

350 Head to Be Shipped

Cattle Sale to Russia Is Hailed by Eaton

"I hope this is a step toward ending the cold war and a change of policy on the part of our government," said Cyrus Eaton yesterday at Acadia Farm in Northfield, talking about a shipment of cattle from the United States to the Soviet Union.

Eaton, who will be 88 in December, just had returned from Richmond, Va., where he had watched preparations for the shipment of 350 head of beef cattle—80 from Acadia Farms—on the German ship *Alondra*, chartered by the Danes, which is ready to sail for the Baltic port of Riga. The trip will take about two weeks.

IT WAS the first major shipment of American cattle

to Russia and it came about as a result of Eaton's invitation of a year ago to Premier Alexei Kosygin to send representatives to the United States and Canada to select purebred beef breeding stock for use in expanding and improving Soviet herds. The U.S. Department of Agriculture approved the sale.

The shipment at Richmond, which was inspected yesterday by a Russian team, was valued at about \$300,000.

The Richmond Deep Water Terminal, on the James River, 65 miles from the ocean, is one of the country's three ports with cattle-shipping facilities; the others are Tampa, Fla., and Houston, Tex.

PICKING OUT the cattle they wanted from various farms, Eaton's here and others in Wisconsin, Virginia, Kansas and North Dakota, the Russians then followed them all the way through their transportation to the Richmond terminal. The animals, about 50 bulls and 300 cows and heifers, received shots and physical examinations.

"This was the first step," said Eaton, who is board chairman of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway, "and we hope that this might be the forerunner of many more U.S. and Canadian cattle sales to the Soviet Union. One day, perhaps, the Soviets could use their big transport planes to land in this country and pick up future purchases."

Eaton has 1,000 acres of farms and four sets of barns and has bred and shown shorthorns, which have won numerous prizes, local, national and international.