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The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SALE TO AN ALIEN OF THE PASSENGER VESSEL "ATLANTIC"—ORDER TO HOLD BILL AT THE DESK

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill (H.R. 16498) to permit the sale to an alien of the passenger vessel Atlantic be held temporarily at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill is so ordered.

CARE OF ANIMALS USED IN RESEARCH

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 19846, which has come over from the House.

Without objection, the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the report of the Committee of the Whole on the bill (H.R. 19846), an act to amend the act of August 24, 1966, relating to the care of certain animals used for purposes of research, experimentation, exhibition, or held as pets, which was read twice by its title.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeds to consider the bill.

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, as the senior Republican member of the Senate Committee on Commerce since 1963, I have watched with great satisfaction the development of our congressional commitment to the protection and humane treatment of animals.

Public Law 89-544, the act amended by the bill which we are considering today, was considered by the Senate Committee on Commerce and enacted into law in 1968. As one of the Senate conference on the 1968 bill, and one who has a continuing interest in this area, I have been pleased by the improvements which have resulted from its enactment. However, I have also been disturbed by the need for further improvement.

It is for this reason that I cosponsored the bill which we are considering today. I am aware of the other views which have been expressed. It is interesting to note, however, that a significant part of the bill which we are considering today represents the views of other members of the committee.

I am impressed by the skill evidenced by the designers of this piece of legislation in resolving differences we have seen in the past between humane animal care groups and the medical research community. I know this has taken many months of hearings and consideration by the House Agriculture Committee and, now, that this bill has reached the Senate, I congratulate all those responsible for their efforts in this regard.

Having served as a House conference for the doggling of bill of 1966, I, fully appreciate the accomplishment of the sponsors of this bill.

While this bill provides for the protection of animals used in research and experimentation, it is not just a laboratory animal bill. It extends humane treatment of animals to wholesale pet dealers, zoo and pet shows, circuses, carnivals, and auctions. As a result, when the appropriate regulations are issued by the Secretary of Agriculture, these animals will be handled in a manner which will improve the well being of mankind. It is an important step forward in this area.

The bill is designed to fill the gaps which were left in the 1968 law. It is, in my view, an important step in the development of humane treatment of animals. I am pleased to support this bill and urge its prompt enactment.

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, the bill was sponsored by the House Committee on Agriculture and has been passed with the support of Representatives, including Mr. MANSFIELD, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. EISENHOWER.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO FILE REPORTS UNTIL MIDNIGHT TONIGHT

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate, by a request of this Committee, be authorized to file reports on this bill, including any minority, additional, supplemental, and individual views.
The Secretary has broad authority as to the timing of specific regulations and I am sure that he will allow our medical schools ample time to get ready for compliance. There is no reason for the need for added funds for this purpose would be given by the appropriate governmental bodies.

Having reached this point, I do not believe that we should delay any further in approving the bill which we now have before us.

Mr. President, an interesting and informative article appeared in Washington's Sunday Star entitled "More Legal Protection on the Way for Animals Behind Bars." I ask unanimous consent that this article be placed in the Record at this point.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

MORE LEGAL PROTECTION ON THE WAY FOR ANIMALS BEHIND BARS

By Ann Connelly

The idea behind the proposed Animal Welfare Act of 1970 has been a long time coming—there has been an uphill battle, often resisted by powerful forces—but it looks now at last to be a bill that will get its final vote in the closing hours of the 91st Congress. That its passage will be a tribute to a deepened Congressional ecologic conscience. More and more members of Congress are realizing that all animals, in addition to their use for food, have a right to life, a right to freedom, a right to protection from cruelty and neglect. The debacles of recent years, with decency and respect—regardless of whether they are endangered species roaming in the wild or animals doomed to spend their lives behind bars in laboratories or zoos, have blunted the issue of animal rights. There can be little doubt that the passage of the Endangered Species Act one year ago has contributed to this progress. The current bills on man's relationship with the earth and all its creatures have had a profound effect on ecologic thinking.

The new legislation—which has so many sponsors that this sentence would be confused by listing them all—has its roots in proposals first made exactly 10 years ago, in 1960, by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Physicians Foundation and the Federal Humane Slaughter Law, humanitarians stirred laying congressional groundwork to bring some measure of federal supervision to the care and treatment of laboratory animals.

HUMANS

The well-funded research explosion was using an unprecedented number of dogs, cats, primates and a variety of other creatures. Estimates have gone as high as 300 million annually. They were often obtained from questionable sources and treated with care less than the most expendable test tube.

There were persons who worked for setting standards of care who were immediately called anti-vivisectionists or branded as "humanitarians" by the scientific community. In truth, they were violently opposed by the antivivisectionists, who were working for total abolition of animal use. Though there were many more "pet-napping" cases than ever introduced during those years, they went nowhere. In desperation, humane organizations tried new approaches and often fell to quarreling among themselves about tactics and strategy. (Most of the bills gave supervisory authority to Health, Education and Welfare.)

But 1965 brought the beginning of a breakthrough. In February of that year a New York Assemblywoman introduced a bill that became law in the fall, and the new law provided for the death for the first time of medicators for experimental purposes. The law was the forerunner of the 1970 Animal Welfare Act.

In 1967 the Humane Society of the United States, the Humane Committee of the New York State Senate and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, together with others, led the fight to introduce the bill. The Congressman who introduced the bill was Mr. Paul T. Anderson of Ohio. The Senate version was sponsored by Mr. Thomas J. Dodd of Connecticut.

In the Senate, the bill passed with a unanimous vote, but it died in the House. There are many reasons why this is so. It is not clear whether the Animal Welfare Act will be the last word in animal legislation. The bill is only a beginning, but it is a step in the right direction.

The Animal Welfare Act of 1970 has been described as a milestone in the history of animal protection. It is an important piece of legislation, and it is hoped that it will be the first of many similar laws. The bill provides for the licensing and inspection of animal facilities, for the protection of animals from experimentation, for the control of animal research, and for the control of animal research facilities. It is hoped that this legislation will help to ensure the humane treatment of animals in the future.