

YOU CAN HELP IN FIGHT AGAINST FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE; WILL YOU DO IT?



SURE I DON'T WANT MY COWS HOGS and SHEEP TO GET HOOF and MOUTH DISEASE

WASH YOUR TIRES and DIP YOUR SHOES DEEP. YOU CANNOT BE TOO CAREFUL IT MUST NOT SPREAD

The foot and mouth disease is the most serious economic peril that has ever threatened the State of California. It is the most contagious, most easily conveyed, most difficultly controlled disease known to livestock. It affects particularly cloven-hoofed animals, such as hogs, sheep, and milk and beef cattle, although others are also subject to it. The feet of the animal become sore and inflamed, and the mouth becomes affected, raw and tender to the extent that mastication and consumption of food is impossible. Emaciation and loss of vitality follow and the animal is rendered useless.

Thousands and tens of thousands of cases. If the disease is not stamped out the entire cattle industry of California and of neighboring states which may be affected will be destroyed. If the foot and mouth disease crosses the border into Mexico it will never be controlled, and if it gets into our mountain ranges it will probably never be stamped out. If it is not kept out of these places, if it is not stamped out here, NOW, the dairy and cattle industries of the state will become matters of history.

Hits Ranchers

The most serious present danger to California is not simply the loss of the dairy and stock industries or the slaying of thousands of animals. It is far more serious than that, and faces every one of us with grim re-

ality. California is the richest agricultural state in the Union; Los Angeles is the richest agricultural county in the state. Crops are ripe now—crops of every conceivable kind—the crops that bring your salary, your wages, or whatever form of income you may have for your support, either directly or indirectly. If the foot and mouth disease is not stopped where it is, not one crate of California products can be exported from the state, for the quarantine restrictions of neighboring states will turn them back. Such stoppage has already been imposed to a serious degree. If it continues it will spell financial disaster to thousands of our citizens and seriously impair the financial stability of the entire state—for California is an agricultural state.

You Can Help

What is the remedy—what can we do to aid the fight against the foot and mouth disease? The answer is simple: Obey without question or comment the strict letter of the quarantine regulations imposed by the health authorities of the state and federal governments, who have the fight against the plague—for plague it is—in hand. Obey to the letter; obey even if it seems to you unnecessary; obey if it inconveniences you. Complain to yourself a little if it will help you, but above all things OBEY EVERY quarantine restriction. Keep out of the fields, don't picnic, don't camp, keep your dog and your cat at home, don't let any animal stray. A single contact with an infected area may spread infection so far as the object or person or animal making the contact may travel. Even birds may carry the infection. The disease probably jumped from the San Francisco region to Merced county through just such contact. It jumped from some country in the Orient in which the disease is permanently established, to Alameda, through contact with a ship's green food. Observe the quarantine!

Milk O. K.

There is no danger to human beings. Milk is not dangerous, and none but inspected meats are marketed. It is not our physical bodies that are likely to be attacked, but our economic welfare that may be permanently and vitally crippled. Do your part! Play fair with your state! Obey the quarantine! Report infractions of it to the health officers.

Danger is Great

The danger does not lie in the single case—it lies in the fact that one case may develop into hundreds,

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