Society could confine its work more closely to Milwaukee County, although their original title was retained, since for many years the Society had been the only officially recognized humane organization in Wisconsin. The Society felt that the educational aspects of its work should be given more attention now that the work could be focused more on one County, so Superintendent Zachariah Clayton was retired with the thanks of the Society for his work. After a month's training in humane work at the American Humane Association, Walter Dethloff was appointed Superintendent, a position he filled for eighteen years. When Dethloff was offered the position of Manager at the American Humane Association headquarters in New York State, he was replaced by Arthur Gueltzow in 1941. However, within a few

months, Gueltzow was inducted into the K-9 Corps of the United States Army and also had to be replaced. Arthur E. Detjen became Managing Director at that time with Gustav P. Utke as Executive Vice President. Gueltzow was again named Manager upon his return from military service. Upon his retirement, it was necessary to search for a replacement for Gueltzow. Because this position involves the responsibility for the welfare of both the animals cared for at the Shelter and the humans employed there, the Wisconsin Humane Society Board was anxious to select someone who could competently fill the position. Albert P. Keller was selected as Manager in 1975.

## Housing the Wisconsin Humane Society



When the Wisconsin Humane Society was organized, Robert C. Spencer offered the Society room in the Spencerian College of Business, but it soon became apparent that more space was needed to carry out the programs that the Wisconsin Humane Society had planned. In 1880 the Society moved to a building on Broadway near Wells Street where living accommodations for the Superintendent and his wife were available to enable them to respond to requests for help at any time of the day or night.



The Wisconsin Humane Society's first animal shelter, built in 1926 on South 10th and West Pierce Streets.

Although the Society remained in rented quarters for many years, the members of the Board of Directors often talked of their wish to have a building of their own. An endowment fund was begun in 1904 with a legacy from Samuel Marshall, the Society's first treasurer, with the acquisition of a building in mind. Other loyal members added to the fund and, at

last, in 1926 a building was built on the southwest corner of South 10th and West Pierce Streets. A plaque listing all donors was dedicated on October 1, 1926. Over 200,000 animals were cared for there before May, 1939, when the Wisconsin Humane Society signed a contract for operation of a county-wide pound with Milwaukee County. The work was to be supported by income from dog licenses for all dogs in Milwaukee County. A committee was appointed to locate where expanded shelter facilities could be built since the South 10th Street building would now be too small. A triangular piece of land on the South side of Milwaukee was offered to the Society by Milwaukee County, but this arrangement was cancelled when the Perfex Corporation stated its need for the land for industrial expansion with an accompanying increase in employment. An alternate site was selected for the shelter on North Humboldt Avenue on the west bank of the Milwaukee River and, on November 21, 1939, the cornerstone was laid for the building at 4151 North Humboldt Avenue. August C. Orthmann, Society President, had visited shelters in a number of cities across the United States and observed their best features. The new building was planned to incorporate as many of these as possible. During a brief ceremony marking the laying of the cornerstone, William George Bruce, a long-time Milwaukee resident, paid tribute to the progress of the Wisconsin Humane Society in eliminating cruelty and pain from the lives of both animals and

humans. The completed shelter provided 146 kennels, an auditorium for educational programs for children and adults, and a clinical operating room.



The dedication of the Society's new animal shelter on October 1, 1926.

Although the new shelter building seemed spacious enough at the time the move was made, several factors combined to render its space inadequate. The population in Milwaukee County increased, bringing with it an explosion in the animal population, as well, since it is estimated that almost half of all families in the County are owners of at least one pet. The large number of kittens and

puppies born daily in the County meant that the number of animals handled by the Society doubled between 1946 and 1966, many of them having been picked up from the streets of Milwaukee County. The Society was forced to destroy at least seventy-two unwanted or sick animals every twenty-four hours, although a state law passed in 1955 required that strays be held a full seven days, instead of the previous five. In addition to the inconvenience of caring for animals in cramped quarters, the fear of infection from rabies and other diseases if sick animals could not be separated from the others made additional space absolutely necessary.

The Wisconsin Humane Society Board considered moving to a site in the southern part of Milwaukee County, but decided, instead, to accept the City of Milwaukee's offer to lease an additional 150 feet of land south of the building on which the Society would be permitted to enlarge its shelter building. Plans were drawn up for a \$330,000 building which would increase kennel capacity to 275 and provide separate space for animals suspected of having a contagious disease. There would also be space for a larger lecture hall, permitting the Society to continue its educational programs and provide space for the Milwaukee Dog Training Club, as well as a meeting place for owners of specialty breeds of dogs.

The cornerstone for the enlarged shelter was laid on July 10, 1965. Building expenses were met by gifts from corporations, while operating expenses would be met by



The Wisconsin Humane Society shelter in 1939 at 4151 North Humboldt Avenue in Milwaukee.

membership fees, income from the County Pound contract, and animal adoption fees, set at a nominal \$5.00 to \$10.00. When the new shelter was occupied in January, 1966, Dr. Harold Milke, a Board member for twenty-five years, cut the ribbon

to open it, although the stray section was actually not yet quite completed.

In 1974 the original section of the Shelter building, which had been built in 1939 on landfill, had settled so much that it was condemned by the City Building

Inspector. Although the space provided by this building was badly needed by the Society, funds were not available to replace it. The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors agreed to lend the Wisconsin Humane Society \$250,000 to replace the old building in return for which the County Executive would appoint two persons to be included on the Wisconsin Humane Society Board for terms of three years each, an arrangement which was to last until the loan was repaid.

When the new shelter was opened on North Humboldt Avenue in 1939, pet owners who could not afford medical treatment for their animals were invited to bring them to a free animal clinic held on Saturday mornings. This, and other Wisconsin Humane Society programs were supported by money received from bequests and legacies, as well as several categories of membership fees. In 1939, membership in the "Help a Dog Club" was \$1.00, Associate Membership, \$5.00, Active Membership, \$25.00, Benefactor, \$100.00, Sustaining Member, \$250.00, and Life Member, \$500.00. Inflation and the rise in costs over the years are reflected in the new categories of membership provided by a change in the By-Laws in 1977: Annual Member, \$10-\$25, Friend \$25-\$50, Patron, \$50-\$100, Benefactor, \$100-\$500 paid in one calendar year, Sustaining Member \$500 paid in one calendar year, and Life Member, \$1,000.



The Society's present shelter.

# Financing Wisconsin Humane Society Activities



Funding for their many activities was frequently a problem for the Wisconsin Humane Society, felt more acutely

at times than at others. At the turn of the century, the Society attempted to find a solution to financial difficulties by sponsoring benefit performances of various kinds. In 1909 a theatre benefit performance was given by Minnie Maddern Fisk at the Davidson Theatre and proved to be a most successful event. Miss Fisk was a celebrated actress known for her humanitarian activities as well as her stage ability. A "standing room only" audience welcomed Miss Fisk to the Society as an honorary member during the



Minnie Maddern Fiske, who performed a benefit performance for the Wisconsin Humane Society.

intermission. After the performance the Board voted to use some of the proceeds to distribute copies of Miss Fisk's poem "A Horse's Prayer" throughout the State.

As more charitable organizations, such as the Associated Charities of Milwaukee and the Wisconsin Society of the Red Cross, were organized to work for the welfare of children and adults alike, the Wisconsin Humane Society found it necessary to limit its work to animals, since it was the only officially recognized state organization concerned with animals. The Board in 1910 recommended that agents exercise their police powers in relation to children's welfare only in emergency cases so that more of the Society's resources could be devoted to animals. Had sufficient funds been available, the Society would have liked to continue their concern for both animals and humans alike, in line with their original purpose.

When the Society's work was confined more closely to Milwaukee County in 1916, it was hoped that funds could be used more effectively. Unlike humane organizations in other states, the Society does not derive income from fines paid by violators of anti-cruelty laws. At that time, income came from membership fees and occasional bequests, but the picture brightened in 1923 when the Wisconsin Humane Society was admitted to the Community Fund and provided with an allotment large enough to pay annual expenses. These funds were continued until 1939 when the Wisconsin Humane Society executed

a Pound agreement with Milwaukee County in substitution for its old agreement which was with only the City of Milwaukee. When the Society began receiving funds from the County, the Community Fund payments ended, except for a period between 1942 and 1946 when it became eligible for funds from the Community and War Fund Program in return for its work in training dogs for defense. The Society-County Pound agreements were executed every two years from 1939 until, in 1977, it became apparent that the terms of the most recent agreement, to run to 1978, could not be met. Funds for the operation of the Society Pound program were to come from 80% of the dog and cat licenses sold to the County. (The remaining 20% of the license money was to be used for other costs in connection with the collection of fees). Inflation, however, had raised the costs of the Pound beyond the amount realized from the licenses. Launching a publicity campaign "License to Love" which urged citizens to purchase licenses for dogs (and cats after 1977) had not resulted in more than 30% of the animals owned by County citizens being licensed. This left the Wisconsin Humane Society with an operating deficit of at least \$200,000. The County did not propose to make up the deficit from their general revenue, as they had in the past.

## Pound Operation



Milwaukee County municipalities benefiting from the Pound contract were notified that they would no longer receive services from the Society in collecting stray animals and arranging for unwanted pets brought to the Society. Each municipality would have to provide these services or make separate arrangements with the Society. But because the Society's facilities are known to be among the best in the Country, no municipality could hope to duplicate them. Operating as a humane organization, the Society would continue to investigate suspected cases of cruelty to animals, provide services for animals suspected of rabies, and conduct educational programs fostering the relationship between man and animals. Deliberations on the part of the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, and the individual municipalities led to a new agreement under which Milwaukee County will pay 25% of the cost of the Pound operation and the municipalities will each pay in proportion to their anticipated use of the Pound.

Because the Wisconsin Humane Society Shelter receives many lost dogs and cats, a number of activities have been instituted at various times to aid in reuniting pet and owner. Classified ads are placed in the daily papers from time to time reminding owners that the Wisconsin Humane Society is the first place to inquire about a lost pet. The picture of a "Dog of the Week" which appears weekly in *The Milwaukee Sentinel* brings many

calls from interested persons who would like to adopt a dog, as does the dog appearing weekly on WISN's "Dialing for Dollars". Dogs and cats available for adoption are also featured on WITI-TV's "PETCETERA", a monthly program featuring the activities of the Wisconsin Humane Society. Lost animals which are at the shelter are also shown. The Society has been greatly aided in its work since 1974 by a group of dedicated volunteers. The program began with almost thirty interested persons who have a variety of duties. Among these is the development of a file which lists not only those pets reported missing by their owners, but also animals which have been found and brought to the shelter. When a match is discovered, the owner is notified by the volunteer that their pet is found. In cases where a pet owner does not have transportation to the shelter, a volunteer may offer to provide it so that pet and owner may be reunited.

One of the unpleasant but necessary aspects of the work of any Humane Society is the disposal, in a humane manner, of animals who are sick, unclaimed for a specified amount of time and not adopted, or whose owners request it. Although the Wisconsin Humane Society is encouraged by the fact that a large percentage of the more than 7,000 strays handled in a year are claimed by their owners, at least seventy-two animals must be disposed of in any twenty-four hour period. Determined that this should be done in as humane a manner as possible, Society Directors made an effort to learn of new methods

as they arose. At the turn of the century, some felt that illuminating gas for this purpose should be replaced by electric shock as the most merciful method of disposal available, and infinitely less cruel than the methods of destroying animals then in effect at the City Pound. Perhaps these methods were better than the practice in the 1870's of distributing poison pellets throughout the City in hope that stray dogs would find and eat them. It was not long before the City became aware of the drawbacks involved in this. August C. Orthman, President of the Wisconsin Humane Society from 1929-1936, developed a painless lethal gas chamber which he presented to the Society and which was in use for many years. In 1975 the question of changing to a new high altitude chamber or of using a lethal injection to dispose of animals was discussed. It was apparent that the idea of a lethal injection was more acceptable to the Community so this method was adopted. The old high pressure chamber was presented to the Milwaukee Public Museum to be used in freeze-drying plants and the production of ceramic molds, with the stipulation that the chamber never again be used for its original purpose.

## Prevention of Cruelty to Animals



Although the Wisconsin Humane Society is perhaps best known today for its Pound work with stray dogs and cats; horses, cattle, and other types of animals have also received their attention through the years.

Even after the electric streetcar replaced the horsecar on the streets of Milwaukee, there were many working horses in the city whose well-being was of concern to the Wisconsin Humane Society. For several decades after the turn of the century, horses could be seen pulling wagons for the butcher or the baker, the coalman, or the iceman. Horses pulled wagons heavily laden with lumber, stone, or milk cans. Employers often did not inquire whether their drivers were skilled in handling horses, and often their men forced the horses to pull loads that were too heavy for them. Underpaid and ill-tempered teamsters frequently resorted to beating their animals in an effort to force the horses to move as quickly as possible. Some horses were too old or sick to work, but the owners did not want to bear the expense of replacing them. To call attention to such abuses, Wisconsin Humane Society members agreed not to accept a load of coal if more than two and one-half tons were delivered by only one team of horses. To encourage the maintenance of well-cared-for delivery horses, the Wisconsin Humane Society organized a work horse parade to be held May 30, 1911. Similar events had been successful in other American cities, according to the American Humane

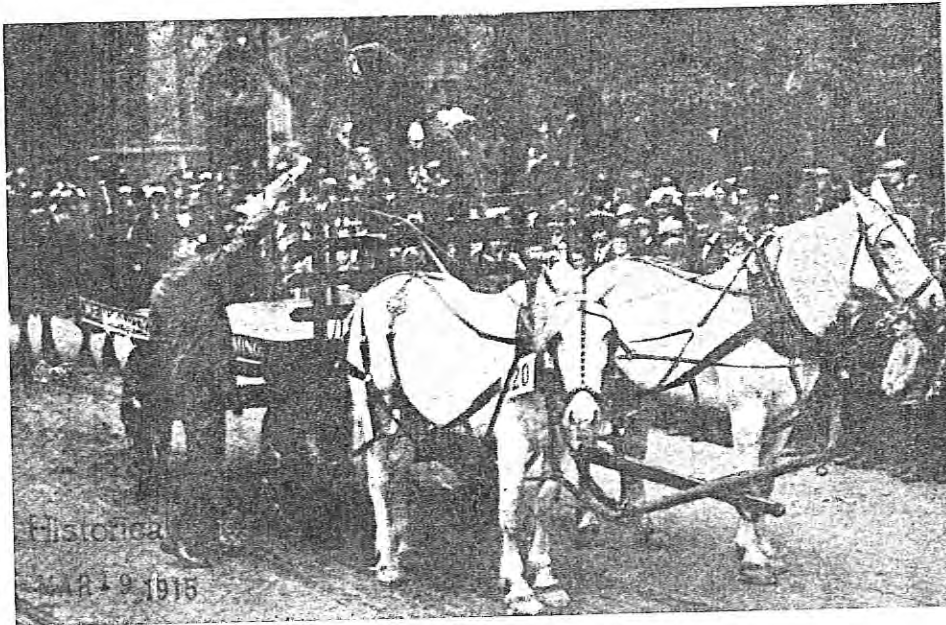
Association. No entry fee was required for a team of horses, but no horse with a docked tail was admitted to the parade. Well-mannered, well-cared for horses were presented with a red, white, or blue ribbon, and many of the horses that were accustomed to appear on the street only while working seemed to take pride in the ribbon hanging from their bridles. Society members claimed that horses on the streets after the parade seemed to be in better condition than before, which they hoped was the result of the object lesson provided by the parade. The following year the Board set aside \$100 to be used to distribute the popular children's classic *Black Beauty*, by Anna Sewell in an attempt to teach its lessons to the children of the state.



First place winner in the Old Horse Class, Milwaukee Work Horse Parade, May 30, 1911.

The Board of Directors during 1922 made an effort to become acquainted with the conditions of some of the working horses in the city. Director John Le Feber, President of Gridley Dairy Company, proudly invited his fellow board members to inspect the Gridley horse barns at North 8th and West Clybourn Streets. The board members were impressed to find that the four hundred horses that drew the Gridley milk wagons in the city of Milwaukee were provided with clean, warm stalls and a veterinarian, blacksmith, and harness shop were maintained for the benefit of the horses. John Kopmeier, President of the Wisconsin Ice and Coal Company, invited the Board to visit the stables maintained by his company, as well. It was obvious that these horses which pulled the ice wagons also received good treatment and that any one of them could have posed for the illustration painted on the side of the ice wagons with the motto, "Be Kind to Animals," Kopmeier served as President of the Wisconsin Humane Society in 1916 and 1917. Saddle horses were also of interest to the Society and in 1941 the winner of a natural mane and tail class among gaited saddle horse entries at the Wisconsin State Fair received a loving cup donated by the Society. It was hoped that this would call attention to the desirability of maintaining a mount without a tail set.

Humane Society officers inspected the conditions of animals wherever they could be found in the city; in pet stores, riding academies, fur farms, livery stables,



A view of the Work Horse parade held in Milwaukee on May 30, 1911.

poultry markets and slaughter houses. At one time, an officer inspected the canaries kept by a motion picture house to furnish musical accompaniment for silent films. One of the most serious problems confronted by the Humane Society officers was the transportation of livestock. Warnings were given that full-grown cattle must not be mixed with calves which were often injured or trampled to death because they were smaller and lighter than cows. In 1937 the Chairman of the National Livestock Loss Prevention Board warned that the meat industry annually suffered losses amounting to \$12,000,000 due to injuries or deaths sustained by cattle shipped by rail or truck. The Wisconsin Humane Society formed a State Livestock Loss Prevention Council to

educate farmers, truck drivers, and stock drivers in this matter.

Rescues of a bird stuck in a chimney, gulls frozen onto the ice on Lake Michigan, and a skunk trapped under a house were all effected by Humane Society officers. When St. Martins Fair took place on summer weekends, chickens, rabbits, ducks, dogs, cats, lambs, goats, hogs, pigeons, ponies, and calves were among the items bought and sold. Humane Society officers attended the fair to see that all animals brought to the fair were treated well and that none of those left unsold at the end of the day were abandoned by their disappointed sellers. In the spirit of the earlier concerns of the Society, the Wisconsin Humane Society animal ambulance became the headquarters for lost children.

With the development of social work as a profession in the latter part of the nineteenth century, humane societies no longer found themselves the only organizations concerned about the well-being of human beings as well as animals. When new societies were formed to care for the differing needs of children and of adults, humane societies could once again become societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals, as originally conceived by Henry Bergh. The Wisconsin Humane Society in 1977 reviewed its original Articles of Incorporation as written in 1879. Board members found that the original purpose was stated in 1870 as follows: "... to inculcate and promote humane sentiments and principles; to secure and enforce just laws for prevention of cruelty to human beings and animals..." This statement was brought up to date in 1977 by changing it to read "... to inculcate and promote humane sentiments and principles; to enforce just laws for the prevention of cruelty to domestic animals, wild life, birds, and other creatures..."

To carry out this purpose members of the Wisconsin Humane Society Board of Directors formed committees concerned with the work of the Society. According to their interests, directors were appointed to committees on membership, finance, education, legislation. In the earlier years of the Society, committees on prevention of cruelty to animals and on prevention of cruelty to persons were also formed to work with the Superintendent and his agents.

The concerns of these committees may be seen in the reports of their activities, carefully recorded and printed in the Annual Report for 1881:

### 1. Report on Cruelty to Persons

Complaints lodged with Society	399
Cases investigated by Superintendent	407
Persons cruelly used	218
Children comprised in above "persons"	164
Persons rescued from abuse	218
Children comprised in above "persons"	164
Parents or guardians cautioned or reprimanded	49
Complaints found to be without foundation	72
Persons arrested	18
Persons convicted	14

### Prosecutions discontinued —

Children provided for in families by Society	21
Persons sent to county insane asylum	1
Persons sent to county poor farm	2
Persons sent to county hospital	22
Children sent to St. Francis school	14
Children sent to reform school for boys	1
Children committed to industrial school for girls	12
Children committed to House of Good Shepherd	4
Young girls rescued from life of shame	15
Fallen girls returned to parents	10
Persons sent to home of the friendless	22
Persons sent to Passavant Hospital	4
Children sent to boys Polish Catholic school, La Salle	2
Children sent to girls Polish Catholic school, Mineral Point	2
Children sent to sisters foundling asylum	3
Children sent to Protestant orphan asylum	13
Persons committed to state prison, Waupun	1
Destitute persons relieved	281
Passes obtained	11

Number of families to whom clothing has been given	49
Number of families to whom oysters were given	58
Number of families to whom Thanksgiving dinner was given	17

### 2. Report on Cruelty to Animals

Number of cases personally investigated	304
Number of visits paid to German Market	73
Number of visits paid to Second Ward Market	89
Number of visits paid to Stockyards	37
Number of visits paid to slaughter houses	19
Number of visits paid to stone quarries	17
Number of visits paid to markets and fairs	9
Number of visits paid to factories	23
Horses or mules cruelly beaten	45
Cattle cruelly beaten	8
Horses or mules abandoned to starve	77
Cattle cruelly starved	156
Horses underfed or starved	26
Horses exposed to storms	18
Cattle exposed to storms	11
Horses badly overloaded	83
Horses overdriven	25
Cows left a long time un milked	156
Horses worked with badly galled backs	49
Cattle overdriven	5
Horses improperly harnessed	4
Horses insufficiently shod	27
Horses worked in sick or crippled condition	102
Cattle cruelly carried	13
Cattle found in filthy barns	6
Wounded cattle left in pain	1
Stock cruelly carried on railroads	38
Small animals wantonly tortured	20
Poultry cruelly carried	66
Songbirds killed by boys	9

These cases were disposed of as follows:

Complaints without foundation or where person complained of cannot be found	133
Owners cautioned	157

Drivers cautioned	105
Drivers compelled to unload	39
Teams doubled up	48
Horses temporarily relieved from work	79
Horses condemned as permanently unfit	17
Horses killed	37
Cattle killed to relieve pain	3
Horses required to be shod	27
Pet animals killed for owners	2
Nails and broken glass removed from streets	14
Ambulance used to transport sick or disabled horses of value	12
Water provided for street times during water famine	2
Persons arrested	35
Cases discharged	5
Persons convicted	26
Cases discontinued	4



## Humane Education



In the early years, the members of the Committee on Education were occupied with the distribution of humane literature to schools and other institutions throughout the state and encouraged the formation of Bands of Mercy for children. Interest in this type of activity died out eventually but, by the 1920's, junior humane societies became popular in Milwaukee area schools. By 1929 membership reached at least 3,000 children. A Junior Humane Society button became a mark of distinction awarded only to members who had fulfilled the requirements for membership, including the writing of compositions on how to be kind to animals and on the history of the humane society. Potential members were required to do a kind deed to an animal once a week, feed the birds in winter, and learn first aid hints for animals. Be Kind to Animals Week was observed annually with a display of posters made by Junior Humane Society members.

The Wisconsin Humane Society added an educational director to the staff in 1939 in order to institute several new programs, including a film lending library and a live animal loan service. The latter program involved the loan of a live animal, a cage, and the correct food to school classrooms. The accompanying complications of this program made it necessary to discontinue it within a few months. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts interested in working on pet care badges attended classes at the Shelter for this purpose. Education

was provided for animals as well as humans when the Milwaukee Dog Training Club began dog obedience classes on Wisconsin Humane Society grounds. More recently, puppy behavior clinics have been held on a monthly basis for persons adopting a new puppy. With the help of an animal behaviorist, new owners find that their pet can be

an asset to the family, rather than a liability, and are grateful for the assistance they receive in understanding their newcomer.

The educational work today includes giving assistance to teachers in working with school groups and the direction of an active Junior Humane Society which meets at the Shelter with over one hundred members. This group circulates its own separate newsletter to inform members of the many activities available to them. Junior Volunteers, who must be of high school age, make important contributions to the Society through their services. They groom animals in the adoption ward to help them to attract new owners, and accompany puppies and kittens who have been invited to pay visits to residents of health care facilities.

Education is also an important part of the success of the Spay/Neuter Program, initiated by the Society in 1978. Concerned by the pet population explosion that was occurring in Milwaukee County, the Society suggested that an ordinance requiring pet owners to keep animals on a leash be strictly enforced in Milwaukee County. After much study and discussion, the Spay/Neuter Program was undertaken as an additional measure. Persons adopting an animal at the Shelter receive a certificate, after paying the adoption fee, which entitles them to a physical check-up for their new pet at their own veterinarian, as well as a discount on the price of a spay or neuter operation for it.

Although the animals cared for by the Wisconsin Humane



The Henry Bergh statue illuminated during Be Kind To Animals Week in 1929.

## Humane Legislation

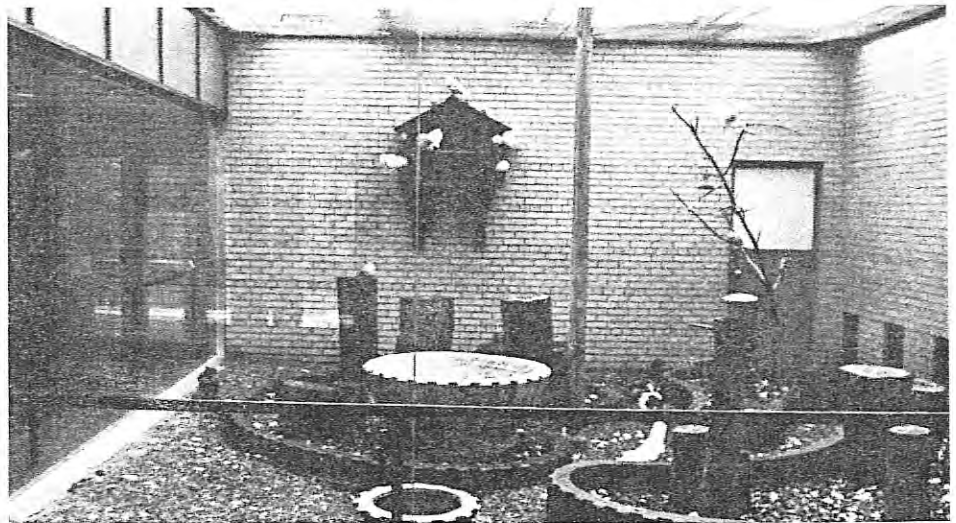
Society are, by the nature of the work, only transient visitors, the Society realizes that a resident dog or cat can be another form of education and living testimony to the value of loving care for a pet. Over the years, there has been a succession of mascots at the Shelter, remembered with great affection by all who came in contact with them regularly. One of the earliest mascots was Queenie, a mongrel dog who had been abandoned with her puppies on Jones Island. When the Humane Society personnel finally caught her, her puppies were dead and Queenie had almost had to become vicious in order to survive. At the Shelter, understanding care turned her into a gentle, sensitive dog who took very seriously her position as hostess. Ten years later, Queenie acquired an understudy, Blondie, another mixed-breed dog. When Queenie became ill and died, Blondie was ready to take over her duties, but Queenie continued to be a special memory to all who had known her. More recent resident animals have been Chico, a Siberian Husky, Princess, a Springer Spaniel, Pee Wee, a Shetland Pony, and Jill, a goat who appeared on stage in the play *Mr. Roberts*. Visitors to the Shelter today are met by Mariah, a German Shepherd, who also possesses, to an unusual degree, those qualities of friendliness, interest, and concern which have marked the Wisconsin Humane Society hostess dog through the years.



The law passed by the Wisconsin Legislature in 1912, requiring public school teachers to spend at least thirty minutes each month in teaching pupils the importance of kindness to birds and animals and the best methods of protecting all bird and animal life, came as the result of work by the Society's Committee on Education in cooperation with the Committee on Legislation. Like the Educational Committee members, those board members responsible for the Committee on Legislation interpreted the concerns of the Wisconsin Humane Society to the general public. In 1900 their efforts brought about the defeat of a bill before the legislature which would have permitted stock dealers to delay transit of stock only once every forty hours to permit stock to be fed and watered on their way to market. The National Stock Breeders

Association had sponsored this bill because they were interested in speeding their stock to market in as short a time as possible. However, opposition from the Wisconsin Humane Society and other humane organizations brought about this passage of a substitute bill requiring shippers to stop to feed and water stock every twenty-eight hours. Similar laws about shipping poultry were badly needed in Wisconsin, but it was not until 1924 that the legislature passed a bill regulating the height of poultry crates to eliminate crowding of poultry in transit. Thanks to members of the Committee on Legislation, the Wisconsin Legislature in 1927 passed a transportation law which required railroads to furnish partitions for carloads of livestock in mixed sizes to prevent calves from being injured or trampled to death. It was hoped that when the railroads found that damage claims were greatly reduced

The bird atrium at the Wisconsin Humane Society, added to the shelter in 1975.



## The Influence of Members



The success of the Wisconsin Humane Society's work has always depended upon the interest citizens have taken in furthering the principles of the Society. During the formative years of the Society, many prominent and wealthy Milwaukeeans were willing to lend their assistance to it in many ways. Among these was banker Samuel Marshall whose legacy began the fund which paid for the new building. Another was Captain Frederick Pabst who would not tolerate on the part of his drivers cruelty or hard usage of any of the huge horses that pulled the Pabst Brewery wagons through the streets. At his stock farm in Wauwatosa, Pabst maintained a splendid stable of his own percheron horses. It was Captain Pabst who supplied funds to purchase a derrick for the horse ambulance, making it possible to lift injured horses which had fallen into excavations or ditches. Brewer Valentin Blatz was another valued member of the Society. It was well known that he would discharge instantly any driver of a Blatz Brewery wagon if he were found guilty of cruelty to the horse he drove. Mrs. S. S. (Mary) Merrill and Mrs. Charles T. (Emma) Bradley were long-time officers of the Society. Mrs. Merrill was Chairman of the Committee on Cruelty to Animals and Mrs. Bradley was Chairman of the Educational Committee, not only of the Wisconsin Humane Society, but of the American Humane Association, as well. Under Mrs. Bradley's personal direction copies of humane literature were distributed to

as a result of this law, they would encourage other states to adopt similar measures.

The committee's work was not confined strictly to state legislation, but also included work on the national level. In 1920, the United States Congress was urged to pass a bill providing for an investigation into the practices of vivisection in the United States as a threat to the well-being of cats and dogs. The Society became a member of the Vivisection Investigation League in 1921, a national organization. The Society also endorsed the work of another national organization, the Red Star League, formed during World War I. Its concern was with the treatment of the many horses and mules accompanying the United States armed forces to Europe. Wisconsin Humane Society opposition was also directed at this time toward the trapping of wild animals for furs. The Society suggested that members be sure to purchase furs only from an authorized and inspected fur farm.

The Wisconsin Legislature created a statute in 1949 requiring dog pound operators to honor requisitions by two medical schools in Wisconsin for dogs to be used in medical experimentation. Although this was strongly opposed by the Society, the Society had executed a county pound contract which forced compliance with the statute. Several Board members felt so strongly opposed to compliance that they tendered their resignations to the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Humane Society. These members felt that

the 1949 statute was directly opposed to Wisconsin Humane Society policy of returning a lost dog to its owner if possible, placing it in a new home if it were not possible to return it, or destroying the animal in as humane a manner as possible, if necessary. Other members of the board realized that if they were to terminate their county pound contract the Society would suffer a great loss of income. The county would be forced to build a separate shelter of its own which could not possibly equal the one already provided by the Society. The medical schools insisted that their requisitions would only be for those strays due to be destroyed anyway, but Alfred Scott, President of the Wisconsin Humane Society, and Gustav P. Utke, Executive Vice President, resigned their offices in protest. Their resignations were reluctantly accepted by the rest of the Board with the realization that non-renewal of the Pound contract would result in severe financial problems. In an effort to compensate the Wisconsin Humane Society for its loss of financial support from Society members who felt strongly about the issue, the Milwaukee County Medical Society made a contribution to the Wisconsin Humane Society of \$492.00.

It was an entirely different situation in 1953 when a pharmaceutical firm asked to use stray cats which ordinarily would be disposed of for distemper serum production. The society agreed to this because the cats would be well taken care of and because cats everywhere would be the beneficiaries of the serum.

libraries and institutions throughout the nation. Winfield Smith, a former State Attorney General, and James Mallory, Milwaukee County District Attorney and Municipal Court Judge, were both signers of the Articles of Incorporation of 1879. Smith served as legal counsel for the Society without pay for many years. These are but a few of the many persons who contributed to the advancement of the Society in its early years.



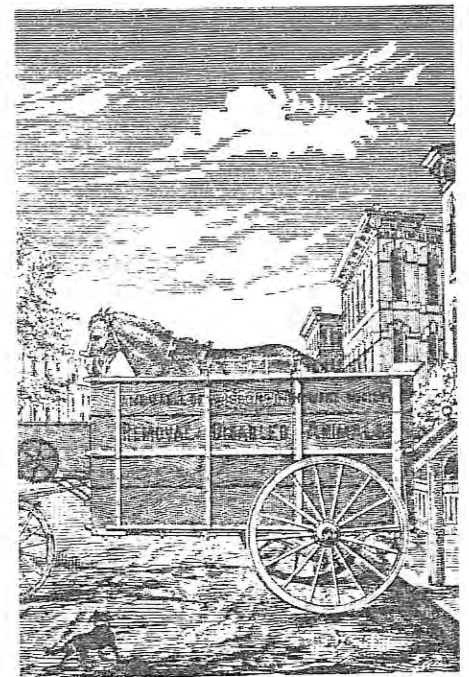
Samuel Marshall, first Treasurer of the Wisconsin Humane Society, from 1882 - 1906.



Captain Fredrick Pabst, a supporter of the Society in its early years.

Another Milwaukeean who gave much to the humane cause was Lenore Cawker. When she became a Society Director in 1905 she shared with the Board her concerns about the City Dog Pound. While working with underprivileged children at a Social Center near the Pound she heard the cries of the animals being brutally killed with an ice pick. This frequently disturbed the play of the children and greatly distressed Miss Cawker. Investigation by the Wisconsin Humane Society Board revealed that the keeper of the Pound was a political appointee and that the keeper was not greatly concerned about the manner in which his work was carried out. When it became apparent that the City administration would not change this situation, Miss Cawker appeared before the Milwaukee

Common Council and offered to operate the Pound herself at her own expense, in a manner she considered acceptable. The Council could see that this would be a financial saving for the City and accepted her offer in 1906. Miss Cawker undertook the work, thinking that it would be a short term project until better arrangements could be made by the City. But the City was pleased with the situation as it was, so Lenore Cawker relinquished her dream of becoming an artist and continued to care for the animals. She housed the strays for many years in the barn behind her parents' home at 2016 West Wisconsin Avenue, and among the more than 6,000 animals that

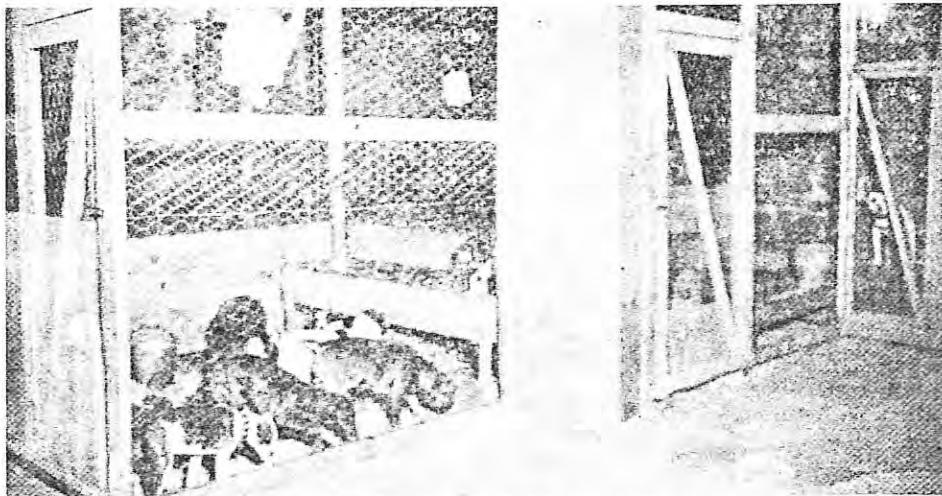


Ambulance used by the Wisconsin Humane Society in 1891.

found their way to the Cawker Animal Home might be found monkeys, an owl, a goat, doves, pigeons and horses in addition to the usual dogs and cats. If a suitable home could not be found for the animals, they were put to death in as painless a manner as possible. Because she considered the use of illuminating gas unsatisfactory for this purpose, Miss Cawker turned to



Miss Lenore Cawker, operator of the stray animal Pound for the Milwaukee County area from 1906 until 1930.



Miss Lenore Cawker's kennels at 2116 Grand Avenue in Milwaukee.

the use of electricity, one of the first to do so. When the Milwaukee Common Council appropriated an annual sum of \$1200 for Pound work, Miss Cawker was able to hire an assistant, but much of the work remained on her shoulders, and she was forced to depend upon her own inheritance in order to meet expenses. In February, 1921, Marquette University's Medical School created a stir by their request to replace Lenore Cawker as City Pound Agent in collecting stray dogs. The Wisconsin Humane Society, knowing the high quality of Miss Cawker's work and suspecting that any strays collected by the Medical School would be used in experimentation, strongly opposed this move. Because there was also strong opposition from private citizens, Marquette University soon withdrew its offer. The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors were persuaded to appropriate \$1200 annually to the Cawker Animal

Home when it was shown that many of the stray and unwanted animals cared for were found outside the City of Milwaukee, but in the limits of Milwaukee County. The County recognized the home as an incorporated Humane Society in Milwaukee County. Faced with the need for more space for caring for the animals, Lenore Cawker purchased an old home at 3711 West Wisconsin Avenue in 1927. In back of the home she built a large two-story structure for the animals with space to allow them to have fresh air and exercise. The American Humane Association made Lenore Cawker an Honorary Vice President in 1929 in recognition of her work. The following year, however, she was forced by ill health to give up her work. The Milwaukee County Board passed a Memorial Resolution at the time of her death in June, 1932 in tribute to her valuable contribution as a County Humane Officer.

## Awards



In an attempt to show their appreciation, the Wisconsin Humane Society recognizes the services of citizens in a variety of ways. The John Le Feber Medal has been presented annually to citizens performing acts of kindness to birds or animals. The award was sponsored by John Le Feber, a long-time director of the society. More than a dozen awards were made yearly, the youngest person to be so honored being a three year old boy who rescued a dog from a burning house. Another unusual award-winner was Brownie, a dog, who alerted his family to a fire in their home in 1972. Brownie was presented with a plaque for his heroism by the American Humane Association during a presentation ceremony televised for Milwaukee newscasts.

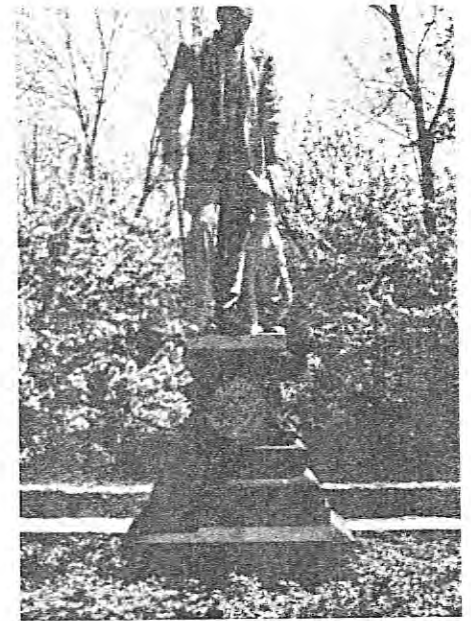
In 1976 the Fire Hydrant Seven, a committee of Milwaukee citizens, held the first annual banquet for friends of the Wisconsin Humane Society with proceeds going to the Society. The banquet features the presentation of the Sammy Award which is given to the citizen or citizens who have made a significant contribution to the advancement of the Wisconsin Humane Society during the past year. The Sammy award is sponsored by Jack and Rosemary Bischoff and named for the German Shepherd dog they adopted some years ago. Albert P. Keller was the first recipient of the award. The following year it went to George Speidel, Director of the Milwaukee County Zoo since 1947, for his service to animals, and to Harry Sonneborn, Managing

Editor of *The Milwaukee Sentinel*, for carrying the feature, "Pet of the Week."

The bronze statue of Henry Bergh, dedicated in 1891, has made its contribution to the successful work of the Wisconsin Humane Society. The statue was illuminated in Market Square every evening during the last week in April, 1929, calling attention to the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Society, coinciding with National Be Kind to Animals Week. It closed with a colorful horse parade made up of several hundred entrants cheered by crowds along the parade route.

When the American Humane Association convened in Milwaukee on October 4, 1937, its president, Sidney Coleman joined Wisconsin Humane Society President August C. Orthmann in a tribute to the work of Henry Bergh, founder of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The two men, joined by children with pet dogs, some Pound residents, and some horses representing the working horses of the city, laid a wreath at the base of the Bergh monument on North Water Street near the City Hall. A few years later, in 1941, the Henry Bergh statue was moved a short distance to allow the City of Milwaukee to widen North Water Street and to build safety islands. Because horses were only rarely seen on the streets of Milwaukee by this time, flowers were planted in the circular drinking trough. The work was completed by April 27th in time for a ceremony to mark the diamond anniversary of the statue's dedication on April 29, 1891. John S. Borges, small son

of John H. Borges, Secretary of the Henry Bergh Memorial Committee which arranged the observance, unveiled a bronze plaque to commemorate the occasion. A pet parade took place afterward on Lincoln Memorial Drive where traffic was barred for the duration of the event.



The Henry Bergh statue as it appears today in the garden of the Wisconsin Humane Society.

Plans to erect a new Marshall & Ilsley Bank building at East Mason and North Water Streets required that the statue of Henry Bergh be moved from its original site. Because one of the bank's founders, Samuel Marshall, had been an active member of the Wisconsin Humane Society Board for many years, bank officials generously agreed to pay moving costs to relocate the statue. Juneau Park

lagoon, the Children's Zoo at the Milwaukee County Zoo, and the boulevard at the east end of West State Street were considered, but the ultimate choice was just south of the shelter building on North Humboldt Avenue. The statue was removed from its pedestal and re-dedicated at its new site on August 16, 1967.

Even though it no longer stands at a busy downtown intersection, the Henry Bergh statue continues to serve the Wisconsin Humane Society as a reminder of the Society's principles to all who see the statue. At the suggestion of Board Member O. W. Carpenter in 1978, the Society arranged for the production of miniature copies of the statue. These are presented to persons who have made significant monetary contributions to the work of the Society, and thus the statue will be visible to many more persons in homes and offices.

As with any organization, the passing of time has brought many changes to the Wisconsin Humane Society. But throughout its one-hundred years of existence, one factor has remained constant — its concern for the well-being of both animals and humans in the State of Wisconsin. The future will undoubtedly mean many more changes will occur, but one factor must remain constant; the Society's unique contribution to caring will continue to be needed by the world as long as the Society is in existence.

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