

# Now Lassie Comes Home-In An Ambulance

By Margaret Koch

The phone rang recently out at 2200 Seventh avenue and a woman's voice came through, loud and clear:

"There's a dog out here — he's trapped on a cliff — he can't come down or go up. I don't know what to do."

Mrs. Alva Engberg, business manager for Santa Cruz county animal Welfare association, Inc., took the call. She immediately got on a two-way radio

and directed help to the scene.

At the other end of the two-way radio hookup was the association's brand new "animal ambulance." It streaked to the rescue — the driver rigged up ropes and was able to get the dog down. It was un-injured, but if it had been hurt, the ambulance driver was equipped to take it away in style.

The ambulance, in addition to two-way radio, has three custom-built cages and mattresses

for the comfort of injured animals. It is used for all calls concerning lost, strayed or injured dogs. And every patient is given professional first aid by a veterinarian.

"We get six or eight calls a day," Mrs. Engberg said.

The association has carted off injured burros, deer, calves, owls, hamsters, seagulls, goats, sheep, cats, raccoons —

"Anything, as long as it's alive," Mrs. Engberg noted. "Or anything

that is a menace to public health and welfare."

Skunks come under that last classification.

"Our man got sprayed once — we didn't let him in the office for quite a long time," she said.

Rats also can be a menace — once in a while a rat bites someone.

"But we haven't had a rabies case yet — thank goodness."

The ambulance truck cost \$2100, brand new. All fittings were custom built by a friend of the association for "a very nominal fee."

The non-profit organization contracts with Santa Cruz county and the city of Capitola and works with all veterinarians in the county.

The shelter staff is headed by Poundmaster Howard Potter. Others are Assistant Poundmaster Donald Powers, Deputy Poundmaster Floyd Elliott, Receptionist Dorothy Finkel and Mrs. Engberg.

Association officers are Mrs. Engberg, president; Mrs. Delores Antle, vice president; Mrs. Inez Smith, treasurer; Mrs. Grace Prescott, secretary.

Board members include Mrs.

Smith, Mrs. Engberg, Francis Siliman, Dr. George Stokes, Robert Darrow, Veterinarian Pack Pflock and Walter Merrill.

The organization maintains a permanent rummage shop at 402 Seabright avenue which is manned three days a week by volunteers. The association holds membership with the California State Humane society.

"And business is booming," added Mrs. Engberg.

## Conservatives' Papers On File

Sacramento — (CNS) — The Active Conservatives of Santa Cruz County has filed corporation papers here, Secretary of State Frank M. Jordan announced today.

Listed as directors of the non-profit organization are Herb Reid 606 Miramar drive, Santa Cruz; Alan H. Nittler, 124 South Park way, Santa Cruz; and Dean Ladd, Aptos Creek road, Aptos. Address for the organization is P.O. Box 250, Santa Cruz.

BUY U. S. SAVINGS BONDS



Mrs. Alva Engberg, business manager for the association, comforts a "patient" that has

just been transported via the "animal ambulance."

♦ ♦ ♦



Hurt, lost or stray animals in Santa Cruz county will be transported in this brand-new

ambulance, recently purchased by Santa Cruz county Animal Welfare association, Inc., located

at 2200 Seventh avenue. The truck-ambulance features special cages and mattresses

Public Affairs Group Bureau

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