

ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF CRUELTY,
November, 1941.

The past year has been a very busy one - this report covers almost twelve months from November 1st, 1940. Since our last annual meeting we have handled exactly 700 items of various types, including cruelty cases, prosecutions, investigations, consultations, talks to groups, and warnings to offenders.

Through the co-operation of the Railroad and Warehouse Commission, some fifteen cattle trucks were searched and fined - ten in South St. Paul and five in Albert Lea. Cruelty to animals in transport still remains a major problem. We spend all the time possible checking trucks, both at the markets and on the highways. It would take a volume to give the details of each case - some of which were most shocking and otherwise revealing that they could not be printed. One case in particular, in which the offender was committed to St. Peter as a psychiatric case. Approximately ^{fifteen hundred} ~~thirty~~ trucks were inspected as to partitions, over-loading and crowding. Of course, not all were guilty of infractions. All offenders were sent a warning letter and a copy of the humane laws of the state. To be exact, there were 104 letters of warning sent out. There were also sixty cases handled involving small animals, mostly dogs, seven of the cases involving lambs, and fifty-one cases involving livestock on farms. There were sixteen cases involving cruelty to human beings - the most included small animals, birds, etc. We gave sixty-three talks to different groups, besides many consultations, both in and out of the office. Many cases require researching several times and considerable correspondence before being closed.

We awarded certificates of merit to thirty-one individuals during the year for outstanding work in humane activities, and rescue of animals, some of which involved considerable risk. There were twelve humane educational broadcasts over Station WJII during the year by various speakers. This also is donated by WJII as a contribution to the humane cause.

A flourishing Humane Society was organized at Rochester, Minnesota. Twelve physicians are among the charter members of the Society. Both Mrs. Louis Koopko and Miss Helen E. Perry deserve special mention for their splendid cooperation in organizing the Rochester society. Much is expected of this new organization during the coming years. Dr. John F. Kover was the principal speaker at the first meeting of this new society.

LOCAL SOCIETIES

We have nine local societies in Minnesota, as follows: Pompano Falls, Blue Earth, Albert Lea, Lake City, St. Peter, Duluth, Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Rochester, which was organized in September last. The membership in these societies is comprised of representative citizens. The fact that these local societies exist is bound to have a restraining influence in their respective communities - always ready to respond when duty calls.

The value of prevention of cruelty is difficult to estimate in dollars and cents, and yet it is very real. Livestock properly cared for, whether on the farm or in transit, means greater savings and profits to the producer, besides a lot of unnecessary suffering to the animals themselves. Therefore, there is a very definite and practical side to humane work.

The loss in damaged and bruised meat throughout the nation amounts to many millions of dollars annually. Some have estimated it to be approximately 40 million dollars a year. The loss in damaged hogs alone last year at South St. Paul amounted to over two hundred fifty-three thousand dollars, a figure which cannot be ignored. The Minnesota Society for the Prevention of Cruelty through its program of prevention of cruelty and humane education helps very indirectly to reduce the annual loss in bruised meat, caused by the careless handling of livestock both on the farm and in transit.

In May of this year a joint meeting of the Rotarians and the Lions Club was held at Lovell Inn in Stillwater, at which time a gold medal was presented to Emma Mae Erling, twelve years old, who had risked her life to save four younger sisters and their puppies when their home was burned during the absence of their parents. The medal was awarded to Emma Mae by the American Humane Association. Mr. Bowen was again the guest speaker at this meeting.

At a Society Club meeting held in St. Peter, in honor of Mr. G. H. Colner, a gold medal was presented by Mr. Bowen in behalf of J. H. Grubbahank, of New York City, in special recognition of a beautiful poem written by Mr. Colner. Mr. Grubbahank, by the way, is a voluntary member of our Society and pays five dollars a year dues - our regular dues are one dollar. We received several complimentary letters from Mr. Grubbahank regarding our work, as well as many complimentary letters from other sources, but so far no criticisms, for which we are grateful.

So attending a meeting of the directors of the Midwest Convention in Chicago, of which your agent is a member, and also the Convention in Milwaukee.

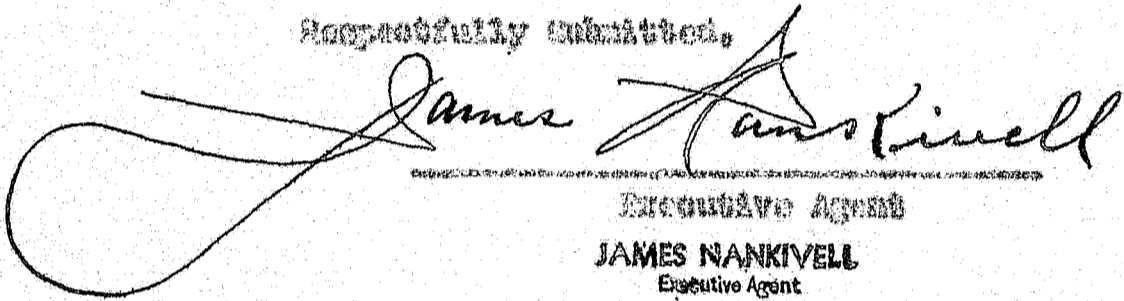
During last summer seven stories of rented houses were erected at Newport for cruelty to animals, and fined. At the suggestion of those in authority, we acted in an advisory capacity to the Justice of the Peace and took part in the prosecution. Our recommendations were accepted in each instance.

We had a very successful month at the State Fair again this year - it was visited by thousands of young people and adults. We had a fine exhibit of stuffed animals loaned to us by the American Hunting Association. As you know, our Junior Humane Society was inaugurated at the State Fair in August, 1919. Since that time we have enrolled over 18,000 boys and girls throughout the State as members of our Junior Division, all of whom have taken the pledge to be kind to all living creatures and those boys and girls were all serious about it.

Time and space will not permit further details here, but any special information desired by our members will be gladly given at any time. We are greatly hampered this year by not having a full time office assistant. Due to lack of funds, we have just a part time office assistant. The office is closed in the afternoon, when the Agent is out in the field. However, we have arranged with the switch-board at the Capitol to transfer all calls to the local Society when our office is closed, thus keeping us in contact with the public during our absence. We appreciate this courtesy on the part of the St. Paul Humane Society very much. May I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to the officers, directors and members whom we have called upon for counsel and advice from time to time. They have been most generous with their time. Dr. Lewis as usual is always an old standby, and made several trips with your Agent. He was always received with enthusiastic applause wherever he has spoken. As many of us know

Dr. Howe has served the Society as its president for nearly
a quarter of a century, and deserves the hearty thanks of every
member of our Society. May he go on forever.

Respectfully Submitted,


Executive Agent
JAMES NANKIVELL
Executive Agent

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Wm. H. Johnson
Secretary of State.

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