

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

Section 6, Pages 151 - 180

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

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

Topeka, Kansas, January 26, 1916.

Mr. Jack McFall,
Kingman, Kas.
Dear Sir:-

I am enclosing you a supply of Membership blanks and will have Villars send you a list of the names of Stock men in Kingman county who are now members of our Association and anyone that is not on this list that you think could be persuaded to become a member, you can solicit them; either have them fill out these little blanks and send them into the Wichita office, or get a list of all the names you can and bring them with you when you come down to the Convention. You do not want to fail to collect the membership fee, which is \$2.00 and pays their dues for 1916. You can advise them that just as soon as their names are filed with the Secretary, they will be sent a receipt for their membership fee and dues for the year 1916, and also we will send them a book pertaining to the report of the Association's work during the past two years, which will be printed now in a few days.

I am enclosing you a collect card furnished me by the Western Union Telegraph Company, so in case you would want to send the department a message at any time, you would have no trouble in doing so.

Yours very truly,

JHM/KEM*

Secretary.

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



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE-STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER

TOPEKA.

Kingman Kans Jan 22-1916

How J H Mercer Topeka Kans my Dear Sir
I went from Garden City to future to investigate
the report of the scabious cattle & found them clean & all
rite. I also made inquiry of a number of stockmen
regarding ~~any~~ range. They all reported Everything
in good shape all the Herds that we treated last spring
are in good shape it looks like there is not a case of
mange in Hadjemen Co far which I am very glad
I got home last Evening am feeling better & think I will be
all rite in a day as to the matter looks good like a
fellow could do something without freezing say wouldnt
it be a good idea to have Dr Stradtman deliver his lecture on
rag cholera at the convention he delivers a very good
lecture you spoke of trying to get some signers for our
association I might get a few it looked like most Every
one joined last winter as you remember Kingman Co
had the largest Membership at the convention of any Co in
the State. If you will send me the paper papers I will see what
I can do am very truly Yours J H Mercer

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



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE-STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER

TOPEKA,

Kingman Kas Jan 28-1916

Hon J H Mercer Topeka Kas
My Dear Sir yours
of late date to hand & note what you say
about new members to our association if the
matter don't let up so that the stockmen can
get to town I cant do much as no one comes
to town at all - I went to Wichita a couple
of days ago & met & seen Mr. Vickers &
got some application slips this matter is sure
fierce here it will let up so that we will have
a large attendance at Wichita it looks like
we would have a big crowd I will see you
there & talk over the situation and meet them
and Sir very truly yours
J H Mercer



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

F. S. SCHOENLEBER, D. V. S., Professor
LEONARD W. GOSS, D. V. M., Professor
R. E. DYKSTRA, D. V. M., Professor
J. H. BURT, D. V. M., Assistant Professor
THOS. P. HASLAM, D. V. M., Assistant Professor

Kansas State Agricultural College
Manhattan, Kansas

DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

J. W. BENNER, D. V. M., Assistant
R. V. CHRISTIAN, D. V. M., Assistant
O. M. FRANKLIN, D. V. M., Assistant
C. W. HOBBS, V. S., Field Veterinarian
W. A. HAGAN, D. V. M., Assistant

January 28, 1916.

Hon. J. H. Mercer,

Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Mercer:-

Enclosed I am giving the Phenol treatment for Contagious Abortion. This carbolic acid is not a specific treatment for Contagious Abortion but one which is most universally used and gives the best results of any remedy that we have at our command at present and should be used in the following way.

* Sanitation should be carried out to the strictest letter to get the best results. Ofcourse this is hard to do in large herds and on the range.

Separate the aborting animals from those supposed not to be affected and keep them separated until they are entirely well.

Treatment: Boil and cool a quart of soft water, add to this 5 drams of pure crystals of phenol. Keep this solution in a well corked bottle, shake it vigorously each time before using. Get a hypodermic syringe similar to those used in Black-leg and inject under the skin about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ounces of this solution, putting $1\frac{1}{2}$ drams at different points of the body. Repeat this every seven days until about six treatments are given. After about two treatments increase the dosage to all the animal will stand. To do this give one or two extra syringes full watching the symptoms.

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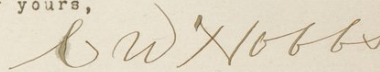
#2

If the pupil of the eye dilates, enough has been given, an overdose makes some animals quite sleepy or they stagger a little but these symptoms are not dangerous and soon wear off.

Another method of giving this, which some prefer is using raw linseed oil adding four to six tablespoonful of this phenol solution and use as a drench, increasing the dosage as desired.

+ If this treatment is followed out carefully it gives very good results.

Very truly yours,



Field Veterinarian.

CWH/K.

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

AFFIDAVIT.

State of Missouri }
County of Jackson }

Before me a Notary Public, personally appeared
Jas. A. McAllister, and made affidavit as follows:

"On December 9th, I sold a mixed car of cattle for
Mr. H. C. Jones, of Tonganoxie, Kans., consisting of twenty-
three head of cattle; the balance were hogs.

Mr. Jones accompanied this shipment and early in
the morning before leaving the office he told me that he had
two cows that were suspicious and he had been instructed to
have them sold direct to packers. He came to the yards and
pointed these cows out to me. One was a white cow with some
black around her neck and shoulders. The other was a black
cow with a few white spots on her. I believe this one had a
spot on her left shoulder. These two cows I sold with other
cows in the same shipment to Morris & Co. There was also
included, two cows that I sold to a speculator for \$3.90
per cwt., and they were again sold to the packers. But these
were none of the cows that he showed me. There was also in
the load, two cows and two calves which I sold for milk cows
to a speculator in the Yards which he had to have tested
before he could ship them out of the yards. The only two
cattle that could have possibly gone out of the Yards were
the two cows that I sold at \$3.90. But the man to whom I
sold them tells me that he sold them in a bunch of canners
to the packers on the following day. So there would have
been no chance of these two cows going to any one but the
packers. The two that I sold to Yocum, that is, two cows
and two calves, were fresh, and were put through the test."

Jas. A. McAllister

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 23rd day of December, 1915.

Leto J. Neek
Notary Public

My Com expires Jan 27-1918



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

AFFIDAVIT.

State of Kansas)
County of Leavenworth)

Before me a Notary Public, Personally appeared C. A. Long,
and made affidavit as follows:

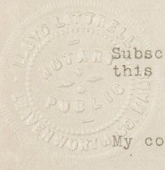
I said to H. C. Jones two suspicious cows described as follows:
One black cow star in forehead, white spot the size of a silver
dollar on left shoulder and white brush. One white cow medium
size, some dim roan spots about the size of a quarter or a dollar
over her.

At the time the above described cows were brought back from
Piper, Kansas, which was about the 6th, day of December 1, again
identified the two cows as the ones which I had sold to H. C. Jones
as suspicious cows.

C. A. Long

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 27th day of December, 1916.

Clayton Littrell
Notary Public.
My commission expires Jan, 26th, 1918.



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

A F F I D A V I T.

State of Kansas)
) ss.
County of Leavenworth)

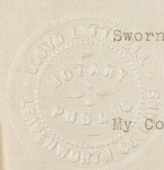
Harvey C. Jones, being duly sworn, alleges and says: that on the 8th. day of December, A. D. 1915, he shipped the two suspicious cows which he bought of C. A. Long, to Witherspoon-McMullen Commission Company of Kansas City, Mo: and that said cows were sold on the 9th. day of December, A. D. 1915, by Jas. A. McAllister, cattle salesman for the above named commission company, to Morris and Company, packers.

Harvey C. Jones

Sworn before me, this 27th. day of December, A. D. 1915.

Loy D. Little
Notary Public.

My Commission expires Jan. 26th., 1918.



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

Tonganmire, Kas
Dec. 27, -15
Mr. J. H. Mercer.
State Live Stock Commissioner
Dear Sir

Inclosed are the three
affidavits you requested.
Now the afternoon I shipped
those cows Mr. Long was
at home on his farm and
did not see me load these
cows, but by the description
of the cows on the two
affidavits will surely
convince you that they
are the same two cows in
question. Hoping this will
be satisfactory to you.

I am, Yours Truly
H. C. Jones.

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

Jan. 14, 1916.

Dr. W. H. Seute,
Tonganoxie, Kansas.

Dear Sir,

Replying to your communication of the 12th, I will briefly set forth to you the supposedly final disposition of the two cows belonging to H.C. Jones.

The history of how Mr. Jones received the cattle, you are perhaps familiar with, from the fact that Mr. Long advised me that you recommended to him the selling of these two cows at the time you tested them, which, by the way, you should not have done until satisfactory arrangements were made with this Department for their disposal. We had all manner of trouble with Mr. Jones. He sold the cows to an innocent purchaser, and we had to trace same down, and compel him to take them back. Through our leniency we gave him the privilege of holding them for a re-test or shipping them to a market for immediate slaughter under our direction. On telephone information from Mr. Jones that he wanted to hold these cattle for a re-test, we granted him the privilege. In about three days afterward, we received word from Mr. Jones that he had shipped the cattle to Kansas City, and had directed them to be sold for immediate slaughter.

This was in direct violation of the orders of this Department, and the privileges we had granted him. I presume that the best method to have pursued would have been to have had Mr. Jones prosecuted and punished in accordance with the sanitary law regulating matters of this kind. However, we did not desire to cause anyone trouble, and gave Mr. Jones the alternative of either being prosecuted, or furnish us affidavits from the commission house who sold the cows, and also an affidavit that he shipped them, and to secure an affidavit from Mr. Long, the original owner of the cattle, that he had shipped the cattle off his premises.

This Mr. Jones complied with, and we have these affidavits on file in our office, and unless

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Dr. W. H. Seute, No. 2.

these men perjured themselves, the two cows in question that were suspicious under the tuberculin test applied by yourself to Mr. Long's cattle under date of October 29th and 30th, have been slaughtered.

I might add while writing that this case has caused this Department a great deal of trouble, and had it not been our policy to endeavor to conduct the affairs of the office without getting into litigation with anyone, there is no doubt but what legal proceedings would have been brought against Mr. Jones.

In order that this whole affair could be given to the public, I have no objections to your having this letter published in your city paper. The above outline contains the facts in the case, which are a matter of record in this office. Advise me should you have this letter given to the public.

Yours very truly,

JHM/MB

Commissioner.

Dr. W. H. Seute, No. 2.

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

Dr. W. H. Seute, No. 2.

these men perjured themselves



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

Dr. W. H. Seute
Veterinarian

RESIDENCE PHONE 132
OFFICE PHONE 13

TONGANOXIE, KANSAS, Jan. 12, 1916

Hon. J. H. Mercer,
Topeka, Kans.

Dear Sir:-

Would it be possible
to find out what became of those
two suspicious cows of H. C. Jones,
and if there were any postmortem
lesions of tuberculosis?

It has been reported here that
those two cows passed the test
at the stock yards and were
sold as healthy for dairy cows.

Yours respectfully
W. H. Seute.

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

Jan. 8, 1916.

Mr. C. A. Long,
Tonganoxie, Kan.
Dear Sir,

Your communication of the 1st inst. came to hand in my absence from the office, and I have just noted carefully the contents of same. On referring to this matter, we note that we advised you of the report we had received of the test of your cattle, and the first information from you was that you had sold them, and of course, the final disposition of these cows, as you know, has caused this Department a great deal of trouble and expense.

I presume when Dr. Seute advised you to dispose of these cows, he was giving you what he considered good professional advice. However, the proper course to have pursued in this matter, would have been to have held these cows, if they were valuable animals, for a re-test, as you remember you were advised it could be done. We also advised Mr. Jones that he could hold these cows for a re-test, and would have been glad to have permitted same to have been done. Mr. Jones took the matter in his own hands, and consequently it caused not only him, but us as well, a considerable amount of inconvenience.

So far as your being reimbursed for your cattle in any way, there would be no way or plan that could be devised whereby you could receive same. You sold them and accepted a price for them, and the ownership passed out of your hands into other hands. Therefore, if you sold these cattle at a sacrifice price, you are now the loser, and we feel now had you waited until we had advised you the plan of handling them, you would perhaps still own the cows, and would have had a re-test applied in due course of time, and if they were healthy, you could have continued to keep them. Otherwise, they would have been appraised and disposed of in accordance with the laws of the State.

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Mr. C. A. Long, No. 2.

I want to assure you that it is our purpose to protect in every way possible, the owners of property, giving them every opportunity to thoroughly determine whether or not they have live stock infected with a contagious or infectious disease, before we take any action concerning the destruction of the property.

Would suggest that hereafter should anything come up in this way, connected with any of your live stock, that you take it up with this Department, rather than listen to the advice of anyone.

Yours truly,

JHM/MB

Commissioner.

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

Tonganoxie Kan Nov 13. /15

J. C. Mercer

Wpaka Kansas

Dear Sir

Replying to yours of the 3rd
it was my understanding that Nos 8
74 & 97 of your herd were diseased
and were classed as such
Dr W. H. Suck advised me to
sell them, and I done so, and I
advised the party I sold them
to that they were tested, and
were diseased. Mr Harvey Jones
the stock buyer here at Tonganoxie
was the man I sold them to
I took Mr Suck's advice and
disposed of them, now if I have
erred in the matter it was not
my fault. I also receive your
copy of the 10 set This will explain
what I have done with the
cows Mr Jones still has the cows
in his pasture Yours Res. C. A. Long

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

P.S. just had a talk with
Mr. Lusk - he tells me
Jones still has the cattle or
cows I sold him
My understanding was that
he intended to ship the
2 cows in question to Kearsy
Yours truly
C. A. Long

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

File

November 3, 1915.

Mr. C. A. Long,
Tonganoxie, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

I received test charts from Dr. W. H. Seute of your City, of a test of your herd of dairy cattle, which two animals Nos. 94 and 97 to be suspicious as being infected with the contagious disease tuberculosis. Dr. Seute did not advise me in any way concerning these two animals, and I would be pleased to have you write me concerning same and what your wishes are with reference to holding them for a retest or having them disposed of.

Thanking you in advance for an early
reply.

Yours very truly,

Commissioner.

JHM/KTM---

*Letter in regard to this case, to the following
Seute
Jones
John Christ Jr.*

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

January 3, 1915.

Mr. C. A. Long,
Tonganoxie, Kansas.
Dear Sir:-

Yours of the 31st ult reached the office this date and contents noted. Mr. Mercer is out of the city at this time looking after matters pertaining to the work of the Department and just as soon as he returns to the office your letter will be brought to his attention and you will hear from him forthwith regarding this matter.

Yours truly,
LIVE STOCK COMMISSIONER.

KEM***

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

Tonganoxie Kans Dec 31/15
 Mr J. H. Mercer
 L. S. Commissioner, Topeka, Kans
 Dear Sir
 On the 28th I was called before a motory Public, by Mr Harve Jones to describe the cows I sold him as being suspicious, I also went to Piper Kansas at your request to identify the same cows, and now Mr Jones tells me these cows passed inspection at Kansas City as being straight and all right - Together with two other cows that Mr Luelke the veterinary pronounced suspicious.
 To say the least this has been very unsatisfactory and to me seems very unfair. These cows cost me 90 \$ each and we received a fraction over 32 \$ for each for them now if these cows were not infected there should be some recourse or protection to safeguard the owner of dairy herds. It is not right that we should have our cows condemned and forced to sell them at a sacrifice, and then find the veterinary has made a blunder, we feel that we should be entitled for the full value of our cows if they were not diseased. Let me hear from you Respectfully yours
 C. A. Long

Please return this

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

Dec. 24, 1915.

Mr. James A. McAlester,
C/o Witherspoon & McMullen Livestock Commission Co.
Room 424 Livestock Exchange Bldg.,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir,

I received yours of yesterday with copy of account sales of H. C. Jones' cattle and hogs, sold by your firm under date of December 9th. I note what you say concerning Mr. Jones' instructions to you with reference to the two cows in question.

I might say to you that Mr. Jones has brought all this trouble on himself. Furthermore, it is only through leniency on my part that Mr. Jones has been relieved of a considerable amount of trouble, and a considerable amount of expense in the way of fines, etc. for the impractical manner in which he has acted in this whole transaction. As a matter of suggestion, if Mr. Jones is your customer, and I presume you are interested in all customers, it might be a good thing for you to drop a little suggestion to him, that his stubborn methods will never be tolerated by me again, as they have in this case. Hereafter, whatever he does with this Department, will be done in the strictest terms, as stipulated by the law.

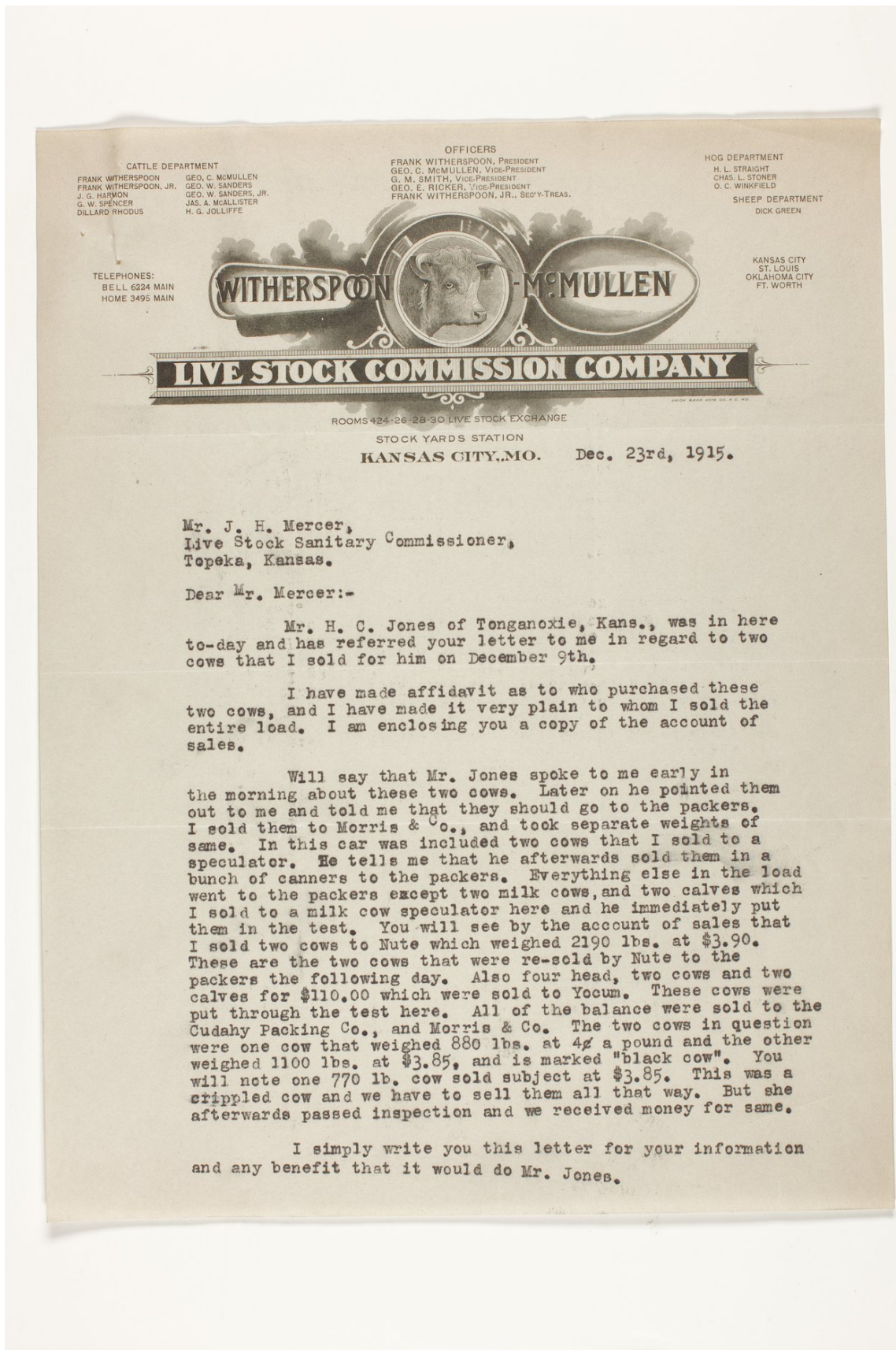
Were I not a stockman myself, and know what stockmen have to go up against, there is no question in the world, but what Mr. Jones would have been punished severely for his conduct in this transaction.

Yours very truly,

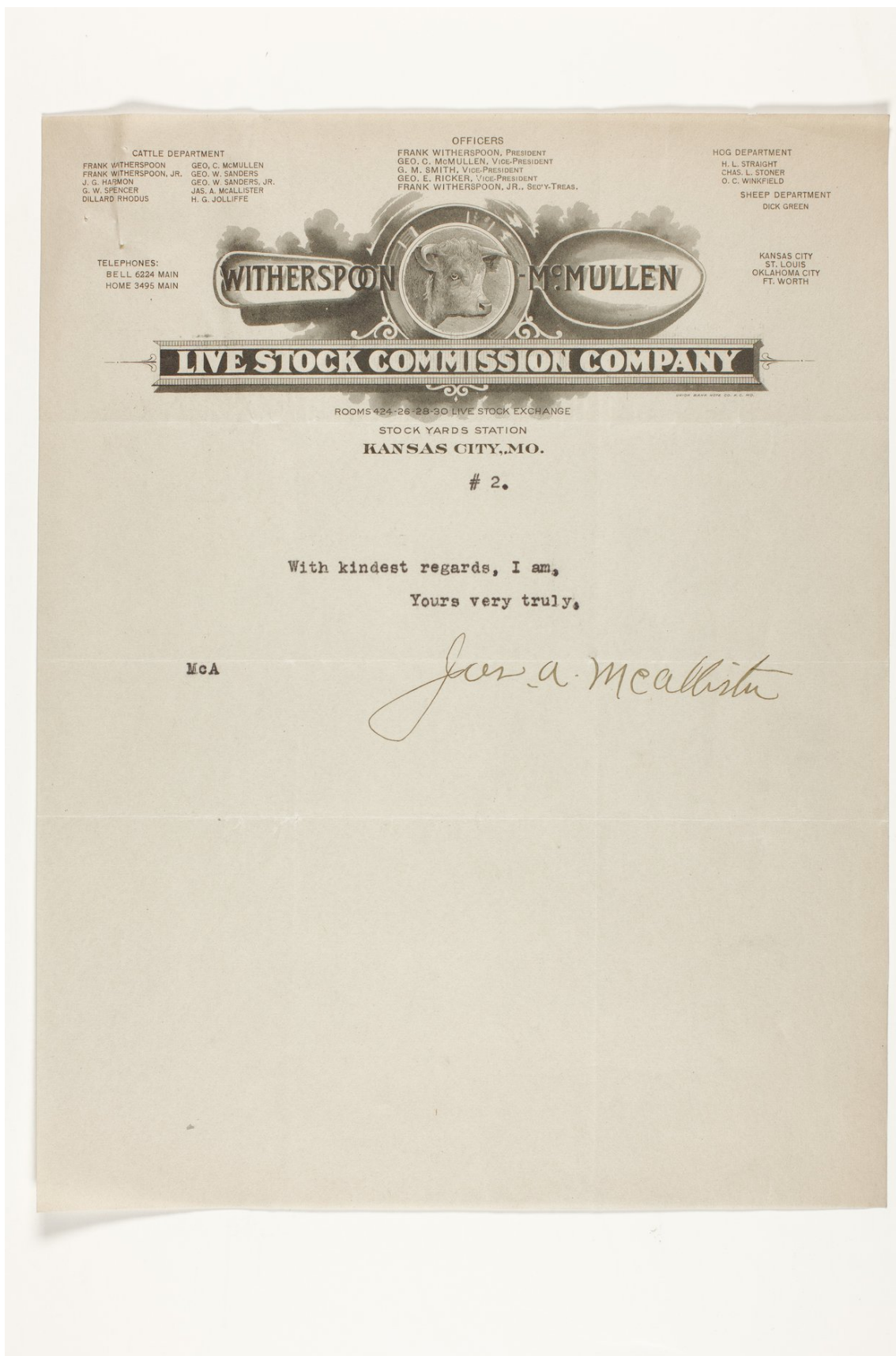
JHM/MB

Commissioner.

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CATTLE DEPARTMENT
 FRANK WITHERSPOON, GEO. C. McMULLEN
 FRANK WITHERSPOON, JR. GEO. W. SANDERS
 J. G. HARMON GEO. W. SANDERS, JR.
 G. W. SPENCER JAS. A. McALLISTER
 DILLARD RHODUS H. G. JOLLIFFE

OFFICERS
 FRANK WITHERSPOON, PRESIDENT
 GEO. C. McMULLEN, VICE-PRESIDENT
 G. M. SMITH, VICE-PRESIDENT
 GEO. E. RICKER, VICE-PRESIDENT
 FRANK WITHERSPOON, JR., Sec'y-Treas.

HOG DEPARTMENT
 H. L. STRAIGHT
 CHAS. L. STONER
 O. C. WINKFIELD

SHEEP DEPARTMENT
 DICK GREEN

TELEPHONES:
 BELL 5224 MAIN
 HOME 3495 MAIN



LIVE STOCK COMMISSION COMPANY

ROOMS 424-26-28-30 LIVE STOCK EXCHANGE
 STOCK YARDS STATION
 KANSAS CITY, MO.

KANSAS CITY
 ST. LOUIS
 OKLAHOMA CITY
 FT. WORTH

Sold for account of H. C. Jones Dec 9 1915
Shipped from Longanox to P.O. Du

| PURCHASER | CATTLE | HOGS | SHEEP | WEIGHT | DOCK | | | PRICE | AMOUNT | TOTAL |
|------------------|------------------|-----------|------------|-------------|------|-------|--------|--------------|----------------|----------------------|
| | | | | | SOVS | STAGS | POUNDS | | | |
| <i>W. P. Lee</i> | | <i>22</i> | | <i>4120</i> | | | | <i>6.50</i> | <i>26986</i> | |
| <i>Morris</i> | | <i>6</i> | | <i>650</i> | | | | <i>5.50</i> | <i>3575</i> | |
| <i>W. P. Lee</i> | <i>2 cows</i> | | | <i>2190</i> | | | | <i>39.00</i> | <i>8541</i> | |
| <i>Morris</i> | <i>9 sp</i> | | | <i>1640</i> | | | | <i>9.00</i> | <i>14760</i> | |
| | <i>2 sp</i> | | | <i>210</i> | | | | <i>6.00</i> | <i>1260</i> | |
| <i>W. P. Lee</i> | <i>4 C x r p</i> | | | | | | | | <i>11000</i> | |
| <i>Morris</i> | <i>1 cow</i> | | | <i>1090</i> | | | | <i>5.50</i> | <i>5995</i> | |
| | <i>1</i> | | | <i>880</i> | | | | <i>4.00</i> | <i>3520</i> | |
| | <i>1</i> | | | <i>1110</i> | | | | <i>3.85</i> | <i>4273</i> | <i>13 / 1000 cow</i> |
| | <i>1</i> | | <i>blk</i> | <i>1110</i> | | | | <i>3.85</i> | <i>4273</i> | |
| | <i>1</i> | | | <i>100</i> | | | | <i>4.00</i> | <i>400</i> | |
| | <i>1</i> | | | <i>290</i> | | | | <i>3.85</i> | <i>1116.50</i> | |
| | <i>23</i> | <i>28</i> | | <i>1440</i> | | | | | | <i>86983</i> |

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>No. Cars</i> | <i>Weight</i> | <i>Rate</i> | <i>Amount</i> | <i>Freight and Back Charges</i> | <i>11.71</i> |
| | | | | <i>Overage</i> | <i>5.40</i> |
| | | | | <i>Hay</i> | <i>1.00</i> |
| | | | | <i>Corn</i> | <i>1.50</i> |
| | | | | <i>Inspection and Insurance</i> | <i>2.00</i> |
| | | | | <i>Commission</i> | |
| | | | | <i>Net Proceeds</i> | <i>E. & C. E.</i> |
| | | | | <i>Cash</i> | |

ANYTHING NOT SATISFACTORY PLEASE ASK FOR EXPLANATION

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

Dec. 23, 1915.

Mr. H. C. Jones,
Tonganoxie, Kansas.
Dear Sir,

I received yours and note same. I am very glad to learn that you will furnish the affidavits called for in this matter.

You can blame no one for the bother and trouble in this matter, but yourself. We have been very lenient with you, and much more so perhaps, than we should have been, but as I stated in a former letter, it is not my purpose to give you any trouble in any way.

You state that I told you over the phone it would be alright to sell these cattle to the packers. That is true, I did tell you so, but I also told you that you were to notify me in case you did ship them, and I followed those instructions up with a letter on the 8th. I also told you that you could hold them for a re-test, and you said that was what you were going to do, but nevertheless these things have happened, and all I want now is to know to an absolute certainty that these two cows in question have been slaughtered, by the packers.

You are talking to a man that has handled cattle perhaps just about as long as you have, and when you state that it would be impossible to sell "these two old Nellies to anyone else but the packers." You know that such is not true, especially at this particular time, when dairy cattle are bringing such fancy prices, and there is such a great demand for them.

I will be very glad indeed when I receive the affidavits in question, closing up the entire transaction.

Yours very truly,

JHM/MB

Commissioner.

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

Tonganoxie, Kas.
Dec. 18-1915
Mr. J. H. Mercer
State Live Stock Comm.
Dear Sir.

As I had been out of town did not receive yours of Dec. 14 until yesterday eve.
I'm shipping these cows to be sold to the packers I thought I was doing exactly as you wanted done with them and didn't you tell me over the phone that it was all right to sell them to the packers before a retest? It is true I first thought I would keep

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them for a retest but
on second thought, what
was the use? even if they
stood the test which I
believe they would, there
would have been no sale
for them except to the
packers as they had
been turned dry some
time before. I did not
see where it would make
me any money to keep
them another year until
they had calves. My
feed was getting scarce
I had spent enough
time and money looking
with them. I was
shipping a car of stock
so I decided to put
them in with the load
a let them bring what

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they would³. Anyone who knows any thing about cows knows that it would be impossible to sell those two old dried up Nellies to anyone else but the packers especially at this time of the year. However I will send the affidavits you request within the specified time. I do want this matter straightened out as soon as possible. Looks to me like making a great big thing out of nothing. supposed it was all over when the cows were sold to the packers.

yours Truly
H. C. Jones

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



State of Kansas

J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

OFFICE OF
LIVE-STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER

TOPEKA,

Nov. 23, 1915.

Mr. John Chest, Jr.,
Bonner Springs, Kan.

Dear Sir,

On the 30th day of October, Mr. C. A. Long, of Tonganoxie, had a herd of cows tested, among which two were rated as suspicious of being infected with the contagious disease tuberculosis. On receipt of the report from Dr. Seute, who made the test, we notified Mr. Long of the manner in which these cows could be handled. It appears, that in the meantime, he had sold them to H. C. Jones, Tonganoxie, with the understanding of what our order was concerning the handling of the cows - that they were to be disposed of at a market center for immediate slaughter, under our jurisdiction. It appears that Mr. Jones did not carry out this part of the agreement, and sold these cows to you, as they have been identified by the owner as being in your possession.

You are notified that these cows must not be moved from your place, or disposed of in any manner, without our consent and order. Under the circumstances, you can compel Mr. Jones to take these cows back, and you can do so, if you desire, as I will expect these cows to be handled entirely in accordance with the orders of this department, and you being the innocent purchaser, we are giving you this notice so you can protect yourself accordingly.

Yours very truly,

JHM/MB

J. H. Mercer
Commissioner.
MB

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

Dec. 14, 1915.

Mr. H. C. Jones,
Tonganoxie, Kan.

Dear Sir,

I received yours of the 10th and note same. I might add that I am very much surprised at your action. It appears that you have taken this matter entirely in your own hands, and I presume that the proper thing for me to do, would be to turn the matter over to the Attorney General, and let him deal with you according to the law governing matters of this kind. I dislike to cause you any expense, but you must remember that you are not bigger than the laws of Kansas, and you must be as subservient to them as anyone else.

There is one thing that you can do that will prevent your being prosecuted in this matter, and that will be to make affidavit that you shipped the two cows in question; also, get the affidavit of Mr. Long himself, that you shipped the two cows, and have Witherspoon & McMullen make affidavit that they sold the entire load of cattle you shipped them to the packers for immediate slaughter.

I will give you ten days in which to do this, if you want to do it, and you must let me know on receipt of this letter whether you do want to do it. If not, I will take it that you do not care to give any consideration to the orders of this Department, and will let the Attorney General handle the matter. I cannot understand why you have done as you have. In talking to you over the phone on the 6th, you told me you wanted to keep these cows for a re-test, and then on the 8th, you shipped them, and on the 10th advised us that they were sold in Kansas City the day before.

In the handling of these cows, you have repeatedly violated the orders of this department, which you have admitted by your own correspondence, and in doing so, are subject to the penalties of