

## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

### Section 27, Pages 781 - 810

This collection contains correspondence regarding indemnities for cattle killed by tuberculosis, concerns over the findings of veterinary inspection, discussion of an outbreak of rabies among Kansas dogs that affected cattle, complaints of veterinary treatments killing animals, and general discussion about livestock diseases. The correspondence is mostly between the Livestock Sanitary Commissioner and various livestock owners throughout Kansas.

Creator: Livestock Sanitary Commissioner

Date: 1915-1919

Callnumber: Livestock Sanitary Commissioner, Correspondence, 1915-1919

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 310226

Item Identifier: 310226

[www.kansasmemory.org/item/310226](http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/310226)

KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY



KANSAS CITY, MO.,

Legal action of one Half the  
appraised value at the time  
you notified me to hold them  
and will ship them for self  
for immediate slaughter  
and will pay full value  
providing they are not infected  
with tuberculosis, it will  
be satisfactory, I do not  
believe there is any infraction  
in the law. Neither do I  
believe that you <sup>nor</sup> the  
great State of Kansas desires  
to do me, any other citizen  
any injustice. I think this  
a fair proposition  
Kindly Advise me  
at Savoy Hotel  
Kansas City J. B. White-  
M

## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

Kansas,

September 8, 1916.

Mr. J. B. White,  
c/o Savoy Hotel,  
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir:-

Received yours of the 5th and note carefully contents of same. The reason that I wrote you calling your attention to the abnormal condition of your cattle that were recently tested by Dr. Parrish was from the fact that he gave to me as his professional opinion that numbers 1, 4, 5 and 6 were diseased animals. It is true they did not react to the temperature test to extent of warranting me in requiring that they be disposed of, yet the conditions do warrant me in holding them under quarantine for future investigation.

I am not taking any stand or steps in this matter, Mr. White for any other purpose than to be of benefit to you and to be sure that no tubercular cattle of your herd are permitted to go free. I would not think that you would want that to happen. I am sure that I do not want to do one thing in this matter that would in any way do you an injustice. So far as your proposition regarding the disposition of your entire herd is concerned, I could not make any such an arrangement, nor do I think that you after more consideration would want me to even if I could.

All we are trying to do is to assist you in every way we can in meeting the demands of the public who are consuming the dairy products from your and other dairy herds of the State. It is no choice of ours that this thing is and has to be done. City ordinances call for these tuberculin tests. The State law sets forth what my duties are with reference to the handling of suspicious or infected animals.



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

(2)

Mr. J. B. White ---

I think yet that my suggestion to you of sending off these four or five head of cattle to market and selling them for immediate slaughter is the best way out of this and the best plan to take in cleaning up your herd. However, I will give you all the assistance I can in any way that you might desire in this matter and will let your cattle go for a while and have them retested again at State's expense.

While you are in Kansas City, if you feel able and can take the time, I would suggest that you go down to the Stock Yards and call on Dr. J. Fleming, Inspector in charge of the Bureau of Animal Industry, and have him go with you to the packing house where his meat inspectors are inspecting carcasses of meat that are killed daily and show you the tubercular diseased animals that are being killed almost every day at the Yards. I believe that if you will do this it will be the means of your being more in accord with the proposition of disposing of tubercular infected animals.

I wish you would write me at your convenience and advise me what you think about having your cattle retested and whether or not Dr. Parrish's work and test was satisfactory to you.

Yours very truly,

Commissioner.

M/M



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

Sept. 5, 1916.

Dr. O. O. Wolf,  
Ottawa, Kans.

Dear Doctor:

Received your report of the trouble at Paola, of  
the McDill cattle, and note carefully same.

Am very well pleased indeed with the manner and method  
in which you handled this for us, and thank you very  
much for same.

I may run over to Paola in a day or two, and if I do,  
will call you up, and if it is so you can, would like  
to have you go over with me, so that we can take up  
the situation with reference to just what territory  
should be placed under quarantine.

I do not want to tie up, so-to-speak, any of those  
farmers over there, that it would not be necessary to  
do; however, presume all the infected territory should  
be placed under quarantine for sixty to ninety days.

If you have any further suggestions as to this, would  
be glad to have you give them to me. Thanking you  
again, I am,

Yours very truly,

. Commissioner.

## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

Sept. 5, 1916.

Dr. Linn H. Reed,  
Smith Center, Kans.

Dear Sir:

Replying to yours of recent date, I am enclosing you herewith a certificate of appointment to act as Veterinarian of this Department, in accordance with the sanitary law of the state.

I am enclosing you copy of the Law, Rules & Regulations, and Bulletin #6, and would suggest that you familiarize yourself with their provisions, and especially with the provision of the requirements as outlined in Bulletin #6 as to tuberculin testing.

I call your especial attention also to chapter 351 as found on page 80 of the enclosed law.

Yours very truly,

Commissioner.

Enc.

P.S.--You will always obt in tuberculin from this office; we are sending you some today, under separate cover, together with book of test charts.



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

Smith Center, Kan.  
Sept. 4, 1916.  
Fuller 9/5  
Livestock Sanitary Commissioner  
Topeka, Kan.

Dear Sir:

In answer to your query  
of the 31<sup>st</sup> will say I hold a  
Certificate granted by the State  
Board of Veterinary Registration  
& Examination, am a graduate  
of the Kansas City Veterinary  
College & have practiced in Kan  
since finishing school in  
April of this year.

Sincerely yours,  
Smith Center, Kan. L. H. Redden

## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

*File*  
Smith Center, Kan.  
Aug. 30, 1916  
State Live-Stock Sanitary Commissioner  
Topeka, Kansas.  
Dear Sir:  
A client of mine wishes  
some cattle tuberculosis tested  
for shipment to Colorado.  
Will it be necessary for me  
to have a commission from you  
in order to test? If so will you  
kindly grant me the privilege.  
Would like some official inspec-  
tion blanks + a few words about  
obtaining tuberculosis from you.  
Smith Center Kan. Sincerely yours  
L. M. Reed D. V. M.



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

Kansas,  
August 31, 1916.

Dr. Linn H. Reed,  
Smith Center, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

We are in receipt of your letter requesting that we send you tuberculin and blanks to be used on cattle for shipment to Colorado. We are enclosing you herewith a copy of the Sanitary Law of the State and call your especial attention to Chapter 351 on page 20.

In looking over our records, we do not find your name listed on Dr. Wolf's record of accredited veterinarians, hence we would be pleased to have you advise us by return of mail whether or not you are listed with Dr. Wolf, what College you are a graduate of, how long you have practiced in Kansas, and all information regarding this matter. Just as soon as we receive this information, we shall be glad to take up with you the matter of appointing you a veterinarian of this Department.

Yours very truly,

Commissioner.

MEM\*  
Law enclosed.

## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

7-11  
Sept. 5, 1916.

E. C. Johnson, Dean,  
Div. of College Extension,  
Manhattan, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Received copies of your letters, sent out  
in Pottawatomie County, relative to hog cholera con-  
trol work.

I would take it, from your letter, that you  
do not have in mind cooperating with any one, in con-  
nection with this work, excepting the county organiza-  
tion. These letters are not in any way offensive to  
me, yet as I stated to you at Manhattan the other day,  
the spirit of friendly and successful co-operation in  
this work is entirely lost sight of, and unless this  
can be eliminated, I will not have anything to do with  
any part of the work.

As I told you, I would try and formulate a  
program that would be satisfactory to us all, and have  
been working on same; however, yesterday I received a  
memo. of understanding between the States Relation Ser-  
vice and the Bureau of Animal Industry, from the U.S.  
Dept. of Agriculture, concerning hog cholera control  
extension work, which I think will be of some assistance  
to me in working out our own plan. I might add that if  
I cannot formulate a plan that is agreeable to you and  
Dr. Murphy, I feel sure I can formulate a plan that will  
be agreeable, as between your Department and this Depart-  
ment, and between this Department and Dr. Murphy's De-  
partment, thereby eliminating any co-operation on the  
part of your Department and Dr. Murphy's Department. I  
think I can arrange a plan that will be entirely satis-  
factory to you, if you so desire, and we can go on with  
the work, separate and apart from Dr. Murphy's assistance,  
and we will take up the same work with him, in other dis-  
tricts of the state.

You might advise me what you think about this,  
or, hand this letter to president Waters, and have him  
advise me as to what he thinks of the plan.

Yours very truly,

Commissioner.





## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

*This letter was  
sent to individuals in  
the different school districts  
giving date and place of their  
respective meetings. E.C.J.*

*File Johnson*

August 31, 1916.

My dear Sir:

At the suggestion of Mr. A. P. Stenger, Vice President of the Pottawatomie Hog Cholera Association for Pottawatomie Township, a hog cholera meeting has been scheduled in the town of St Marys, Friday evening, September, 8.

Dr. F. W. Caldwell will be present at this meeting to explain the purpose of the Association and the methods for controlling hog cholera that are to be used in Pottawatomie County. If you will invite your neighbors and friends to be present there will be a large attendance at the meeting.

Very truly yours,

Dean, Division of Extension.

ECJ/BLN



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

August 28, 1916.

To cooperators in  
Belvue Twp.

My dear Sir:

At the suggestion of Mr. Robert Ginder,  
Vice President of the Hog Cholera Association for  
Belvue Township, hog cholera meetings have been  
scheduled in Belvue Township at the points named  
below:

Wed.,	Aug. 30,	School District	#75
Thurs.,	Aug. 31,	"	" #48
Fri.,	Sept. 1,	"	" #69
Sat.,	" 2,	"	" #51
Mon.,	" 4,	"	" #88

If you will invite all your friends and  
neighbors to come there would be a good attendance.  
Dr. F. W. Caldwell of this division will be present  
to explain fully the purpose of the hog cholera  
association and to give a clear discussion of hog  
cholera and its control.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) E. C Johnson,

Dean, Division of College Extension.

ECJ/BLN



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

August 31, 1916

To Cooperators in  
St. Mary's Township:

My dear Sir:

At the suggestion of Mr. A. P. Stenger,  
Vice President of the Pottawatomie Hog Cholera  
Association for St Marys Township, hog cholera  
meetings will be held in St. Marys Township at  
the time and points named below:

Tues.,	Sept. 5,	School District,	# 68
Wed.,	" 6,	" " "	#27
Thurs.	" 7,	Jt. " " "	# 9
Friday,	" 8,	In the town of St. Marys.	

If you will invite all your friends and  
neighbors to attend at the meeting point nearest  
to them there should be a good attendance at all  
points. Dr. F. W. Caldwell will be present to  
explain fully the purposes of the hog cholera  
association and to give a clear discussion of  
hog chloera and plans for its controll in  
Pottawatomie County.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) E. C. Johnson.

Dean, Division of College  
Extension.

ECJ/BLN

## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

August 31, 1916

To Newspapers:

On the suggestion of Mr. Robert Ginder, Vice President of the Hog Cholera Association for Belvue Township, hog cholera meetings have been scheduled in Belvue Township as follows:

Sat. evening, Sept. 2, School District #51.  
Mon. evening, Sept. 4, " " #68.

Meetings will then be begun in St. Marys Township. Mr. A. P. Stenger is Vice President there. He has arranged for meetings as follows:

Tues., Sept. 5, School District, #68.  
Wed., " 6, " " #27.  
Thurs., " 7, Joint School District, #9.  
Friday., " 8, in the town of St. Marys.

Dr. F. W. Caldwell of the Agricultural College will be present at these meetings to explain fully the purpose of the hog cholera association of Pottawatomie County and the work that will be done in this county for hog cholera control by the United States Department of Agriculture, the State Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner, and the Agricultural College.

(Signed) E. C. Johnson,

Dean, Division of Extension.





## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

File

Sept. 5, 1916.

Dr. Geo. R. Conrad,  
Sabetha, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I have a report furnished me by representative of Dr. Murphy's department, who has been making investigations as to the conditions in Nemaha County, with reference to the dissatisfaction among farmers, on account of the use of the College serum.

This report quotes the statements of a considerable number of farmers in and around Sabetha, and these farmers quote you quite extensively as to what you have had to say about the Agricultural College serum.

You will remember that you promised me in the office, that you would go ahead with the work in Nemaha County, and co-operate in every way, and try and make it a success. I do not hardly believe that statements coming from you, to your customers, such as 'The State serum is no good', and that 'certain doctors who are working in the co-operative work up there are no account', is tending toward successful co-operation.

I am calling your attention to this, for the reason that there is considerable complaint being made about statements you have been making concerning this work. If you do not think this work is of any consequence to the people of Nemaha county, I want a frank, open statement from you, what your belief is. Furthermore, if you have no faith in the anti-hog cholera serum made by the Agricultural College--don't use it, and if you do use it, treat the matter just the same as if it was from some plant that you have some confidence in. There is nothing to this proposition, only the bringing about of better conditions in Nemaha County, and it is not a question of satisfying veterinarians or farmers, or some serum plant at all, and I am not at all satisfied with the way some things are going on.

I have suggested to Mr. Heimann that their County Organization recommend some other make of serum, and I am writing the veterinarians today, asking them what make of serum they would prefer to use, other than the College serum, and if the County Organization will agree to it, I will be perfectly willing to designate some other



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

Dr. Geo. R. Conrad--3--

make of serum to be used along with the College serum.

I am frank to say to you that I have a considerable number of requests from citizens, and good citizens, of Nemaha County, urging me not to eliminate in any way the use of the College serum. It is hard to please everybody; and some people have had results by using one serum, and some by using others, and I am inclined to think, from what little I know about the serum proposition, that there is not much difference in the make of any of the accredited serum plants of the country. I think if properly administered, that about the same results are obtained by using one make of serum, as using another.

I would like to hear from you right away, concerning what serum you would like to use in your work up there, and also what you think of the entire proposition, and in the mean time, I would suggest that you be careful at least, about poisoning the mind of any citizen of your community against any individual that is working in this work, or against any serum that is being used.

Yours very truly,

Commissioner.

## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

*File*

Sept. 7, 1916.

W. M. Jardine, Dean,  
Experiment Station, Ag. Col.  
Manhattan, Kansas.

My Dear Mr. Jardine:

Received yours of yesterday, and carefully noted same. To show you what I have already said and done with Dr. Geo. B. Conrad, I am enclosing you copies of letters to him, that will explain themselves.

I might add that on July 15th, I had Dr. Conrad and Dr. Murphy come here to the office, and held a conference with them concerning the very question about which you are writing.

Dr. Conrad stated to me that he did not have as much faith in the College serum as he did in other makes, and gave me as his reason that he had not had as good success in using the College serum as he had in using Wichita, St. Joseph and other serums. I outlined to him fully the situation of affairs in Nemaha County, as agreed upon by all parties co-operating in the work, and stated to him, in the presence of Dr. Murphy, that if he did not feel that he could go back home and use the College serum, and work in harmony with this program, that he must not use the College serum, or participate further in the vaccination of hogs in Nemaha County, while this program was being carried out. He promised me faithfully he would go back to Nemaha County and work in accordance with the program as outlined.

You will note by the contents of my letter to him under date of Sept. 5th, that the information I have received, is that he has not been doing so.

Of course Conrad has quite a following around Sabetha, and some strong, able fellows up there are standing back of him, and if we could devise a plan whereby he could continue his work, and use some other serum, it perhaps would be better, and I am having the matter up now with Mr. Heilmann, President of the County Organization, regarding this matter. If it cannot be arranged along this line, then



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

Dean Jardine--3--

Dr. Conrad will not be permitted to continue hog cholera vaccination in Nemaha county, as long as this work is going on under the co-operative plan.

Just as soon as Mr. Heinmann advises me as to what his Organization wishes to do, I will then definitely decide as to what Conrad shall do. I think I could easily show you that it would be best for the work of the County to let Conrad continue in his vaccination work, by using serum other than yours, because if he is not permitted to do so, my opinion is, there will be even more disturbance than there is now.

Think my letters, however, explain the situation fully, and will be glad to hear from you what you think of this plan.

Yours very truly,

Commissioner.

Enc.



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

Kansas State Agricultural College  
Manhattan, Kansas

W. M. JARDINE  
Dean of Division  
Director Experiment Station

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE

September 9, 1916

Mr. J. H. Mercer, State Livestock Sanitary Commissioner,  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Mercer:

Dr. John Harris, our representative in Nemaha County, was in Manhattan Monday when, unfortunately, I was out of town. He left word that the people in the eastern part of Nemaha County where George Conrad operates, are thoroughly up in arms against our serum. Dr. Harris knows who is at the foot of the trouble. He charges it to Conrad and to private plants. We know that Conrad and the plants are to blame.

Now if the farmers up there are willing, we would be glad to take over Conrad's territory and look after those herds ourselves, and demonstrate with our own veterinarians that our serum is all right. It looks to me that this is the only way of clearing ourselves with those people. Personally, I think George Conrad's permit to treat hogs in this project ought to be withdrawn. I think probably it will have to be withdrawn or else we shall have to pull out. I do not like to pull out until we have demonstrated that our product is all right, and we can never do this as long as George Conrad is using it.

I wish you would let me know what you think about this proposition and if some kind of deal like this cannot be made with the farmers in Conrad's territory.

WMJ/P

Very truly yours,

*W. M. Jardine*



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

, Kansas,

September 8, 1916.

Dr. L. D. Ryan,  
Emporia, Kansas.  
Dear Doctor:-

Mr. C. H. White of Burlington, Kansas was in the office Wednesday to talk with me about the charges he had filed against you last May. I advised him that I had written you and asked for an explanation and on looking over our records found that we had no reply from you. In connection with the charges he set forth in his letter to me last May, he outlines the method that you followed in this work, and he also stated that you had represented to him that you were making the intra dermal test and that your test charts showed the temperature test. He went into the matter at length, and of course it is not necessary for me to go over the matter further as to the things he stated.

I think that you should write me a letter and advise me as to this matter or come up to the office and see me, providing that you want to continue to do any testing. It appears that Mr. White is not going to let this matter drop until an investigation is made of it and I do not want to take any further steps until I hear from you or you come up and have a talk with me concerning the matter.

Yours very truly,

Commissioner.

M/M

## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

, Kansas,

September 8, 1916.

Dr. B. A. Robinson,  
Independence, Kansas.  
Dear Doctor:-

Dr. L. T. Richards of Parsons was in the office Wednesday and discussed the matter with me relative to the charges that have been made against him and files some counter charges against you, which relates to the subject of a news item relating to glandered horses during the Graybill Administration. He has consulted an attorney about this matter and claims that he has been advised that under the charges that he has made that I should revoke your appointment to do veterinary work for this department or else give him the same privilege.

I have this suggestion to make in the matter and that is that you and Dr. Richards meet with Dr. Wolf and myself at some fixed place and talk the matter over. I think that perhaps the best thing for all concerned would be to bury the hatchet, so to speak, and let the thing drop.

Of course, I am of the opinion that Dr. Richards is well qualified to do work for this department, but I also think that he has been more or less careless in some work that he has done, yet I am of the opinion that he will make amends for these things. I do not think that your communities should be deprived of your services, and believe that if we would all get together that we can fix this thing up.

I am only offering this as a suggestion. However, it must be done this way or else the matter brought to an end by a hearing and final disposition of the case.

I wish you would think this matter over and let me know at your earliest convenience what your wishes are in the matter.

Enclosing herewith State warrant for \$50.00 covering services for this department.

Yours very truly,

M/M

Commissioner.





## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

GEO. R. CONRAD, D. V. S.  
SURGERY A SPECIALTY

SABETHA, KANSAS. Sept. 8th. 1916

Mr. H. H. Mercer,  
Live-Stock Commissioner,  
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Mercer:-

Your letter of the 5th. received and contents carefully noted. In reply to same will say that I deny the charges made to you as stated in your letter and am open to investigation and inspection at any time. I am reliably informed that your representatives here have circulated false statements concerning me and my work and have repeatedly made the threat that they would "get me".

The whole trouble here lies in the fact that the farmers are dissatisfied with the Manhattan serum. In their judgment it does not produce the results. The intimation that I am responsible for the trouble here is absolutely false. Will say that the farmers of this vicinity are intelligent, fair-minded and reasonable. If in their judgment the Manhattan serum was and is producing good results, myself (if so disposed) nor no one else could possibly prejudice them against it. It is an insult to our farmers for any one to say or intimate that they can in the least be influenced against any measure or effort looking toward the eradication of cholera if these measures and efforts are producing good results.

## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

GEO. R. CONRAD, D. V. S.  
SURGERY A SPECIALTY

SABETHA, KANSAS. \_\_\_\_\_ 191

It might be well to consult with the farmers as to the number and kinds of serum to be used as well as the veterinaries and our county organization. Why not, as they are the ones vitally interested. If they are satisfied what difference does it make to the veterinaries and the county organization. We can rest assured that the farmers will not be satisfied unless the serum used is producing good results. Now, they will know this if any body does. It is results, not a particular kind or kinds of serum that they want and are demanding. Why wouldn't it be a wise and practical thing to just let down the bars and give the farmers the privilege and opportunity to select any kind of serum that in their judgment they want to use but let the State and the County organization direct same and continue the supervision over the sanitary work of the county?

In regard to serum will say that it is merited by its use and effects and what it produces. If its effects are satisfactory the public upholds it. If not they condemn it, regardless of who injects it or uses it. In regard to the administration of serum, I use four brands and have not discriminated in the use of ~~any of them~~ any one of them.

Dr. Murphy and five of his associates were present ~~at~~ at one drove of shoats and they testified that the administration was right. Dr. Lawson and his associates were present at another drove and they said that the administration was right.



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

GEO. R. CONRAD, D. V. S.  
SURGERY A SPECIALTY

SABETHA, KANSAS. \_\_\_\_\_ 191\_\_\_\_\_

Both droves went wrong and the farmers are dissatisfied. Here lies the trouble. Any attempt to hold me responsible is absolutely unfair and unjust. In regard to the brand of serum will say that ~~Chavez~~ Wichita-Oklahoma has been a success.

I trust that you will give this matter careful consideration and before you condemn me in the least that you will thoroughly investigate conditions and causes here and give me an opportunity to present my side of the case. I would be glad to have you come out here and investigate the conditions yourself.

If at any time I can be of any service to you feel at liberty to call on me.

Yours very truly,

G. R. Conrad

## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

, Kansas,  
September 9, 1916.

Mr. W. M. Jardine, Dean,  
Agricultural College,  
Manhattan, Kansas.  
Dear Mr. Jardine:-

You are familiar with the arrangements as to the serum proposition in Washington County. You will remember that the action of their Committee was that they would establish two makes of serum for the hog cholera eradication work in that County, one of the serums to be the College serum. Dr. Murohy advises me that Dr. Hobbs told him that the College would not furnish any serum in Washington County. I wish you would let me know what the situation is so I can advise those people up there accordingly. I think if you people can it would be advisable to furnish the serum up there to your patrons and friends and so far as this department is concerned, it will be protected in every way possible.

Thanking you in advance for an early reply.

Yours very truly,

Commissioner.

M/M





## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

Sept. 9, 1916.

Mr. John Strahm,  
Sabetha, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I received yours of the 7th inst. and have noted carefully same. I think that this matter will be entirely straightened up, to every one's satisfaction, in the course of the next few days.

I trust you will fully understand that it is not purpose of mine, or desire, to require the citizens of your County to do anything that is not in their interests. We came into your county on the request of a very large number of your citizens, for no other purpose but to try and help the live stock industry of your county, by cleaning up the hog cholera infection in your county, and in order to work out a program, we have to have certain plans and stipulations under which to work, and I am fully convinced that the serum made by the Agricultural College is just as good as that made by any serum plant. I have plenty of recommendations in my office to show that other plants that have sold their serum in this state, have had just the same bad results as you speak of, relative to the College serum.

However, we want to try, in so far as we are concerned, to please every one, and especially the man who owns the property. I am a farmer myself, and know the inconveniences you have to contend with, and especially when you have hog cholera break out on your herd, and I assure you I will make every effort to try and please you people, and satisfy you that we are doing nothing but to serve you and benefit you.

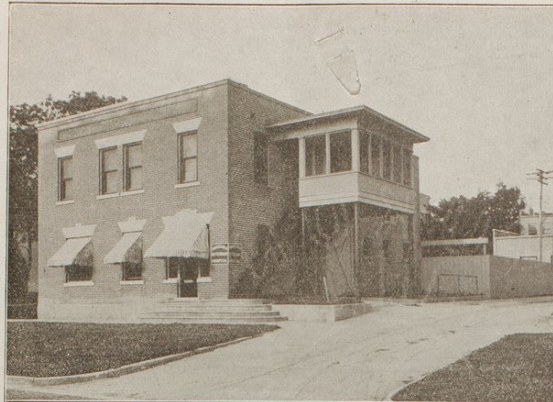
I have the matter up with Mr. Heimann, the president of your county organization, and have suggested to him what I think should be done, and believe he will call his committee together and make recommendations along the lines as I have suggested.

I may come up to Nemaha County in a short time, and if I do, will try and meet you.

Yours very truly

Commissioner.

## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919



WARM AND COMFORTABLE  
IN WINTER

COOL AND FREE FROM FLIES  
IN SUMMER

### ROBINSON'S VETERINARY HOSPITAL

310 NORTH EIGHTH STREET

One of the Most Modern, Most Sanitary and Best Equipped  
Hospitals in the West. Cement Floors, plenty of Sewer  
Connections, Hot and Cold Water, Operating Table, Etc.

A ward for dogs is maintained, sep-  
arate from the main hospital and a  
large yard affords room for exercise

An experienced and painstaking  
man is in charge of the hospital,  
insuring sick animals good care.

AUTOMOBILE IN CONNECTION

INDEPENDENCE, KANSAS, Sept. 9, 1916.

J. A. Mercer,  
Topeka, Kans.

Dear Sir:

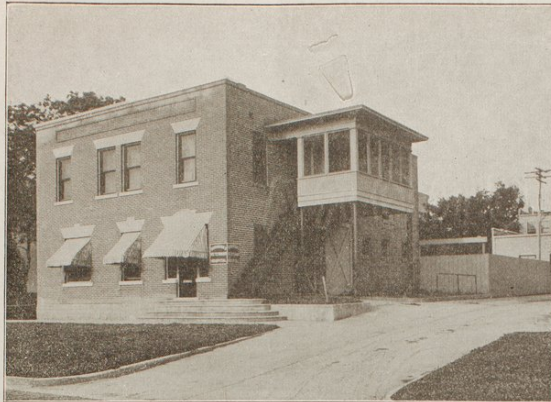
Your letter relating to the matter of the Dr. Richards affair, received today. Judging from the tone of your letter, I have decided that this matter has given some embarrassment to the office of the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner, and while the charges I made were made in good faith, and only after mature thought, and consultation with others, it is my desire that the interests of the Office of the Live Stock Commissioner, and of the State, come first, so that, if it comes in the nature of a request from you, as the Live Stock Commissioner, I shall withdraw the charges against Dr. L. T. Richards. But I only do this for the good of the service, and to save the Live Stock Commissioner embarrassment in the conduct of his office. So that, upon receipt of a request from you, I shall formally withdraw the charges.

I am anxious that my position in this matter, as above related, be perfectly clear to you, because I am absolutely sure of the guilt of Dr. Richards in this instance. I can also assure you that I only acted after due reflection upon the matter, and after consultation with persons in whom I have implicit trust, both as to judgement and patriotism. Among others, I asked Dr. Wolf what he should do in a like instance. Dr. Wolf assured me that he considered it my duty to notify the Live Stock Commissioner of the facts. I may add here, that should occasion arise, I will secure the affidavits of a number of persons, that Dr. Richards has conducted the work of the state in an improper manner, in numerous instances.

On the other hand, I have absolutely no fear of any charges which Dr. Richards may trump up against me. My work for the state has been an open book, and I do not care who looks it over. So that, if you so desire, I will furnish proofs of the unworthiness of Dr. Richards, and take my chances with his lying statements. I have the utmost contempt for anything that Dr. Richards has said, because I know his methods so well.



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919



WARM AND COMFORTABLE  
IN WINTER

COOL AND FREE FROM FLIES  
IN SUMMER

### ROBINSON'S VETERINARY HOSPITAL

310 NORTH EIGHTH STREET

One of the Most Modern, Most Sanitary and Best Equipped  
Hospitals in the West. Cement Floors, plenty of Sewer  
Connections, Hot and Cold Water, Operating Table, Etc.

A ward for dogs is maintained, sep-  
arate from the main hospital and a  
large yard affords room for exercise

An experienced and painstaking  
man is in charge of the hospital,  
insuring sick animals good care.

AUTOMOBILE IN CONNECTION

2  
INDEPENDENCE, KANSAS,

Now, Mr. Mercer, I trust you will see no discourtesy  
to you, in my clumsy method of stating my position, with refer-  
ence to this matter. If it were not for the high regard which  
I have for *you* conduct of the office of Live Stock Commissioner,  
I would not allow the handling of such a grave matter to get out  
of my hands. But as it is, I turn the matter over to you, as  
above stated, and ask that you let me know at once which way you  
have decided.

With kind personal regards, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

*B. L. Robinson*

HF



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

, Kansas,

September 15, 1916.

Dr. B. A. Robinson,  
Independence, Kansas.

Dear Doctor:-

Replying to yours of the 9th inst., the matter relative to the charges against Dr. Richards of Parsons has been no embarrassment to me whatever from any viewpoint. The reason I wrote you the letter I did the other day was that I thought and I yet believe that if we could get together and talk this over that we probably could persuade you and Richards to come to an understanding and forget the past. However, I am perfectly willing to require Dr. Richards to clear himself of the charges you have made before giving him an appointment. Of course, he has made these charges against you and we have got to bring the matter to an end by either getting together and agreeing upon letting the thing drop or have a meeting and decide then what should be done.

I had a talk with Dr. Wolf concerning this matter and he expressed himself to me as being in accord with my suggestions. I want you to act in your own good judgment in the matter. If you think that we can get anywhere by having a conference on the subject then I will try and set a date satisfactory to you all so this matter can be ironed out in a hearing.

Yours very truly,

Commissioner.

M/M



## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

Kansas,  
September 11, 1916.

Dr. E. W. Little,  
804 Live Stock Exchange Bldg.,  
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Doctor:-

In going over the vouchers today, I note yours for services rendered in the Jarbalo anthrax case. I recall your mentioning this matter to me, but when you spoke of it, I supposed it was to cover your expenses in this investigation. I do not feel that I would be justified in allowing this voucher and I think after you read my explanation of this matter, you will fully understand the reason why.

Your being an appointee of this office, I feel that I have a perfect right to call on you at any time for technical assistance in the handling of the work of the department. Of course, I do not mean by this that I am to take you away from your work there on the Yards as a regular proposition, but I mean that at any time we might want you, that you would be subservient to our directions for a short time, and especially during the part of the week when it would not interfere with your work at the Yards.

It is true that we do not pay you a stated monthly salary out of the State funds, but the provisions are made for your salary otherwise through a fee, and so far as I know, is entirely satisfactory to you, and as long as this fee brings you as remunerative salary as it is now and has been doing, you must not make any charge for professional services through any other source.

You are aware that there are several of your professional competitors who are not at all satisfied that you have the exclusive right in the tuberculin testing work on the Yards, and you also know that they are going to raise any question in opposition to this if an opportunity affords them, hence the necessity for us to hew strictly to the line and follow closely this rule; that you are to do no veterinary practice outside of the Kansas City Stock Yards unless directed by me to do so, and then you are to receive only your travelling and living expenses while performing said services.

## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1915-1919

Dr. Little ---2----

As a matter of suggestion, I would think it would be to your advantage to turn to some wide-awake practitioner any work that you might be solicited to do, especially some practitioner who is your friend and a friend of the department's.

I feel confident after you read this over that you will realize and fully understand that I would have no more right to pay you for extra services than I would to pay Mr. Henderson or Mr. Burdick or Dr. Parrish. I also feel that after you read this over you would not want me to.

I appreciate your services. I rely upon your professional qualifications and your good judgment in matters connected with your veterinary practice and want to feel at liberty to call on you for any technical assistance I might need at any time and will pay your expenses for any service you render the department in that connection, and would say that whatever your expenses were in connection with your trips to the Miller ranch at Jarbalo, I will be very glad to take care of.

Trusting you will appreciate that this is for your good as well as the department's good and will look at it in that way.

Yours very truly,

Commissioner.

M/M

Ken