

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

Section 60, Pages 1771 - 1800

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: Kansas. Livestock Sanitary Commissioner

Date: 1919-1924

Callnumber: Livestock Sanitary Commissioner, Correspondence, 1919-1924

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 310244

Item Identifier: 310244

www.kansasmemory.org/item/310244

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Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

November 8, 1922.

Mr. F. M. Sanders,
Sedon, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of recent date, as stated to you in a former letter, it would appear that the cause of the trouble among your hogs resulted from the use of serum since you state that they were all healthy before they were vaccinated.

In your letter you ask whether or not the serum company is responsible. That is quite a question. If you could prove that the serum that they furnished you was not potent and that they had been responsible for same, you could collect for the loss of your hogs. I would suggest, however, that you have Moffett Brothers & Andrews take the matter up with the serum company and get any adjustment you can out of them. They more than likely would furnish you some serum free some time when you might need it.

I am taking the matter up with the serum company and will write you further if I receive any information from them that will be of benefit to you.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JDE:A

Sedan Kans.
10/22 - 22
Mr. J. H. Meyer
Topeka Kans.
Dear Sir:
Rec'd. your letter also
biennial report, of which was
much pleased to receive.
I used the United Serum Co Serum
of Kansas City Mo. I have not the
serial number of the serum now as
I sent it in to Moffett Bros. & Andrews
of Kansas City.
Dr. Moon of Howard Kans. did the work.
I might give you more of the
way the hogs were treated but in my former
letter I think I gave you most of the
condition of the hogs when vaccinated.
Is this Company reliable for the damage
done in vaccinated under this case?
I gladly answer all questions I can in this case.
Yours very truly F. M. Sanders

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

October 21, 1922.

Mr. F. M. Sanders,
Sedan, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of the 19th and note contents of same. I would take it from your letter that the cause of the loss of your hogs was the serum and virus you used in vaccinating them.

If this is true there was something wrong with the serum. Whose serum did you use and who administered it? I wish you would give me all the information you can about this and if you happen to know the serial number of the serum used, give me that also. I want this information for two reasons. One is that if the serum company that is manufacturing this serum is not careful in the bottling and handling of same, we will stop the sale of their product in the state. The other is that if it is not the serum company's fault we want to find out just where the fault lies.

Since you state you have cleaned up your premises I hardly think there will be any danger of losing your little pigs that you now have or the ones that are yet to farrow. However, I would keep close watch on them and if you see anything wrong I would vaccinate them the same as I vaccinated my other herd. I am sending you under separate cover the last biennial report of this department which contains some very good suggestions regarding the handling of infected herds, cleaning up of premises, etc.

If there is anything further we can do to assist you we will be glad to have you write us. In any event, give us the history of the treatment of your herd as above requested.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM:A

Sedan Kans

Oct. 19-22

Mr J. H. Mueser

Topeka Kans.

Dear Sir:

your letter recd. and contents
noted and in reply will say
in regard to the hogs we have the
disease under control and have had
no losses since they were vaccinated
the second time of which were given a
double dose only the ones that were sick at
the time which was 13 in number I think.
They died in a few days. I have disinfected
and cleaned up the best I could used
lime Crude oil as it comes from the wells
also Creso dip. There has not been any of
my neighbours hogs any cholera so far.
I have a number of small pigs and
more sows to farrow soon will there be
much danger of them taking this disease?
The sows are secured,

and as what caused this disease is from
vaccination they were in the best of health
before this and in 7 days a few were sick
and died quite fast, so I call the veterinarian
and he said to give them a mixed infection
which we did and they died faster than
than ever so we gave the second dose
of virus & serum and this was the cure
we lost 90 and were in weight from 50 to 125
lbs. Hoping this report will be satisfactory
and that from this you might give
me some information concerning this
disease. Hoping to hear from you again
yours very truly

Maffett, Broo. & Andrews
By S. M. Sanders

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

November 14, 1922.

Mr. J. E. Bray,
Neodesha, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of the 12th instant and have noted same carefully.

Your statement that Dr. Stephenson has tuberculin tested the cow in question would eliminate any adjustment of your case under Bulletin No. 16, providing she passed a clean test. Dr. Stephenson has not as yet sent the record of the test to this office and we are writing him today directing him to send it in at once. If she reacted to the test we will see to it that she is returned to Mr. Bullock and that he refunds to you the purchase price of the animal.

The question of the foot trouble does not come under our jurisdiction in any way with respect to the sale of the animal. I am quite sure, however, if you can prove that a mis-statement was made with respect to the lameness of this cow when she was sold at the public sale, that you not only can compel Mr. Bullock to return you the purchase price of this animal, but you can also sue him for damages for selling, under a false statement, an animal diseased as is indicated this cow was diseased. Even though the disease might not be of an infectious or contagious nature and the auctioneer made the statement that this animal had just hurt her foot in being conveyed to the sale, you would then have a recourse both for the purchase price and for damages you might have sustained.

The advice I am giving you with respect to this matter is what I know regarding business transactions and I would suggest that unless you can persuade Mr. Bullock to settle this matter with you satisfactorily that you put the case in an attorney's hands before going further. As soon as I hear from Dr. Stephenson I will advise you as to what the test record shows.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM.A

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

Toodesha Mo
 Nov. 12 1922.
 Mr. Meser
 Toodesha Mo.
 Sir -
 I am writing to explain a little
 better about the cow I was talking to
 you about over the phone yesterday (yep!!)
 I saw Dr. Steele last night and he
 said he would write you in regard to
 it. This cow was owned by Lloyd Benke
 and was tested by Dr. Robinson of
 Independence on May 2 1922.
 She was sold sometime in the summer
 to Mrs. Stewell of Independence.
 Mr. Bullock says he bought the cow
 Nov. 1. he sold her at auction Nov.
 4 and I bought her. she was
 lame at the time. Mr. Bullock
 she was strained loading her in a
 truck but quarantined her to get alright
 on Monday Nov. 6 Dr. Steele examined
 the cow and said she had foot rot
 and it was infectious and could
 be transmitted to my other cows.
 on Thursday Nov. 9 Mr. Bullock
 brought Dr. Stephens of Independence
 to my place. He said in the

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presence of Mr. Bullock Dr. Stiel
my son Harold, & myself she had
footrot and it was possible to
transmit it to my other cows.
on Friday Nov. 10 Mr. Bullock
& Dr. Stephenson came back to
my place & gave this cow the
tubercular test.

Mr. Bowman took care of this
cow for Mrs. Stillwell & both
Mr. Bowman & Mrs. Stillwell
said this cow was lame before
Mr. Bullock bought her.

I hope this will explain things
so you can advise me what to do.
I demanded my money back
& demanded him to come and get
the cow which he has refused to
do.

respt yours
J. E. Bray

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

November 14, 1922.

Dr. E. H. Steele,
Neodesha, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I have yours of the 11st and have carefully noted same. Under separate cover I am sending a book of health certificates as per your request.

With respect to the J. M. Bray cow, I have just written to Mr. Bray outlining our opinion as to the handling of this animal. As stated to Mr. Bray in our letter, we have nothing to do with the transaction unless the animal reacted under Dr. Stephenson's tuberculin test. In case she was classed as a reactor or a suspect under this test we would enforce the provisions of our Bulletin No. 16 with respect to the return of the cow to the original owner.

The question of the sore feet, as stated in my letter to Mr. Bray, does not come under our jurisdiction. However, if he can prove that there was a false statement made at the sale of this animal, the court decisions are many on this very subject and they hold that the owner selling a cow under a false statement can be held liable not only for the sale price of the cow, but also for any damage that might be proven the purchaser sustained. This, however, is a matter for Mr. Bray and Mr. Bullock to settle or for a court to settle, as we have no jurisdiction.

With respect to Bulletin No. 16, Mr. Bray misunderstood me as regards the test made on this cow last May being all that is necessary. I stated to Mr. Bray over the 'phone that there might be instances where a test made within the last year would be all that was necessary, even though it was not an accredited herd test. It would depend upon the history of the animals tested. Bulletin No. 16 means just what it states with this exception --- that we are not authorizing anyone to enforce its provisions and are only enforcing its provisions where contentions arise with respect to the sale of dairy cattle when brought to our attention.



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Dr. Stephenson is an accredited veterinarian and if his chart shows this animal to be clean and free from tuberculosis, then the provisions of Bulletin No. 16 have been complied with with respect to the test. It seems to me that Mr. Bray and Mr. Bullock as business men should settle this difficulty without litigation or trouble, and if it were my case and I could prove that this animal had a chronic foot trouble and that a false statement was made when she was sold to me, I would either make him refund the purchase price and take the animal back and pay me for any trouble I had been to, or I would let the court decide it for me.

I thank you for your letter and if at any time we can give you information regarding these matters I will be glad to have you write me.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHMA



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

Needesha Phone 7

Lafontaine Phone 545-7

E. H. Steele, D. V. M.

Needesha, Kansas, November 11 - 22

Hon. J.H. Mercer.
Live Stock Sanitary Com.
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir; Please send me a book of Health Charts by return mail as I have some cattle inspected for shipment and not enough charts to complete.

Mr. J.E. Bray asked me to write you in regard to a certain cow bought from Mr. Bullock of Independence which I will describe and give you the history as near as possible.

Holstein in milk, sold at public auction, with the statement that she had injured her foot while being loaded in a truck. I was out to Mr. Brays to test some cows and was going to test her also, but being lame he asked me to see what was the cause of the lameness, I made an examination and found a necrotic condition affecting the left fore foot, between the toes and at the anterior portion of the hoof there was a partial separation of the hoof with a swelling of the coronary, I advised isolating the cow, as Mr. Bray runs a dairy and I knew if his other cows became affected it would mean a large loss of milk in his herd.

Mr. Bray asked if there was any danger in his other cattle getting the infection, I told him it was possible to and then he asked me if I thought the cow was injured loading in a truck to be brought to the sale I stated that the injury was probably of longer duration and he started to investigate and found out that the cow was lame before Mr. Bullock had purchased her.



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Needesha Phone 7

Lafontaine Phone 515-7

E. H. Steele, D. V. M.

Needesha, Kansas.

He went and asked Mr. Bullock to remove the cow as did not want her among his herd which he refused to do but brought Dr. Stephenson to examine the cow and he stated that it was Necro bacillosis of the foot. Themn it seems that Dr. Stephenson got in touch with you and you ordered him to apply the Tuberculin Test

Then Mr. Bray got in touch with you and told you that the cow had not been tested since sometime in May, and he understood you to say that the chart was good for a year for sale purposes, if she is not from a state or federal herd would that hold good? or would Rule 1 of your August Ruling hold good that part which states that cows sold at public sales for dairy purposes must have a chart showing the cattle were tested not more than ninety days previous to date of sale.

If I have misconstrued your ruling please let me hear from you. Respt.

E. H. Steele



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OFFICERS:
E. U. CARTER, CHAIRMAN
J. M. MAHONEY, VICE CHAIRMAN
MRS. F. S. HAWES, SECRETARY
CHAS. E. HALL, TREASURER

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS RUSSELL COUNTY CHAPTER

HEADQUARTERS AT
RUSSELL, KANSAS

MABEL D. TAYLOR
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
ANNA TRADER
PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Nov. 15. 1922.

Mr. J. H. Mercer, Commissioner.
Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner.
Topeka,
Kansas.

Dear Mr. Mercer;

Time has not permitted me to go see Mr. Butcher in regard to the last letter I have received from you, however I am also waiting for a meeting with our councilmen so we can get things straightened out proper.

Dr. Christenson told me that you had a picture that possible we could get as an educator on the Tuberculin Cow (Out of the Shadow) we will have the farmers Institute here Dec. 12, 22. and wonder if we could get this picture, machine, ets. at that date.

I have asked the programe committe, also the County Commissioners for this time on the programe providing we can secure same from you. *How much time will this use.*

May I please hear from you and if we can have the film how much time for same in order that we may list it on the programe.

I thank you for your attention.

Cordially yours.

R.N.
Russell County.
Public Health Nurse.



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

November 8, 1922.

Miss A. Traber,
Public Health Nurse,
Russell, Kansas.

Dear Madam:

Since receiving your letter of the 3rd, Dr. Christenson has returned from Russell and reported as to his work. He advises that he tested something like eighty head of cows in and close to the city of Russell. He also advises that Dr. Butcher was only there a little of the time and did not seem to care about cooperating with him with respect to helping him out with the testing.

He also advises that he thinks Dr. Butcher is competent to finish up the work that he began and I am writing Dr. Butcher today regarding the matter and if he does not complete the work under our direction we will try to assist you in getting some other veterinarian to do so. I think Dr. Christenson's report indicates that there are less than forty dairy cattle to test that are furnishing milk to the city of Russell.

You might talk with Dr. Butcher and find out how he feels about this matter and if he is not going ahead with the work, let me hear from you again.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM:A

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

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THE AMERICAN RED CROSS
RUSSELL COUNTY CHAPTER

MABEL D. TAYLOR
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
ANNA TRABER
PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

HEADQUARTERS AT
RUSSELL, KANSAS

Nov. 3, 1922

Dr. J. H. Mercer, Commissioner.
Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner.
Topeka.
Kansas.

Dear Dr. Mercer;

I have referred your last letter to Mr. C. A. Johnson of this city, who is one of our councilmen and feel sure that he will do all that you suggested in regard to the change in our Milk Ordinance, as our Mayor and councilmen are the finest of men and among our best of citizens.

Our milk ordinance was taken from the one you had mailed to us and one from Dr. Crumbine.

We are very glad that we have taken these steps, though it may mean some difficulties for us, in the beginning of the enforcement ~~there~~ of.

We thank you for your assistance and assure you our co-operation.

Most cordially yours.
A. Traber, R.N.
Russell County.
Public Health Nurse;

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

October 25, 1922.

Miss A. Traber,
Russell, Kansas.

Dear Miss Traber:

Replying to your letter of the 19th, I had intended to send Dr. Christenson, a veterinarian of this department to Russell today to help you get started in the testing of your dairy cattle to meet the requirements of the city ordinance. However, after reading the ordinance over I am not entirely pleased with its provisions.

In section one of the ordinance it states that the owner shall pay annually to the city a registration fee of fifty cents per head for the first cow and ten cents for each additional cow. I do not approve of an ordinance of this kind. It seems to me that the city should take care of its own affairs and not exact a fee from the farmers and dairymen of the community. Therefore, I am opposed to the provisions in section 1.

In section two it should be stated that any veterinarian authorized by the State Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner under the law of Kansas to do testing in Kansas will be accredited to do testing to meet the requirements of the city ordinance. In the same section it calls for a tag to be placed in the ear of each cow that successfully passes the test. I think this entirely unnecessary. Of course, any cattle which react to the test will be taken charge of by the state and we will tag and dispose of them. It is difficult to keep any check on a tag system and therefore it is useless expense, and the ordinance does not state who will take care of the expense.

We have found that it is much more satisfactory under these ordinances if the city provides for the cattle to be tested in line with the requirements of the state law, unless it is cattle that are owned within the city limits, as the city has no jurisdiction outside its corporate limits. If you will have your ordinance corrected along the lines herein suggested, I will send Dr. Christenson out to Russell and have him spend some little time in testing cattle and instructing Dr. Butcher.

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With respect to Dr. Butcher's charges, there is no reason why an organization could not be effected among the farmers who are expecting to have their herds tested in such a way that all the cattle could be tested at not to exceed fifty cents per head and in case of large herds, probably a little less. I would not permit Dr. Butcher or anyone else to charge \$5.00 per head to test cattle in a community to meet a city ordinance. Of course, if he were just going out to test one cow and had no others to test, he could not do it for less than \$5.00. However, where you have an ordinance which requires the testing of several head of cattle an organization can be made so that the test can be made at not to exceed fifty cents per head and in some instances twenty-five cents per head.

Answering your inquiry further, will say that under the law the intradermal and thermal tests are both legal. The intradermal test is just as efficient and is the most economical test to apply.

You might take this matter up with your city officers and see if you cannot amend your ordinance so that we can give you some help in getting the cattle of your community tested.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM.A



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THE AMERICAN RED CROSS
RUSSELL COUNTY CHAPTER

MABEL D. TAYLOR
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
ANNA TRABER
PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

HEADQUARTERS AT
RUSSELL, KANSAS
October, 19, 1922.

Dr. J. H. Mercer.
Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner.
Topeka.
Kans.

Dear Dr. Mercer:

We are in need of help in regard to enforce the MILK ordinance that was recently passed, inclose you will find copy as appered in the paper so you can better understand just what we should do.

I had talked with Dr. Hammond of Luray just after you had written me of him, then he said that he could do the work now he has written that he would be unable to do so, giving me the names of two men whom are qualified for this work, Dr. Haynes of Wilson, Kans. and Dr. Pruitt of Hayes.

Could you send us a man to help Dr. Butcher, to supervise or assist him, and would this cost us some thing? if so what?

Dr. Butcher says that he would want the sum of \$1. per head for five or more, and as much as \$5.00 per head for single head, that is to help your man do this as I understand him.

I presume your man could not give us an unlimited time, should he come, and we would have to have our cows lined up perhaps do some publicity in regard to registration.

May I ask if the City should have a form for the registration of the cow, and tags for the cow to be tagged.

I understand that Two tests can be given, which is the best for us?

I was told that the Thermal Test it takes 9 trips for the Dr. while the interdermal takes only two.

We thank you for your interest and hope to hear from you at an early date.

Cordially, yours.

Miss A. Traber R.N.
Russell County.
Public Health Nurse.



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

September 13, 1922.

Anna Traber, Public Health Nurse,
Russell, Kansas.

Dear Madam:

Replying to yours of the 10th, we have had recent correspondence with Dr. Butcher with respect to the testing of cattle in compliance with the city ordinance.

Dr. Butcher is mistaken regarding getting a veterinarian from the federal government to help with the work. I advised Dr. Butcher that I would send a representative from this office to help him get started whenever the people of your community are ready to take up this work.

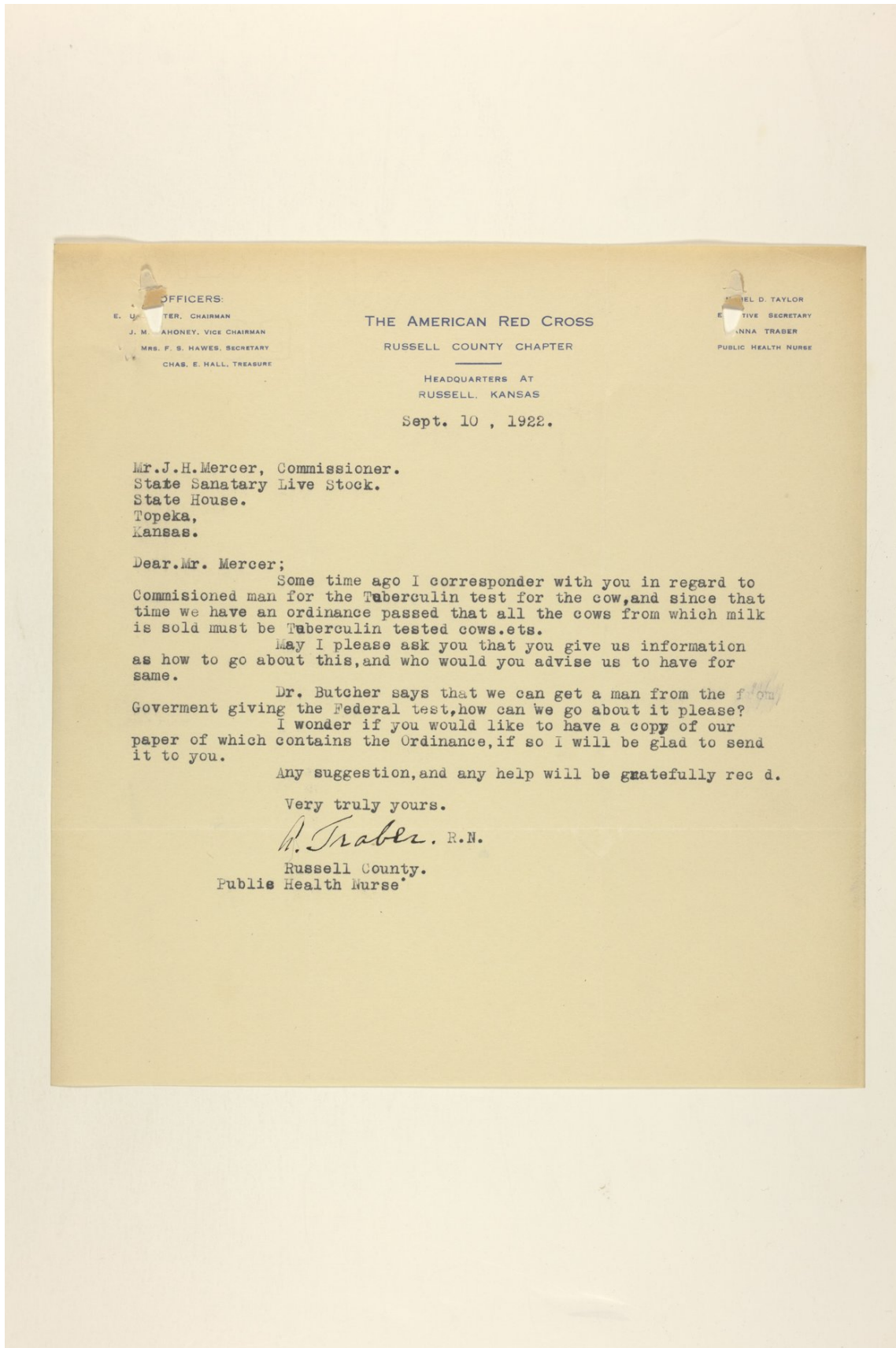
If you will confer with Dr. Butcher and have him show you the last letter I wrote him you will understand my position on this matter. I will be very glad to give you any assistance I can in getting him started off in this work, provided your people want him to do the work.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHD.A

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

November 17, 1922.

Mr. James Miller,
Elmdale, Kansas.

Dear Jim:

In accordance with our talk here in the office, I asked the Agricultural College to send one of their best men to your place to make an investigation and secure specimens etc. to determine what the trouble might be with your hogs. I am enclosing you copy of Dr. Harwood's report on the investigation.

I believe Dr. Harwood is giving you good advice when he recommends the vaccination of your young shoats. I think it would be good insurance on your hogs to follow up his recommendations. I note he states that there are two or three hogs on your place that are in rather bad condition. I believe it would be a good thing for you to get rid of them in some manner.

If there is any farther assistance we can give you with respect to the matter, please let us hear from you.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM:A

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
MANHATTAN, KANSAS

DEPARTMENT OF VACCINE LABORATORIES

Nov. 15, 1922

Hon. J. H. Mercer
State Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Mercer:

The following is a report of the trip to Cottonwood Falls to investigate the loss of hogs on the farm of Mr. James Miller, as advised by you in a letter of Nov. 1, to Dr. R.R. Dykstra.

No doubt you are familiar with the conditions as they were early in the summer when most of the hogs died but I will review them as I found them. Mr. Miller brought some vaccinated stock hogs from Fort Worth, Texas, and put them on his farm without vaccinating his native hogs; which of course is never advisable, especially with stock hogs that come in contact with many infections in stock yards. About ten days later he vaccinated his native hogs using serum and virus and in about a week they began to die. They had had ample time to become infected before they were treated. I am satisfied that the original cause of the loss was due to hog cholera, with complications such as pneumonia, enteritis, etc.

The condition at the present time does not seem dangerous. There has not been a loss on the farm for over a month. I found two or three hogs with a severe diarrhea and run down in condition but they had a fairly good appetite. I killed and examined one of these hogs and found on post mortem, a necrotic enteritis but no lesions of hog cholera could be found.

Samples of blood and tissue were brought back to the Pathology Department and inoculation into guinea pigs and rabbits together with inoculation of culture media were made but nothing of a pathogenic nature could be found.

The older hogs that were treated during the summer are apparently healthy with the exception of difficult breathing when they are exercised a little. This is due to the lung infection that partially destroyed the tissue.

Mr. Miller's herd consists of five sows with pigs that are old enough to wean and about five fat hogs. They are all immune to cholera except the pigs.

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I am satisfied if Mr. Miller will vaccinate the pigs now before they are weaned and keep them on a laxative diet for a while he will have no further loss. No doubt the place is contaminated with hog cholera and as soon as he takes them off the immune sows, if they are not treated, they will contract cholera as the place is contaminated with many infectious organisms that would lower their vitality and make them more susceptible to cholera. It will be necessary for Mr. Miller to keep all of his hogs immune and vaccinate the pigs as they become old enough until he gets rid of the cholera infection and other contaminations that follow hog cholera, that are in his hog lots.

I am sorry that I did not find Mr. Miller at home at the time I visited his farm as I would liked to have talked over the conditions with him personally.

Kindly inform me if I should send Mr. Miller a copy of this report.

Inclosed please find an expense account incurred during this trip;

Very truly yours,

NDH:BW

W. D. Harwood

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

November 17, 1922.

Dr. H. B. Harwood,
Kansas State Agricultural College,
Manhattan, Kansas.

Dear Doctor:

I have yours of the 15th instant reporting your findings on the investigation of trouble among hogs on the Miller ranch. I wish to thank you for your promptness in looking after this matter and your good report on same.

I am writing Mr. Miller and am sending him a copy of your report.

Again thanking you, I am

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHB:A

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

November 20th,
1922.

Dr. E. Makins,
Abilene, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

This letter will be authority for you to test the herd of E. Bruce Brunson, Abilene, which is under Accredited Herd supervision, any time convenient to yourself and Mr. Brunson.

For your information wish to say that the Brunson herd is at this time fully accredited, the last test having been applied October 27, 1921. It is suggested that you use the intradermic test on these cattle.

In regard to charges, wish to say that this is a matter you should be careful about. It is difficult to establish a fixed charge for the reason that the number of cattle, mileage, cooperation of owner, etc., enter into the matter. Consequently it is suggested that you take this question up with Mr. Brunson before the work is done. In this way you can no doubt reach an understanding agreeable to both of you. At the time of last test there were 12 cattle in this herd.

We are enclosing blank charts for use in reporting your test. Charts should be made out in triplicate and sent this office as soon as test is completed. Registered cattle will be listed by name and registry number and you should at least identify any grade cattle tested.

Yours very truly,
apb-waa

Commissioner.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

November 20th,
1922.

Board of County Commissioners,
Osborne County,
Osborne, Kansas.

Gentlemen:

Some time ago C. F. Wright, Chairman of the Mitchell County Commissioners, was appraising some reactor cattle around Hawker City. Among others the firm of Stephenson Brothers had two cows which had been condemned as being reactors and their bull was classed as suspicious to the test. It develops, however, that these men live in Osborne county so the matter of their appraisement would have to be made by you or at least have your approval.

We are enclosing the appraisement as sent in by Mr. Wright and wish you would take this case up at once and then write us your views of same. If the appraisement is satisfactory with you, sign the reports and return to us. If it is not, and you and the owners can come to an agreement, change the values to accord with your agreement and sign and send the report in. In case you cannot agree as to the values of these animals let us know and we will have a representative come to your county as soon as possible. It seems to us that the prices Mr. Wright and the owners fixed on the cattle are fair enough but we will sign for whatever you and the owners agree on in case a new appraisement is made.

I might say, however, that according to our records the bull that these men own is only a suspect to the tuberculin test unless he has been retested since October 27th. If this is the case the report of the test has not reached our office. Doctor King at Hawker City could tell you as to this.

Kindly write us regarding this case in order that we may handle it as promptly as possible.

Yours very truly,
was

Commissioner.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

November 25, 1922.

Mr. Jack McFall,
Kingman, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter advising of the work done in Chase County and at Peabody.

The Funkhauser steers were caught in Kansas City on the 22nd. I went down to Kansas City on the 23rd and they told me that they were a badly infected bunch of stuff. Do you think Funkhauser showed you all his cattle? I am getting tired of these fellows who hide out their mangy cattle and ship them and then expect us to keep the government from prosecuting them. I think I will let some of them be fined and maybe it will teach the rest of them a lesson. The report I got at Kansas City was that at least 40% of them were infected with mange.

If you think it necessary when you get back from out west, you might run over to Peabody again and see how Burns cattle show up. We do not want cattle shipped from lots where we know there has been infection without being very careful about them.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM:A

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

Kingman Kans Nov 28 22
Hon J. H. Mercer Topeka Kans
my Dear Sir from Topeka I went out to Leach
& looked over all their sters found some mange
looked at the vat where they had dipped they dipped
in same stuff I dont know what it was I had them
clean out the vat & I cooked lime & sulphur dip
me dipped about 650 head 220 of them he will
Ship soon the weather will winter. I went from there
to Peabody looked at the Burns cattle they looked
good went from there to Madison & looked at the
Tankhams sters they were pretty wild & in a
big corral but they looked all rite they shipped
them at once. am very truly yours

J. McFar

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

Bigton Mo Nov 26 1922

Hon J H Mercer Topeka Kansas

My Dear Sir I came to Bigton last Eve
went out to Stanley's Ranch this morning
he has about 20 head back I looked them
over careful & did not find any mange
at all but placed them under quarantine
& told them what to do with them & to notify
me when they had sulphured them twice
& I would release them Mr Stanley lives at
great Bend was just elected sheriff of
Barton co I will write him a letter & tell
him to clean up I did not get to see him
as he is still in K. Co. I will leave here
in the morning & go to Mead have made
a good deal of inquiry & can not hear of any
more mange but they tell me that Stanley
has been carrying a little mange along
for some time are very truly yours

J McFall



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

Kingman Kans Nov 2, 22

Hon. J. H. Mercer Topeka Kansas
My Dear Sir yours of late date at hand
yes I would not be surprised if what you
say about Chase & Greenwood co is true that
they are holding some mungy cattle back
till later on. when I was at Emporia John
Baker told me that Trevelyan said that the L.S.
had it under advisement to make shippers that
ship mungy cattle disinfect stock, yds at
loading point. at rate of 1.42 cts square foot
It looks like that would be pretty steep but
I reckon that they think the more they charge them
the longer they will remember it & be more careful
I will return you the list you sent me
as to that man Jalliff he lives at Syracuse
& has no cattle he buys & ships & perhaps peddles
them up around Ellsboro after election when I
have a week to spare I will make a trip up through
there & see what I can find out very truly yours
J McFar