

Horse Encephalitis Said Under Control

WASHINGTON (UPI)— The lethal South American sleeping sickness which killed thousands of horses in Mexico and Texas this year is under control but has not been eradicated, according to a federal official.

Dr. E. E. Saulmon, deputy administrator for the Agriculture Research Service of the Agriculture Department, said a joint program of killing the mosquitos which spread the sleeping sickness and vaccinating the horses to immunize them appears to have worked.

"It appears to be going real well," Saulmon said last week. "We have not had any evidence of the disease outside Texas. We are getting a good percentage

FORUM SHOW CLOSED

ROME. (UPI)—Judicial authorities placed seals Friday on the "Sound and Light" show in the Roman Forum.

The action was taken at the request of Mexican engineer Sergio Barrera Graf, who is suing the company which operates the show.

Barrera said a chunk of masonry fell on his foot, breaking it, while he was watching one of the shows two years ago.

of the equine population vaccinated in the original states—Texas and its neighbors—put on quarantine. In some areas, we are close to 95 per cent of the horses vaccinated.

"It appears—at least for this season—we may have it under control," he said.

But he said the fight against Venezuelan Equine Encephalomyelitis, or VEE, is not over.

"The nature of VEE is that it will continue to move through the ecology of our country," Saulmon said. "So... we are not claiming it is eradicated. There are so many hosts and carriers. We would be kind of foolish if we thought we had a way to eliminate it by just vaccinating horses."

He said the future of the disease in North America might be learned during the winter months.

"We do not know how this thing does in a moderate climate," he said.

Saulmon said the disease "may be around for quite a while" and may, like other strains of equine encephalomyelitis, have a permanent foothold in the country. He did say it was heartening the disease was confined to Texas and for the most part South Texas.