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PROHIBITING CERTAIN ACTS WITH  
ANIMALS AND USE OF CERTAIN  
INSTRUMENTS TO CONTROL THEM

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<p><b>PROHIBITING CERTAIN ACTS WITH ANIMALS AND USE OF CERTAIN INSTRUMENTS TO CONTROL THEM.</b> Initiative. Defines bull-dogging, bull-riding, bull-dodging, wild-animal-racing, wild-animal-milking, steer-roping, two-men-roping, high-lifting, loin-strapping; prohibits such acts or use of spurs to make animal buck, or</p>	<p>YES</p>	
<p><b>21</b> terrifying or exciting it by any means, for sport, exhibition, or amusement; declares such prohibition inapplicable to farming or dairying or to branding or breaking animals in raising cattle, horses or mules; prohibits the biting, chewing or twisting any part of an animal's body or holding or controlling an animal with pincers, twistors or similar instruments; and prescribes penalties for violations.</p>	<p>NO</p>	

(For full text of Measure see page 49, Part II)

**Argument in Favor of Prohibiting Certain Acts with Animals and Use of Certain Instruments to Control Them Initiative Measure**

This initiative measure is aimed at the abolition of the cruel features of rodeos, Wild West shows, and other similar exhibitions, and not at the shows themselves. It provides that the acts set forth therein shall not be practiced for sport, amusement, or exhibition, and does not interfere with the business of cattle or horse raising, dairying or farming.

Cattlemen, everywhere, agree that bull-dogging, bull-riding, calf-riding and wild-cow-milking are not practiced on the ranges and are not essential to the business of cattle raising. In the range cattle business there is no occasion for the brutal bull-dogger or wild steer rider of the show.

No dairyman, in order to milk his cow, has to rope the leg of that cow or have a man hang on its neck, as is done in wild-cow-milking.

In bull-dogging, the steer's neck is often twisted to the perpendicular, causing excruciating pain, while legs, horns, ribs and back may be broken when the animal is thrown.

In steer roping, steers, while running at top speed, are lassoed often by both fore and hind quarters, stretched almost to the breaking point, and thrown with such terrific force that many times horns, necks, legs, ribs, or backs are broken.

Twistors, pincers and other devices are used to control the animal while being saddled. Sometimes a noose of rope is attached which cuts painfully deep into the animal's nose or lip.

Several devices are used to make horses and cattle buck:—high-lifting and using loin strap or rope, and spurs. High-lifting is the application of foreign substances to tender parts, causing irritation and pain, while the loin-strap or rope is cinched so tightly over the most sensitive parts that the animal bucks because of the agony.

The use of spurs is not prohibited except when used to make an animal buck. Why should an animal's body be raked till it bleeds for the amusement of men and women who claim to be civilized.

The acts condemned are not typical of authentic frontier life, but mock at the funda-

mental of cowboy life—the good care of horses and cattle.

All these acts are acknowledged acts of cruelty and there is no excuse for their commission.

Since, however, under our present laws, it has been impossible to get convictions, it becomes necessary to specify the prohibited acts in order to abolish them.

The sight of such cruelties is degrading and demoralizing and tends to make the children who witness them callous to suffering, thus nullifying all the humane teaching in our schools.

California has prided itself on its humane legislation—yet while such acts of cruelty permitted and even championed, its boast is an idle one.

If rodeos, Wild West shows and such exhibitions are impossible without the commission of such acts, then they condemn themselves.

This law will place California in the front rank of those states that protect not only its children but its dumb beasts.

HERBERT W. ERSKINE.

**Argument Against Prohibiting Certain Acts With Animals and Use of Certain Instruments to Control Them Initiative Measure**

California, from her earliest days, has been essentially a stock-raising state, and it was quite fitting that the sports of the earliest days should revolve about the growing of cattle and horses. Out of the rugged frontier games of the past developed the rodeo of today, a fitting survival of the old west so beloved by every one.

Following in the footsteps of Calgary, which annually attracts in the neighborhood of 200,000 people, of Cheyenne, of Pendleton and of Prescott, many California communities have organized rodeo associations. Their shows are counted among the greatest amusement attractions of the state, drawing a great number of visitors to their gates each year who would otherwise visit these states. Among these be mentioned the Los Angeles rodeo, the Bar Ranch rodeo, the California rodeo at Salinas,

the Livermore rodeo, the Sacramento Days of '49, the Ukiah rodeo, the Red Bluff rodeo, and the Fresno, Fortuna, Alturas, and the Imperial Valley shows. In addition such annual celebrations as Santa Barbara's "Old Spanish Days," Monterey's "Serra Pilgrimage," the State Fair and many county fairs have rodeo features.

To the rodeo must be given the credit for the continued improvement in our stock horses, so necessary in our great cattle and dairy businesses.

The California statutes already provide rigid and ample protection for all animals, and the larger shows, at least, are regularly supervised by a state humane officer.

Rodeos typify manliness, courage and red-blooded Americanism. They do not encourage cowardice, cruelty, or even unkindness to animals, notwithstanding the extravagant and unwarranted views of oversensitive sentimentalists, who are not only misinformed but also uninformed.

There are those who are opposed to football, baseball, golf, hunting and fishing, but critics who visit rodeos look in vain for the objectionable features which do not exist. Any true

lover of good horses, good horsemanship, and the great outdoors should not be opposed to this great sport of the old days of California.

No one could be more devoted to cattle and horses than the men who live among them and work with them all of their days and nights—the cowboys and the ranch men, and the last persons to wish to hurt their dumb friends are these same men.

The voters of California should not be misled by the extravagant and unwarranted accounts of cruelty, nor by pictures depicting occurrences in other states, which are positively not allowed in California. Do not be misled. Inform yourselves.

Closely interwoven as rodeos are with the history of the state, the men and women back of the rodeos ask that in all fairness to the great stock-raising industry, which is of great importance to this state, as well as in consideration of their great advertising value to the state, that their community shows be permitted to continue uninterrupted, as they have in the past.

MARCO H. HELLMAN,

FRED H. BIXBY,

ORIE O. ROBERTSON.

**PROHIBITING CERTAIN ACTS WITH ANIMALS AND USE OF CERTAIN INSTRUMENTS TO CONTROL THEM.** Initiative. Defines

bull-dogging, bull-riding, bull-dodging, wild-animal-racing, wild-animal-milking, steer-roping, two-men-roping, high-lifting, loin-strapping; prohibits such acts or use of spurs to make animal buck, or  
**21** terrifying or exciting it by any means, for sport, exhibition, or amusement; declares such prohibition inapplicable to farming or dairying or to branding or breaking animals in raising cattle, horses or mules; prohibits the biting, chewing or twisting any part of an animal's body or holding or controlling an animal with pincers, twisters or similar instruments; and prescribes penalties for violations.

YES

NO

Sufficient qualified electors of the State of California present to the secretary of state this petition and request that a proposed measure, as hereinafter set forth, be submitted to the people of the state of California for their approval or rejection, at the next ensuing general election. The proposed measure is as follows:

**PROPOSED LAW**

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

Section 1. It shall be unlawful, for sport, exhibition, or amusement, for any person to perform, commit or indulge in, or to permit any person under his control or under his employ upon his premises, to perform, commit or indulge in, any of the following acts as hereinafter defined: bull-dogging, bull-riding, bull-dodging, wild-animal-racing, wild-animal-milking, steer-roping, two-men-roping, high-lifting, loin-strapping, using spurs for the purpose of making any animal buck, or terrifying or exciting any animal by the use of electric or other prods or by any other means whatsoever.

Section 2. It shall be unlawful to bite, chew, or twist any part of the body of any animal, or to hold or control any animal by the use of pincers, twisters or similar instruments.

Section 3. The following terms as used in this act shall be construed as follows:

(a) The term bull-dogging means the throwing of or attempting to throw, or the struggling with, any bull, cow, calf, steer, ox or horned animal.

(b) The term bull-riding means the riding of or attempting to ride any bull, cow, calf, steer, ox or horned animal.

(c) The term bull-dodging means the worrying or exciting of any bull, cow, calf, steer, ox or horned animal by any means whatsoever.

(d) The term wild-animal-racing means the

saddling of or attempting to saddle any animal not broken or accustomed to the saddle; the riding of or attempting to ride, the harnessing of or attempting to harness, the driving of or attempting to drive, the lassoing or roping of or attempting to lasso or rope any animal not broken to bridle and bit, or harness.

(e) The term steer-roping means the roping or lassoing of or attempting to rope or lasso any part of the body of any bull, cow, calf, steer, ox or horned animal.

(f) The term wild-animal-milking means the milking of or attempting to milk any animal not accustomed to being milked.

(g) The term two-men-roping means the roping or lassoing of or attempting to rope or lasso different parts of the body of any animal by more than one person at or about the same time.

(i) The term high-lifting means the administering, in any manner, internally or externally, of any medicine, drug or irritant, to any animal for the purpose of inspitring such animal.

(j) The term loin-strapping means the fastening of any rope, strap, band or other material about the loins or flank of any animal.

(k) The term pincers means any device used to pinch or twist the nose, ears, mouth or any part of the body of any animal.

Section 4. With the exception of the provisions of section 2 hereof, nothing in this act contained shall apply to the business of farming or dairying, nor to the necessary branding, marking, or breaking in of animals in the course of carrying on the business of cattle, horse or mule raising.

Section 5. Nothing in this act contained shall apply to the care of any animal while sick or injured.

Section 6. Any violation of any provision of this act shall be punishable by a fine of not less than fifty (50) dollars nor more than five hundred (500) dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than thirty days nor more than ninety days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.