

Royal Society for



the Prevention of

Cruelty to Animals

(Founded 1824, Incorporated by Act of Parliament 22 and 23, George V. 1932)

One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Annual Report, 1952

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[Photo by courtesy of the Sunday Graphic]

A smile and a pat for a winner in the pony class at Newton Abbot from
Her Majesty the Queen, Principal Royal Patron of the R.S.P.C.A.

R.S.P.C.A. CHRISTMAS MARKET

This popular function will be held on the 18th and 19th November at the Seymour Hall, London, W.1.

Gifts of all descriptions (new and second-hand) will be accepted with gratitude. Can you please send an article for sale? Knit-wear, needlework, new and second-hand clothes (if clean and in a saleable condition), fruit, vegetables, books, toys, trinkets, jewellery, etc., usually find a ready sale. Parcels should be addressed to:—Appeals Department, R.S.P.C.A., 105, Jermyn Street, S.W.1.

R.S.P.C.A. CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CALENDARS

An increased range of designs will be available for 1953. A leaflet with illustrations and prices of these popular cards and calendars will be forwarded on request. Owing to heavy demands, early orders will be appreciated.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR 1952

1952 saw the passing of the Society's much-loved Patron, His Majesty King George VI. His Majesty had been a generous supporter of the Society for very many years, following the great tradition of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, whose keen interest in animal protection work led her to bestow on the young Society the prefix "Royal." Her Majesty The Queen Mother continues to support the Society's work and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth has graciously consented to become its Patron.

The Elizabethan age was one of great advance in sea travel, and the first year of Her Majesty's reign has undoubtedly seen a tremendous development in air travel. It was fitting, therefore, that during that year, the R.S.P.C.A. Animal Hostel at Heath Row Airport started its beneficent activities. This Hostel, which is the first of its kind in the world, makes provision for the housing and care of animals in transit from the four corners of the earth. The Society must move with the times and here is an enterprise peculiarly typical of that new Elizabethan age into which we are now moving.

THE SOCIETY AND PARLIAMENT

LEGISLATION AND QUESTIONS

Since the reintroduction of the Ballot for Private Members' Bills in 1949, after a lapse of ten years, the Society has been fortunate each year in having humane Measures introduced by Members who have drawn places, and in the first Session of 1952 two such Bills were presented, one of them passing through all stages and, in an amended form, becoming an Act of Parliament.

The Riding Establishments Amendment Bill, introduced by Mr. B. G. B. Finlay, M.P. for Epping, was meant to ensure:—

- (i) that all Riding Establishments were registered by the Local Authorities concerned;
- (ii) that all Local Authorities appointed a veterinary surgeon to inspect Riding Establishments in their areas. (Under the present law they are not compelled to do so.)

Unfortunately, Mr. Finlay secured only a very low place in the Ballot, and—since this made it very unlikely that the Bill would come up for Second Reading—he reluctantly decided to withdraw it.

The Cockfighting Bill, introduced by Mr. (now Sir) Sidney Marshall, M.P. for Sutton and Cheam, aimed at prohibiting (i) the keeping of a domestic fowl prepared for fighting; (ii) the possession of the metal spurs which are usually fixed to the legs of birds participating in such contests. Unfortunately, a successful amendment in the House of Lords deleted the section of the Bill dealing with the first point; consequently, the measure, as it became law, forbids only the keeping of fowl prepared for fighting.

of a kitten from a high ledge on a building in Clayton Street. Police-Constable Batty and Inspector Nairn had to climb over high roofs, some of which were rotten, and up a drain pipe in order to rescue the kitten. The rescue took almost an hour and was watched by a crowd of approximately 300 people. At the same meeting a cheque for £2 2s. was presented to Mr James L. Taylor, of Rochester Dwellings, for his bravery in catching a terrified alsatian which, unfortunately, had to be humanely destroyed. Her two puppies were adopted by Mr Taylor.

Rotherham and District About 200 people attended the branch annual ball. Those present included Lady Galway, branch president, the Mayor of Rotherham, Councillor Maurice Young, Alderman Mrs Green, JP, Miss Collinson, branch hon secretary, Mr C. A. Stevens, hon treasurer, Dr and Mrs Peter Collinson, Dr and Mrs Griffiths and many others.

★ Mrs B. A. Haynes, Dinnington auxiliary hon secretary, reports that £6 3s. 3d. was raised for the Animal Distress Fund when pictures were displayed showing the rescue work undertaken by the RSPCA.

Scarborough Mrs G. B. Garnet, Filey auxiliary hon secretary, organized a coffee party and raised £12 for branch funds.

Southport, Birkdale and District The branch annual meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms of the Cambridge Hall, Southport, and many children as well as adults attended. Reports were submitted by Miss Richards, hon secretary, and by Mr H. Brunt, hon treasurer. Major Pulleine, branch organizer, who gave an address, was thanked by Mr G. E. C. Eddowes, branch chairman. Councillor J. W. Buckley moved the adoption of the report submitted by Senior Inspector Coventry. Prizes were presented by the Mayoress, and the Mayor and Mayoress were thanked on a vote of thanks by Councillor J. W. Buckley.

★ Miss Richards, branch hon secretary, attended a talk and film show given to the Young Wives Club at the Methodist Church Hall, Southport, by Senior Inspector Coventry. The Chief Constable of Preston lent a projector and Detective-Sergeant Whatmough operated the machines.

Staffordshire—North Mrs Berry, Stoke-on-Trent auxiliary hon secretary, reports that the Port Vale football ground collection raised £37 for branch funds.

Stockport and District Mrs Barlow, New Mills auxiliary hon secretary, reports that a dance held recently raised £6 1s. 4d. and was a great success.

★ The North-Western Road Car Co Ltd presented a successful pantomime in aid of Hayfield auxiliary. Mr M. E. Matthews produced the pantomime 'Robinson Crusoe' and the script was by Mr G. Howes.

★ Animal Defenders of the Hayfield and New Mills Group, accompanied by parents, Miss Rushby, the group leader, and Inspector Coles, visited the Manchester Hippodrome and saw the pantomime 'Aladdin.'

Surrey—Guildford and District Inspector Hawxwell gave a talk on the work of the Society to members of the Cathedral Youth Club, Guildford.

Sussex—Mid, and Eastbourne Miss Middleton, branch hon secretary, reports that a bridge evening at the Cumberland Hotel raised £52 10s. 10d. for branch funds.

Westmorland A very successful film show was held at Ambleside organized by Mrs Hulbert, president and treasurer of the Ambleside and Rydal auxiliary, and Mrs Mair, auxiliary hon secretary. Mr Snaith, Kendal, very kindly gave his services and lent his projector. A silver collection was taken for the Flood Relief Fund and £17 was raised.

★ Mrs Parker, Grasmere auxiliary hon secretary, recently organized a show of the Society's films which was held in the Schoolroom, Grasmere. An anonymous friend paid the

expenses for the hire of the projector and a collection taken in aid of the Flood Relief Fund amounted to approximately £4.

Worcestershire—East, and West Warwickshire A concert held by Miss Balmforth in the Town Hall at Alcester raised £8 5s. for branch funds. Mrs Thornton, auxiliary hon secretary, spoke on the work of the RSPCA.

Yorkshire—Bradford and District Miss G. Hall, branch secretary, reports that Mr and Mrs R. Batty, of Eccleshill, organized a dance and raised £20 for branch funds.

Yorkshire—Harrogate and District Senior Inspector Barrer gave a talk on the care and treatment of animals and on the work of the Society to members of the Ripon Central Guild.

FLAG DAY RESULTS

(We give, wherever possible the place where the Flag Day was organized and the name of the organizer or organizers.)

Puckeridge, Mrs D. Mills, aux hon sec, £17 12s. 1d.; Calne and Chippenham Rural, Miss Livingstone (Chippenham and District aux hon sec, Miss Carrington and Miss Pound (Calne and District aux hon sec), £43 18s.; Wareside, Mrs Parrott, aux hon sec, £2 15s. 3d.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE COLLECTIONS

(We give, wherever possible, the place at which the house-to-house collection was made, and the name of the organizer or organizers.)

Newark, Mrs Aldred, aux hon sec, £12 19s. 6d.; Grimsby and District Branch, £112 5s. 9d.; Newark, Mrs Aldred, aux hon sec, £4 4s. 2d.; Hants and Surrey Border Branch, £585 3s. 2d.



Stall holders at the Coffee Morning organized by Mr and Mrs Douglas, Branch Co-Honorary Secretaries for Craven and Upper Wharfedale, are from left to right, Miss E. Douglas, Miss Redfearn, Mrs Douglas and Mrs Wyatt. 'Shep' is also in the picture

RSPCA FILM NEWS

The Society's films were sent to the following places for showing recently: Gerrards Cross, Canning Town, Chobham, Rotherwick, Penwortham, Portslade, Wellingborough; Southport, Epsom, Nottingham, Coventry, Monkseaton, Ashington, Morpeth, Okehampton, Margate, Warsop, Lowestoft, Peterborough, East Ham, Bexhill-on-Sea, Bolton, Thorpe-le-Soken, Whitehaven, Cullercoats, Washington, Rotherham, Birmingham, Southport, Enfield, Minehead, Kineton, Salisbury, Gateshead-on-Tyne, Battersea, Seaford, Middlesbrough, Leek, Manchester, Wolverhampton, Hatherleigh, Lemington, Bedlington, Wadhurst, Leckhampton, Billingshurst, Wallington, Ryton-on-Tyne, Crayford, Llanelly, Hastings, Charlton, Eastbourne, Exeter, West Moors, Leverington, Fareham, Ottershaw, Stockport, Walpole Cross Keys.

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THE ANIMALS OF OUR ROYAL FAMILY

Her Majesty The Queen, principal Royal Patron of the RSPCA, who is shown on the front cover making a characteristic gesture of friendliness to an animal, has always been fond of them. The Queen and her family have always had dogs and horses. At the present time Her Majesty has two Corgis—Susan, who is over eight years old, and Sugar, who is quite young. Both dogs spend plenty of time with the children, who are fond of them.

The Queen Mother has two Corgis—Crackers, who is elderly, having been born before the recent war, and Honey. Princess Margaret has chosen a Sealyham, whose name is Johnnie.

The Queen began to ride when about four years

old, and from then onwards had ponies who, in due course, were ridden by Princess Margaret. Her Majesty rides now whenever time allows. She has a hack named Pegasus and has been seen in public at the last two Trooping the Colour ceremonies riding the police horse Winston.

Both Prince Charles and Princess Anne own ponies, though they have not yet learnt to ride them. Prince Charles has a Shetland called Cloudy and Princess Anne an Exmoor pony, Heather Maid. Princess Anne's pony is still only about two years old and has, therefore, not yet come to join the other horses in the Royal Mews.

The Duke of Edinburgh has three or four ponies which are kept at Windsor.

RSPCA ACHIEVEMENTS

Water for Cattle at Cockermouth Market

For the past five years, Inspector Turnell has been campaigning for drinking facilities to be provided for the cattle coming into this market, many of whom have travelled all the way from Northern Ireland and arrive tired and thirsty. A new trough has now been erected and this will enable these animals to obtain a refreshing drink at the end of their exhausting journey, a provision which should have been made six years ago.

Comfort for Calves

Thanks to the unremitting efforts of Senior Inspector Thwaites, a well-built, spacious pen has been provided for the young calves at Okehampton Market, who previously were exposed to wind and weather in conditions of the utmost discomfort. Covered accommodation for pigs has also been erected, which will house 400 animals. Both these improvements were urgently needed and will make the lot of the animals concerned more tolerable.

Another Victory

At Wellingborough, Inspector Daniels has succeeded in persuading the authorities to supply straw for the calves. As the calf shed faces north, the animals have suffered greatly from cold in the past and the provision of bedding will prevent much needless suffering on the part of these young creatures.



[Photo by courtesy of The Star, London]

Freedom! A wild bird released in Green Park, London, by the RSPCA. The bird was one of three chaffinches and two greenfinches given their freedom. They were obtained by the RSPCA during investigations into the activities of illegal traffickers in wild birds

Animal World

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[Photo by courtesy of Sunday-Graphic

*A pat from Her Majesty The Queen,
principal Royal Patron of the R.S.P.C.A.*

(17m)

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE RSPCA