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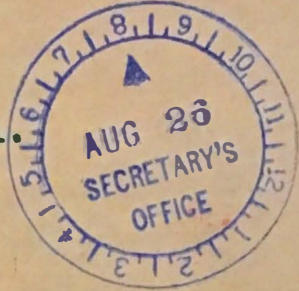
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THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON

RECEIVED
BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION

August 25, 1921.



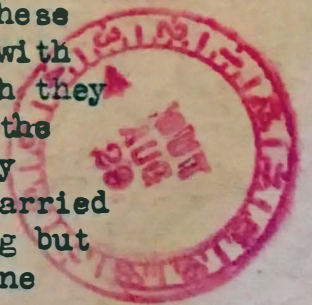
Dear Mr. Secretary:

MAILS & FILES

I have yours of August 11, in which you suggest that perhaps a considerable saving could be made and a more efficient service maintained if the various Government patrols along the Mexican Border could be consolidated and conducted under one administrative officer.

Our work along that Border is carried on through the Federal Horticultural Board, and the duty of our people there is to see to it that insect pests and plant diseases are not carried over the Border. For example, they inspect all baggage brought across to make sure that it does not contain cottonseed or other material on which some of these insect pests are carried. They fumigate cars with a highly poisonous gas to kill any insects which they may carry. They sterilize corn with heat for the same purpose. You will see that it is a highly technical business, and not only could not be carried on by people who have not had technical training but could not be intelligently administered by anyone who had not had such training.

For these reasons I do not believe it would be wise or practical to bring our people under the control of an administrative officer who had not had such training and who would also be charged with the duty of administering the various other patrols which



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are necessarily maintained on that Border. I should be glad to go into the matter further with you if I have not made myself clear.

Sincerely yours,

Henry C. Wallace

Hon. James J. Davis,

Secretary of Labor.