

scientist' or 'worthy, tweed-clad ladies and army officers'. This chapter is preaching to the converted - which is a shame, as some interesting points are raised which, during the last decade, have become the focus of much public debate. As with certain other sections of this paperback edition, I feel it is to the publisher's chagrin that they did not take the opportunity to revise this part of the text.

Anne McBride
Anthrozoology Institute
University of Southampton
Southampton, UK

Animal Welfare in Europe: European Legislation and Concerns

Edited by David B Wilkins (1997). Kluwer Law International: London and The Hague. 423pp. Hardback. Obtainable from the publishers, P O Box 858889, 2508 CN, The Hague, The Netherlands or, Sterling House, 66 Wilton Road, London SW1V 1DE, UK (ISBN 9041106634). Price £98 or NLG250 or US\$155.

This book was prepared by the 'Eurogroup for Animal Welfare' under the editorship of its Director, David Wilkins. It has its origins in two, separate publications previously produced by Eurogroup, dealing respectively with areas of concern for animal welfare in Europe, and European Community legislation - the subject-matter of which has been revised, updated (to 1 February 1997) and brought together as discrete sections of the present volume.

The first part, 'Analysis of Major Areas of Concern for Animals in Europe', forms approximately a third of the book. Separate chapters consider issues relating to: farmed animals; wild animals; companion animals; animal experimentation; and animals in sport, entertainment and exhibitions. Relevant topics under these general headings are then considered separately in respect of: 'reasons for concern', 'economic and consumer factors', 'legislation', and possible European Union (EU) and Council of Europe (C of E) initiatives. The chapter on farm animals for example, includes sections on transport, slaughter, principles of farm animal welfare, growth promoters, genetic engineering, cattle, pigs, laying hens, poultry kept for meat, farmed deer, sheep and goats, commercial rabbit production, fish farming and animals farmed for fur. The first part also contains two short, but useful, chapters which provide an introduction to the basis of animal welfare legislation in the context of the EU (with an associated appendix containing the relevant articles in the Treaty of Rome), and the implications for animal welfare of the present international enthusiasm, as represented by the World Trade Organisation, for removing trade barriers.

The second part of the book provides a 'Summary of Legislation Relative to Animal Welfare at the Levels of the European Community and the Council of Europe'. The inclusion of the activities of the C of E, too often overlooked, is particularly welcome. Again, the chapters focus on animals in particular contexts - wild, farm, experimental, genetic engineering and biotechnology, companion, and miscellaneous - with separate consideration of particular topics. In respect of each topic, a summary of existing European Community (EC) legislation and work in progress is provided, together with a chronological listing of the major developments relating to that topic within the C of E and the institutions of the EC. There are also a number of references to decisions of the European Court of Justice, but the reader should be warned that these do not provide a comprehensive picture of the Court's jurisprudence in respect of animals. It is surprising, for example, that there

is no mention of the important 1996 decision of the Court in *R v Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, ex parte Hedley Lomas (Ireland) Ltd* (case C5/94).

However, this section provides a valuable overview of the way in which the debate about animal welfare at a European level has evolved; the advances that have been made in securing increased regulation; the slow and incremental nature of this progress; and the large number of areas where the need for further reform has been identified. By giving references to many of the decisions, debates and relevant documentation it also provides an important aid to research, especially for finding relevant entries in the *Official Journals* of the European Communities. Although very brief summaries of the most important legislation, reports and decisions are included, in most cases the reader will still need to refer to the original sources for a full and detailed account.

The book concludes with ten appendices relating to: the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals; the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats; the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora; and the Council of Europe Conventions relating to animal welfare. These indicate the countries which have respectively signed, ratified and given effect to them.

The cover of the book claims it is, 'a unique reference work for all those with an active interest in issues of animal welfare'. This is accurate in part: it *is* a unique and valuable source of information, and it should be purchased by any library purporting to specialize in animal welfare or related matters. Beyond that, however, it is unclear for whom this book is intended. Clearly, the price will detract all but the most affluent aficionado from purchasing it. This is to be regretted since it contains much - especially in the first part - which merits wide dissemination. Furthermore, while some of the text is clearly aimed at the reader who knows very little about the workings of the EC and the C of E, full use of the second part of the book requires a detailed understanding of, and familiarity with, the status and relationship between the various documents and institutions to which it refers.

The two publications on which this volume is based were originally produced for the benefit of Members of the European Parliament, and made available to other interested parties. While Eurogroup it to be congratulated on collating this information and regularly updating it, one would not have thought that there was a very wide market for it in its present form. One also wonders whether the publishers will be prepared to produce new editions on a similarly regular basis.

Supra-national organizations such as the World Trade Organisation, the C of E and the EC have had a profound effect on the degree and nature of animal protection legislation. Their influence is, if anything, increasing. All those with an interest in animal welfare who wish to understand the political and legal considerations which influence the degree of protection afforded to animals must have some understanding of the workings and impact of these bodies. On this basis, *Animal Welfare in Europe* is a welcome addition to the literature. However, it would be desirable for Eurogroup to produce a more accessible volume (both in terms of price and content), based on the first part of the present book.

Mike Radford
School of Law
University of East Anglia, UK