

Ban on Import Of Mexican Cattle To Be Lifted Soon

Washington — (U.P.) — Secretary of Agriculture Charles P. Brannan said Wednesday the almost five-year ban against imports of Mexican meat and livestock will be lifted September 1 if no more outbreaks of foot and mouth disease occur.

Brannan said Mexico will be declared free of the contagious virus for the first time in almost five years. Law prohibits the importation of live cattle, sheep, goats or swine or their meat products from a country infected with the animal disease until the secretary determines it no longer exists.

In Effect Since 1946

The embargo against Mexican meat and livestock has been in effect since 1946. The U. S., co-operating with the Mexican government has spent about \$123,000,000 in a clean-up campaign. More than 1,000,000 animals were slaughtered and more than 60,000,000 have been vaccinated against the disease.

More than 8,000 Mexicans and Americans were employed at one time by the joint eradication commission. Brannan described the joint program as "one of the greatest battles ever waged against animal disease."

Tops Canadian Exports

Before the Mexican ban was imposed, Mexico exported about 500,000 head of cattle annually to this country. This is about 200,000 more than Canadian exports totaled last year. Canadian shipments were cut off two weeks ago when a foot and mouth outbreak was discovered in Saskatchewan province.

Easter Seal Sale Beginning Today

An estimated 500,000 Oregon residents will receive Easter seals from the Oregon Society for Crippled Children and Adults during the next few days, officials of the society reported today.

The society's sixth annual Easter seal sale opened today and will continue through Easter Sunday, April 13. Returns from sale of the seals will be used to assist the state's physically handicapped children and adults who are not eligible for aid from any other public or private agency.

During the past year, the Easter seal agency's hospital school for crippled children in Eugene, which is operated on funds derived from the annual drive, has had a capacity number of youngsters, according to society representatives.

Easter seal funds were also used to step up a program for training homebound handicapped persons and to give speech and hearing assistance to an increased number of youngsters.

Korean Veteran On Red Cross Show

Wayne Rains, 19-year-old combat veteran of the Korean war, will appear on a Red Cross radio program on radio station KYJC at 5:30 p. m. today. The program was tape recorded recently when Rains stopped in Medford after completing an emergency leave at his home in Des Moines, Iowa.

Rains credits the Red Cross with making possible his emergency leave following the death of his twin brother. At the time the leave was granted, Rains was in a Honolulu military hospital for treatment of wounds received in the Korean fighting.

He also praises the Red Cross blood collection program. He states that blood transfusions, given to wounded soldiers in the front lines as well as at dressing stations and hospitals, have saved the lives of many men.

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