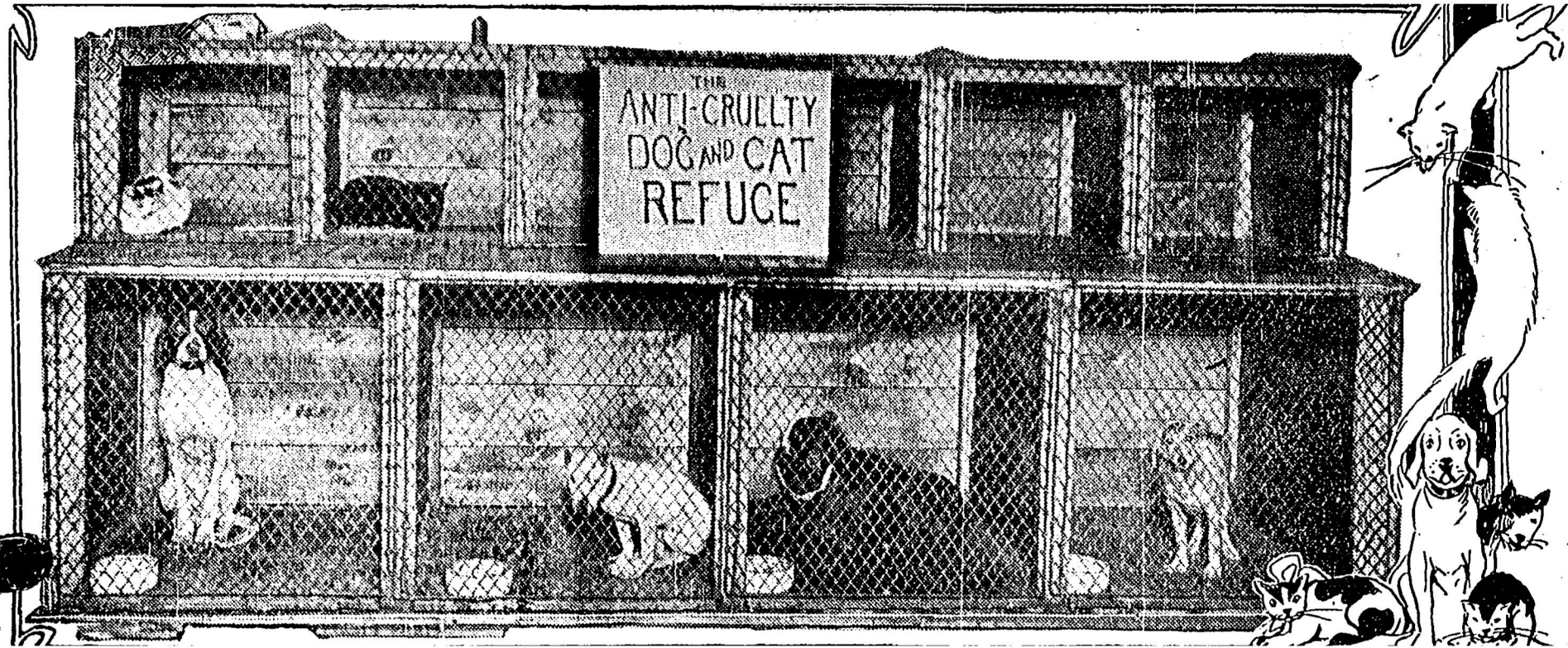


CHICAGO'S NEW CAT AND DOG REFUGE AND HOSPITAL.



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last Chicago has opened a cat and dog refuge and hospital, under the most flattering conditions, as it is under the direct patronage of a powerful organization, the Anti-Cruelty society, of which Mrs. Theodore Thomas is founder and president! It also has the personal support of many of the wealthiest women in Chicago, and Mrs. W. R. Linn has guaranteed all the

running expenses for a year, beginning the 1st of February.

The Anti-Cruelty society was officially represented by three beautiful felines when the refuge, at 1396 North Clark street, was formally opened. However, one of them has been installed as chief rat catcher in a La Salle street insurance office. The remaining pair are fine black cats with perfect white markings, and are patiently waiting for a home. If unclaimed they may found the Old Settlers' association, which will be composed of all the valuable cats and dogs who are not fortunate in finding desirable owners.

The plan of the Anti-Cruelty society is to furnish a temporary home for stray cats and curs. The animals will be sheltered for a week, and, if not sold or given away, will be painlessly put to death. But no animal will be allowed to leave the refuge without the written guarantee of two members of the society that it will be kindly cared for in its

new home, as death is considered preferable to abuse.

The society seriously considered the advisability of introducing the method now in vogue in France. A large tank is sunk in a shaft filled with gas. The cage containing the doomed animals is dropped into the tank, and in a moment all is over. But Dr. W. F. Reasner, the veterinary surgeon in charge of the refuge, is in favor of the simpler and less expensive plan of injecting hydrocyanic on the tongue, which causes almost instant death, as it paralyzes the heart action and respiratory organs.

The refuge has an ideal location, being in the business instead of the residence section of the city. It consists of a large office, with an adjoining kennel room, 20x40, well ventilated and disinfected. The sanitary conditions are perfect, and the cages are so arranged that the animals do not face each other, which causes noisy demonstrations among dogs. The cages are large and commodious, and are painted inside and out with white enamel paint, and have sleeping shelves comfortably fitted out with blanket beds.

Another important feature of the work of the Anti-Cruelty society is the children's chapters, who are doing a notable work in rescuing animals from starvation and cruelty and finding homes for abandoned dogs and cats. Among these organizations is the Boys' club, directed by Miss Jennie

Sterns. It meets at 319 Superior street, and has 300 members, many of them from Little Hell and the notorious Garry alley gang. The Junior Humane society of Lake Forest meets with Mrs. Sidney R. Taber, and has raised money to buy a drinking fountain for the Northwestern freight yards, the expense of setting having been donated by Mrs. Everett W. Brooks. The Robin Hood chapter is under the direction of Mrs. T. S. Wild, who has a printing press, and is about to publish the Children's Anti-Cruelty Journal, to chronicle the work of all the children's chapters. The Robert Morris chapter, under the leadership of Miss Flora Helm of the Robert Morris school, has a membership of seventy boys and girls, who have stopped cruelty to horses in St. Ignace, Mich. The Buena Park chapter, under Mrs. Vincent E. Groggs, is raising funds for a drinking fountain in the Illinois Central freight yards. The Vigilance chapter meets with Mrs. Eva Copeland Schuman, 1033 Kenmore avenue, and hopes to establish a windlass to help horses over the Rush street bridge. The McDowell chapter is under the management of Mrs. Joseph Winterbotham Jr. at the Settlement house, at the stockyards. Through the personal efforts of Mrs. Winterbotham, Fourteenth street, between Michigan avenue and State street, has been paved. It was a mudhole, and the scene of incredible cruelty to horses pulling coal wagons and heavy trucks.