

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

### Section 71, Pages 2101 - 2130

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

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



J. H. MERCER  
COMMISSIONER

### State of Kansas

OFFICE OF  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER  
TOPEKA

Mr J. H. Mercer,  
Topeka, Kas.

10/11/1923.

Dear sir:-

Went to Gumburg and interviewed  
the sheriff <sup>Chase</sup> who arrested Mr Allison after  
his sale. The sheriff advised me that some  
of the purchasers were satisfied while others  
were dissatisfied with the cattle they bought of  
Allison.

Mr Roy Johnson, in the Gumburg National  
bank checked the sale and gave me the  
following record of purchasers which you  
wish,

Ira Barnes - Mullinville (2)	M.C. Shuck - Gumburg (1) died
Roy Potter - Gumburg (1)	B. Hadley - Harland (1)
Wm. Ahrens - " (3)	J.B. Allison - Gumburg (1)
Jos. H. Eller - Mullinville (2)	Geo. Chappin - " (1)
John Harrell - Gumburg (1)	C.J. Hopkins - " (1)
A. F. Myers - Harland (1)	B.G. Barnes - Pratt (4)
J.C. Long - Gumburg (1)	Ray Vice - Gumburg (1)
Luther Putnam - " (1)	also 8 calves sold.
R.P. Beckett - " (1)	Three calves were just put
Wm. Harv - " (1)	on cow to take care of milk.

Very truly yours,

W. H. West

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



J. H. MERCER  
COMMISSIONER

### State of Kansas

OFFICE OF  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER  
TOPEKA

1912/23

Mr. J. H. Mercer  
Topeka, Mo.

Dear Sir:-

I spent some time at Topeka and talked with Mr. L. E. Wridman at that place. He advised me that last week he treated sick hogs for Everett Ramsey of Topeka. The Ramsey hogs had cholera and in a herd of 55 head only 6 died.

Ten days ago Ed Garrett's hogs developed cholera, were vaccinated by Wridman and out of 155 only 4 died.

Three weeks ago Joe Studenmeyer of Wathena had an outbreak of cholera. Out of a herd of 15 sows, sows and pigs only one died.

There did not appear to be much hog disease in Doniphan at present and recent scattered outbreaks have been promptly checked by use of serum.

Very truly  
W. H. West





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

Oct. 15th, 1923.

Mr. E. J. Macy,  
County Agent,  
Wichita, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

I received your message Saturday but did not answer, for the reason that I did not feel that I could answer same in any way that would be of benefit to you.

In this connection I think we advised you sometime ago that we would not do any more tuberculosis clean area township testing but that we would make the county a unit. Leavenworth County filed petitions with this department sometime ago from all the townships in the county in accordance with our regulations, and the work was started in Leavenworth County on the 1st day of this month. It will more than likely take a month yet to complete the work over there, and we hope to be able to continue the work in other counties in a small way, and, of course, we will have to take up the work in the county that gets their petitions filed with the department first.

I might add, in this connection, that there is no other petition in now for county work, but I think three or four counties are working on the plan. We are going to carry this work on just as far as we can with the funds we have available until the meeting of the next legislature, when we hope to get an appropriation of a considerable amount for the modified area tuberculosis work. The federal department is co-operating in a splendid way in this work, and should we do any work in Sedgwick County they will furnish the same number of veterinary inspectors that the state furnishes.

I am enclosing bulletin #16 and call your special attention to part two which provides for the manner in which the clean area work can be carried on. We have the blanks for these petitions printed if you need any of them.

Yours truly,

JHM/ECT.

Commissioner.



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

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL	WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM	m 1204
Telegram			Telegram
Day Letter	Blue		Day Letter
Night Message	Nite		Night Message
Night Letter	N.L.		Night Letter
If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.		If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.	

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT      GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT  
*Mills Building*

**RECEIVED AT**      *Topeka, Kans.*  
 5KA MX 23 2 EXTRA      Telephone 4262

WICHITA KANS 954AM OCT 13 1923

J H MERGER  
 4 STATE HOUSE TOPEKA KANS

COUNTY MEETING TODAY TO CONSIDER TUBERCULOSIS DRIVE ADVISE DATE COOPER-  
 ATIVE MEN CAN START WORK WILL FULFILL ALL REQUIREMENTS INFORM GOVERNMENT  
 REPRESENTATIVE

E J MACY  
 COUNTY AGENT  
 1020AM



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

Oct. 16th, 1923.

Dr. J. A. Mitchell,  
Burlington, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to yours of the 11th inst. I am enclosing you a pamphlet that contains the state sanitary law, and call your special attention to section 35 on page 20. The section of law cited gives the city the right to pass an ordinance requiring the testing of all cattle from which dairy products might be sold within their city limits.

In this connection I note that you are listed as a non graduate, and since the federal government has passed a regulation calling for all cattle that is placed on the accredited list that is shipped interstate to be tested by a graduate veterinarian, we have not sent the non graduates an appointment to to tuberculosis work.

If there is no graduate veterinarian available in Burlington and there is a demand there for testing to meet the local condition, we might grant you the right to do this, but it would only be in a case of emergency, for the reason that you would not want to test your customers cattle and then have them subject to a retest by a graduate veterinarian in case they sold the cattle or wanted to ship them.

I am sorry this condition prevails, but at the same time it is a matter over which we have no control.

Yours truly,

JHM/ECT.

Commissioner.

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

Burlington Kan.  
Oct. 11-23

Kansas Live Stock  
Sanitary Commissioner  
Sir - as there are a few  
men here that register their  
cattle tested for Tuberculosis,  
one sells milk in Town  
the other don't but there is  
no Ordinance in this City  
against any one selling  
milk from cows that  
have not been tested  
Will you please send me  
Tuberculin Test Charts to fill  
out  
Yours Resp.  
H. J. A. Smith

(This vet is not authorized  
to test)



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

Oct. 18th, 1923.

Mr. A. H. Diehl,  
Enterprise, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to your letter of the 16th: I am gathering data now with respect to what a reasonable charge for the testing of accredited herds should be by local veterinarians. I expect to establish a rule governing this matter in the near future.

There has been some complaint come to the office with respect to these charges, and I am advised by the Attorney General that, under the law, I have authority to establish a uniform charge for the work, and this I will do as soon as I can work out what a reasonable charge might be.

In this connection I would be glad to have you write me as to what your views might be. You know how the work is done and about what time it takes and also about what expense the veterinarian is put to etc., so would be glad to have you write me on the subject.

You also might take the matter up with your neighbors who have accredited herds and find out from them about when they would like to have their herds tested, and if there is anyway that I can possibly do so I will have either the State or government do the work for you. I have always taken the position that the state ought to pay for keeping up the tuberculosis accredited herd in the state and secured an appropriation by the last legislature of \$25,000.00 for that purpose, but it failed to become a law; hence we will have to do the best we can until another legislature convenes.

Let me hear from you at an early date.

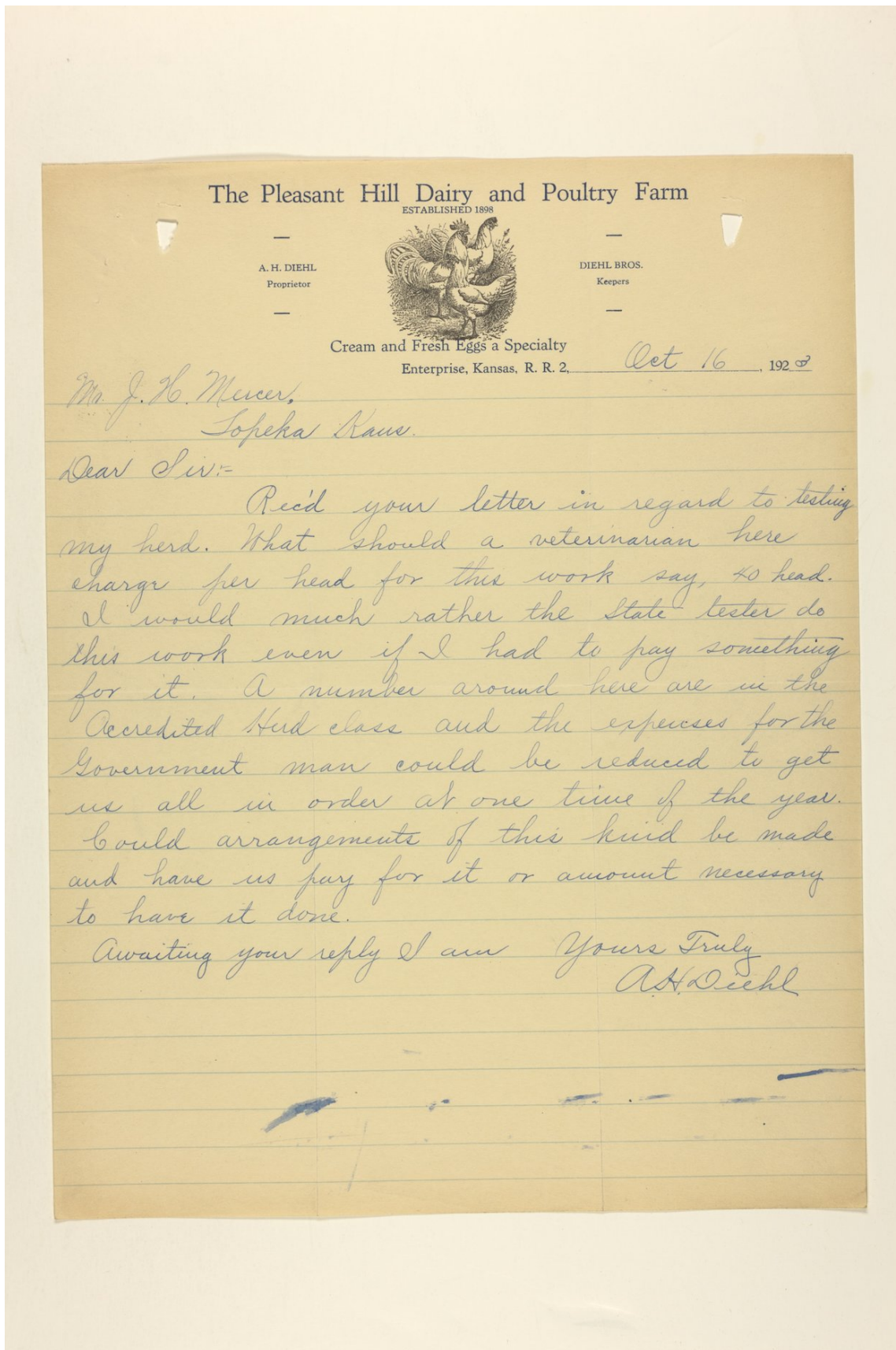
Yours truly,

Commissioner.

JHM/ECT.



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



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

October 20, 1923.

Henderson & Fowler,  
804 Live Stock Exchange,  
Kansas City, Mo..

Dear Sirs:

I am enclosing you a certificate and letter that explain themselves. You will note that Dr. Johnson states that Mr. Van Meter refused to pay him for the completing of the test of the car of cattle he shipped off of the Kansas City market. It seems that we are not explicit enough in having the owner understand fully the reason why the shipment is let off the yard before the test is completed. If the commission merchant acts as the buyer's agent it is his business to explain the matter. If the buyer is there on the yards and makes the request for the shipment to be made, it should be explained fully to him with respect to costs etc.

I note Dr. Johnson states that he paid \$17.00 in the first place for the test. I wish you would find out if you can just what it would cost to have held these 34 cattle on the yards for three days.

Let me hear from you with respect to this matter as to whether or not Mr. Van Meter fully understood that he was to pay for the inspection at destination and also find out, if you can, what it would have cost to have held them on the yards. Return the Johnson letter with your reply.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

A.H.M.--A



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

October 22, 1923.

Mr. W. W. Downey,  
Canton, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Downey:

I am enclosing you correspondence with respect to a tubercular cow belonging to Bert Preston of Burlington that will explain itself.

The records in the office here do not show that we ever took the matter up with Mr. Preston but we were guided by your report. Therefore, since it was handled in this manner I want you to go to Burlington at once if possible and call on Mr. Preston (and the county attorney) and find out why it was that Mr. Preston did not carry out the arrangements he made with you. Get the entire history of what has taken place as suggested in the county attorney's letter.

Mr. Preston will have to take this animal back and refund the original price. In fact, he is not only subject to any damage that may have arisen by reason of his selling this animal to any of the men who purchased her, but he is also subject to criminal prosecution for violating the law of the state. Under the circumstances, it will depend a great deal on Mr. Preston's willingness to correct the wrong he has done whether we lay this matter before the attorney general for whatever action he might see fit to take.

In matters of this kind we want to be more explicit in handling them in the future and I would suggest that always when you confer with the owners of tubercular animals that you make a complete report on them and give your recommendations to the office here as to how the matter should be handled.



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

I also wish you would impress fully upon the county commissioners the need of their attending to the shipping of tubercular cattle and reporting shipments to this office. Once in a while there is an animal that is held for some time and then shipped and sold to an innocent purchaser on the market. This causes a lot of trouble and expense and in some instances we are unable to find out where the diseased animal went. Such happenings are really a crime against innocent purchasers.

In our letter Saturday we directed you to go to Eldorado and appraise a reactor belonging to Mr. Ed Markee. Mr. West came in this morning from Wichita and advises that he was in Butler County last Saturday and appraised this animal so it will not be necessary for you to make the trip.

Unless you have something on your list that is urgent you might run on up to the office when you complete your work at Burlington.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM:A



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

Oct. 23rd, 1923.

Mr. W. G. Glunt,  
Garrison, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to yours of the 16th: I think it best for Mr. Jack McFall, our representative in mange work, to make an inspection of your cattle. I am writing him and enclosing you a copy of the letter. When Mr. McFall reaches your place give him all the history of this matter, and he can stay with you and help you treat the cattle should he find any of them infected with the mange. He has spent a good many years in this work and understands it and his help will be of benefit to you.

If you do not get along alright after he leaves your place 'phone this office.

Yours truly,

Commissioner.

JHM/ECT.

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

Oct. 23rd, 1923.

Mr. Jack McFall,  
Kingman, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

I wish you would go to Garrison, Kansas, in Pottawatomie County, and call on Mr. W. G. Glunt, and make an inspection of his herd of cattle. Mr. Glunt shipped some cattle to the market a short time ago that was badly infected with scabies, and he also has sold some cattle to some of his neighbors which he will explain to you when you reach his place.

I would suggest that you write Mr. Glunt four or five days ahead of the time that you will be at his place, so he will be sure to be at home to meet you. I am sending him a copy of this letter.

Yours truly,

Commissioner.

JHM/ECT.



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

Garrison, Kansas, 10/16/1923.

Mr. J. H. Mercer,  
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Mercer;--

Replying to your letter of the 13th and in pursuance of our conversation while in your office last Saturday, I will attempt to explain the circumstances connected with the shipping of the four infected steers to Kansas City with cattle belonging to Mr. C. O. Shultice and Mr. James Seibert from Fostoria, Kansas, on the 8th inst.

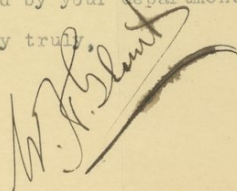
To get at the bottom of the facts, these cattle were bot on the Kansas City yards Dec. 14th, 1922, by the Nat'l Live Stock Com. Co., from the Cassidy, South-Western Com. Co., and shipped to me at Garrison, Kansas, and wintered by myself. Upon the arrival of grass time, we branded all the cattle wintered by me, and while these steers were in the branding chute, having noticed some evidence of lice or mange previous to this time, we gave them a spray of black oil. They were placed in the pasture of Mr. Art Berridge near Fostoria, Kansas, where they were left all summer. I had noticed that they seemed to get worse with respect to this mange, but I thought that we had given them too heavy application of oil when we turned them on grass, and thought perhaps that this had caused the hair to come off, and due to the flies it had failed to heal. Mr. Berridge called my attention to it some time ago, and I decided to take them to the stock-yards at Fostoria and spray them with dip, and did drive them over to the yards for that purpose, but upon arriving there found that Mr. Seibert was shipping, and wishing to avoid the trouble of future spraying of them, I inquired if he had room to put them should I decide to send them along, and he stated that he had plenty of room.

However, I left without making definite arrangements for shipping them, and found upon my return later in the evening that they had put them in along with theirs.

I have never previously seen a case of scabie or mange, and certainly was not aware of the serious nature of the trouble affecting these cattle.

I sold Mr. Moyer ten steers out of this pasture, but have sold no cattle to any other person out of this pasture, and will not ship any of the exposed cattle until released by your department.

Yours very truly,



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

Oct. 29th, 1923.

Dr. N. L. Townsend,  
Federal Bldg.,  
City.

Dear Sir:-

In accordance with our telephone conversation today and in answer to your letter of the 24th inst. I am advised by the attorney general that, in accordance with the proviso in section #11084 general statutes of Kansas, as is found under section 17 on page 14 of the enclosed pamphlet, we can appraise the tuberculosis cattle found under the modified co-operative testing in the state, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Bureau of Animal Industry as is suggested in your letter, and I have instructed Mr. Burdick, representative of this department, to advise the County Commissioners of Leavenworth County, and to make appraisements on all tubercular reacting cattle accordingly, and also to make like kind of appraisalment of all tubercular reacting cattle under the co-operative accredited herd testing found in the state.

Thanking you for your suggestion in this matter and trusting this will be satisfactory, I am

Yours truly,

Commissioner.

JHM/ECT.



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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY  
LOCAL OFFICE

25 Federal Bldg.,  
Topeka, Kansas.  
October 24, 1923.

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

Dear Mr. Mercer:

Replying to your letter of October 18th in regard to the change in regulations affecting indemnities for animals in Kansas slaughtered on account of tuberculosis:

In conversation with you, previous to the date on which this letter was written, we gathered that there is a great deal of dissatisfaction among the State and County officials in Kansas due to the fact that the ratio of Federal and State indemnity in Kansas is not commensurate with that in a majority of the other states; in other words, while it is a case of 50-50 in Colorado, Illinois, Missouri, etc., here the warrants drawn by the State are over two and one-half times the amount paid by the Government; and in paragraph 3 of your letter you submit the suggested change as a remedy.

As we understand it, the Bureau regulations governing indemnity are common to all the states, and the ratio of Federal and State indemnity in a state varies as the laws of the state covering indemnities coordinate with Bureau regulations.

In Kansas the County pays one-half of the appraised value and takes the salvage. Pure-bred registered animals are appraised at a high valuation and bring little salvage. The clause in the Bureau regulations limiting the amount on pure-breds to \$50.00 takes care of the Bureau in this respect. In the case of pure-breds the average amount paid by the county is largely in excess of that paid by the Government. Grade and beef animals are appraised at a lower amount and bring more salvage. In very few instances in Kansas is the Bureau required to pay one-third of the difference between the appraised value and the salvage on these animals, for in most instances this amount is greater than that paid by the county, and the Federal indemnity is therefore limited to that paid by the county.

Taking up the suggestion in paragraph 3 of your letter that the salvage be paid the owner, and the difference between the appraised value and the salvage be paid by the Federal and State governments, one-half each: This would give the owner, in every instance, the full appraised value of his animal. We believe that it is the intent of the Bureau that the owner should bear his part of the loss. We beg to make the following suggestion in regard to a change: that the animals be appraised and slaughtered as heretofore in accordance with Bureau and State regulations, the

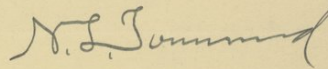
## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1919-1924

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
salvage being paid to the owner, one-third of the difference between the salvage and the appraised value be paid by warrant drawn by the State, and one third by the Federal Government, leaving the owner to suffer the remaining third. This is in harmony with Bureau regulations and could be put into effect immediately, and would tend to equalize the amounts paid by the Federal and State governments. Of course the maximum for grade and pure-bred animals would remain as heretofore, as would also the regulation in regard to steers and unregistered bulls.

Assuring you of our earnest desire to assist you in this matter, we are

Respectfully,

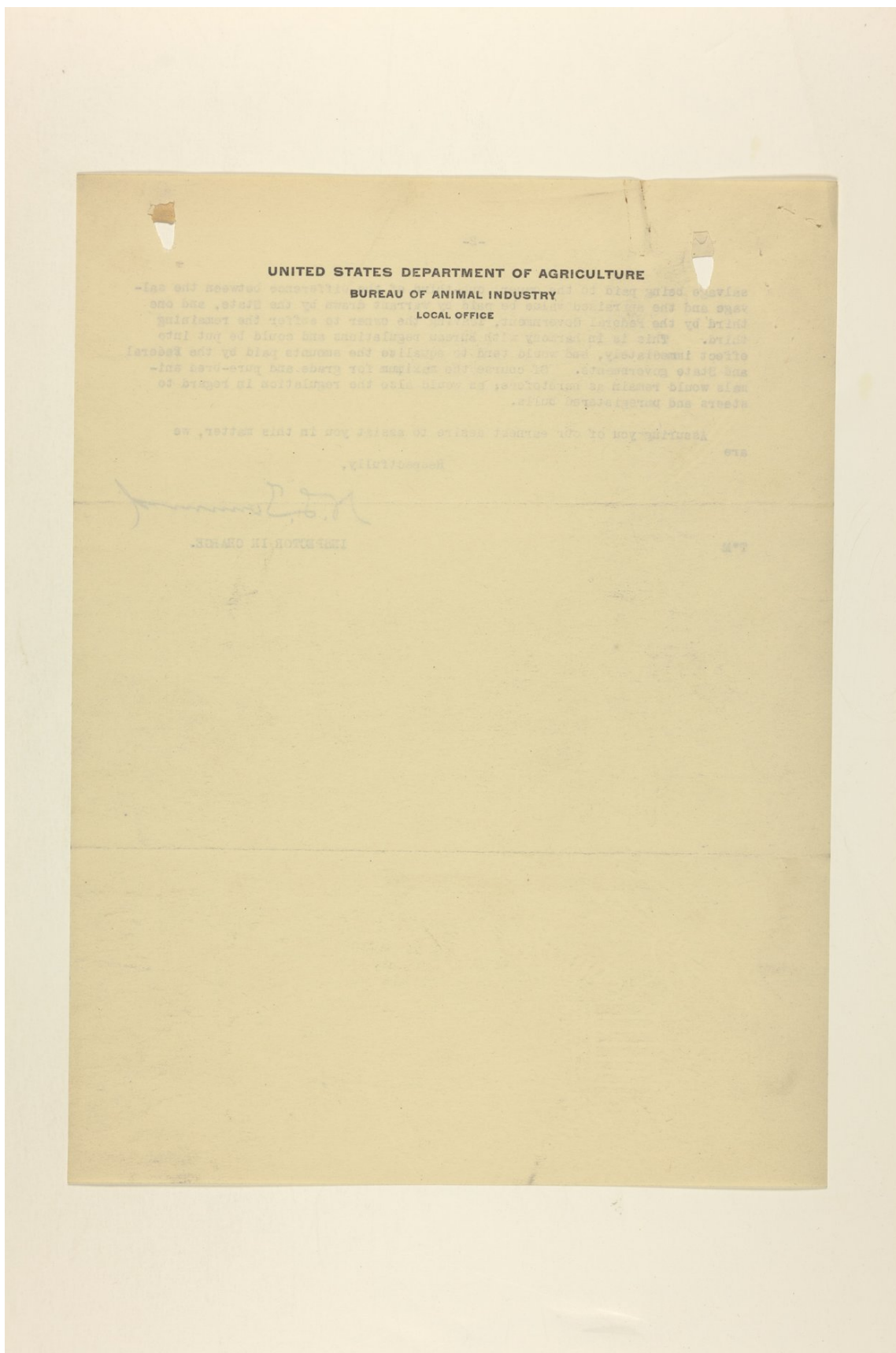


INSPECTOR IN CHARGE.

T\*M



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



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

Nov. 1st, 1923.

Mr. T. C. Wilson,  
Larned, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

I am enclosing you copy of letter from Dr. J. H. McNeil, Chief of B. A. I. New Jersey, with respect to the cattle you purchased from Mr. Hellings of that state. It is presumed that, as soon as the Federal B. A. I. makes their investigation, they will either report their findings to this office or to you.

In this connection I would suggest that you make up a statement of what your losses were in this transaction and submit it to Mr. Hellings, if you have not already done so, and ask him to reimburse you. It might be that you could get some refund on your loss through a course of this kind.

Anything further we can do to help you in the matter we will be glad to do so.

Yours truly,

Commissioner.

JHM/ECT.





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

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ALVA AGEE, SECRETARY  
TRENTON

ADDRESS COMMUNICATIONS TO  
J. H. MCNEIL, CHIEF,  
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

October 19, 1923.

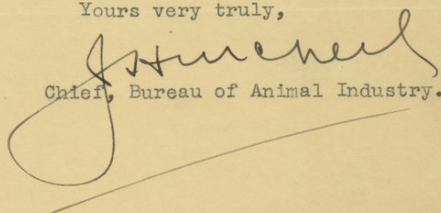
Mr. J. H. Mercer,  
Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner,  
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Mr. Mercer:

I am very sorry that it has not been possible for me to give you any definite information regarding the cattle which Mr. T. C. Wilson purchased from Mr. Hellings of Trenton, and which afterwards reacted on the premises of Mr. Wilson. The herd is not under supervision and as this is the first report we have ever had regarding the finding of reactors on retest from this special herd, I would not as previously indicated be in a position to give you an opinion that would be of any value to you. I am very sorry that Mr. Wilson did not see fit to purchase Jersey cattle from herds under supervision. We have a number of such herds in the state whose owners would be very glad to sell subject to the customary retest privilege providing the animals were maintained in quarantine at point of destination.

I assure you we are very sorry that the animals reacted on the retest and from the post mortem report there does not seem to be any question but that they presented sufficient lesions to justify the condemnation. The Federal Bureau of Animal Industry in Washington have a complete record of the animals which have been shipped from this herd and also the history of the subsequent tests. No doubt they will be very glad to advise you as to their records.

Yours very truly,

  
Chief, Bureau of Animal Industry.

JHM:P

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

Sept. 29th, 1923.

Mr. T. C. Wilson,  
Larned, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to yours of the 21st: As stated to you in a former letter I wrote Dr. McNeil for further information with respect to the Hellings cattle, but have never received a reply to same.

I believe it would have been best to have tried and secured some refund of your purchase price of these cattle before any complaint had been filed against these people. It would be a very difficult matter to prosecute this man Hellings unless it could be shown that he had bribed this veterinarian in some way in order to get him to issue a clean health certificate on diseased cattle, and of course that would be mighty difficult to do.

Of course, unless he does make some adjustment with you and shows some willingness to try to settle the matter up we will notify both the federal department and the state department that we will not permit any shipment of cattle to this state from this man's farm, and also furnish all the records from this office to the federal Government and assist you in every way in prosecuting him.

If I don't hear from Dr. McNeil in the near future I will write him again, and I will then send a copy of the letter to the Washington office.

Yours truly,

Commissioner.

JHM/ECT.





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

T. C. WILSON  
REAL ESTATE  
LARNED, KANSAS

September 21st 1923.

Mr. J. H. Mercer,  
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I have your favor of September 17th in which you state that you had again written to Dr. McNeil asking him to advise you as to the result of his investigation. I would myself like very much to know what he has found out. In his former letter to you he stated that his records showed that Mr. Hellings had made several interstate shipments. I wrote to him for a list of the names and addresses of the persons to whom these shipments were made. I am inclined to think that if the truth were known this man has shipped tuberculous cattle to others. He did not answer my letter.

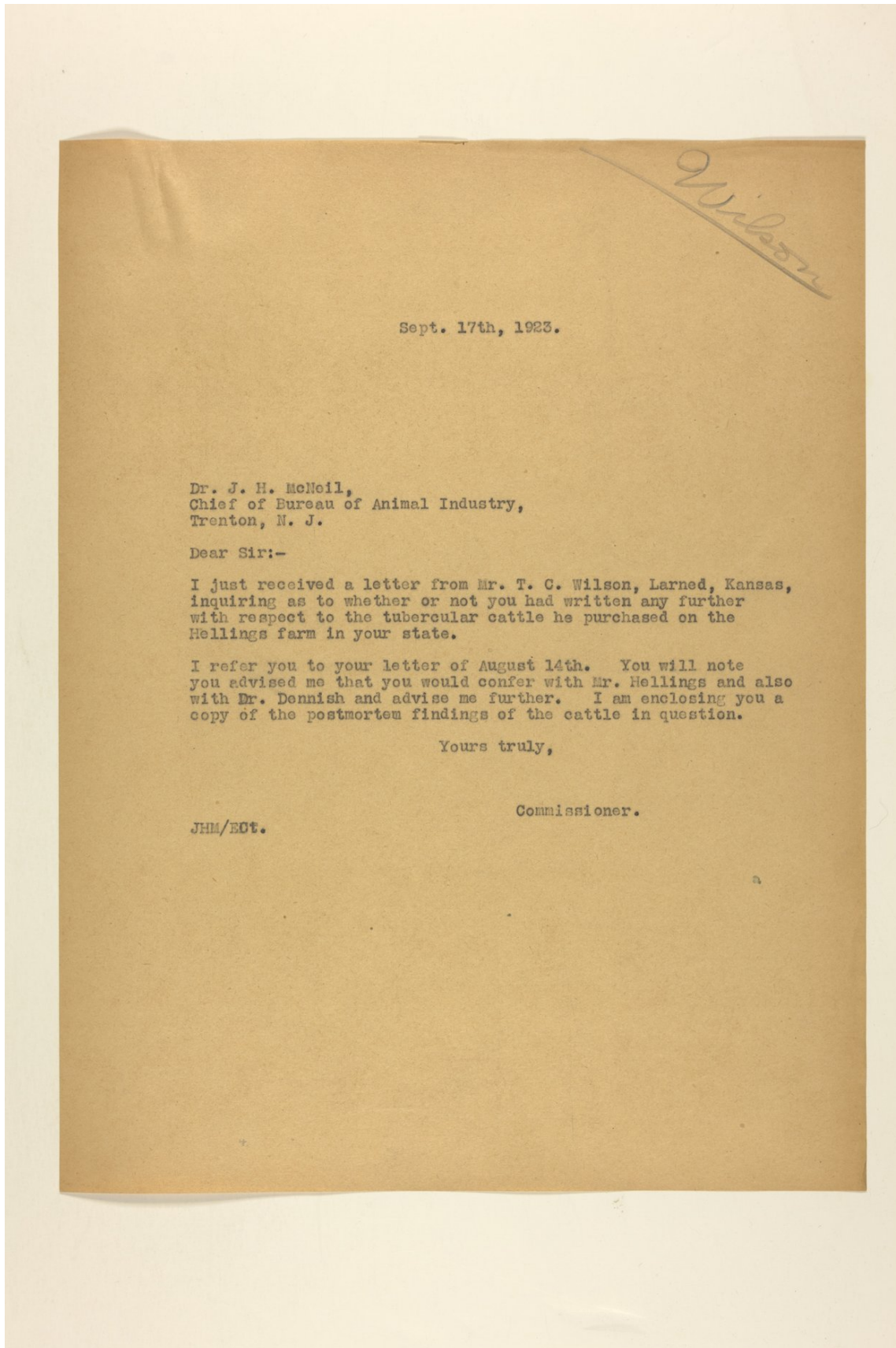
Dr. P. I. Kershner who tested four of these heifers was here last week and he said that he had examined the autopsy report and that there was no doubt whatever but what these cattle had tuberculosis before they were shipped. Every Veterinarian who knows anything about the matter and whom we have consulted says the same thing.

I believe that this man ought to be prosecuted. I have been making some investigation and I find the a certain man in Illinois indulged in this practice a few years ago. The Federal government prosecuted him and he is now resting from his labors in one of the penitentiaries. I wrote the facts to Dr. N. L. Townsend, Federal Inspector at Topeka. He replied that he had sent a copy of my letter to the Federal Inspector for New Jersey and had also sent a copy to Washington. I believe Mr. Mercer that you are the proper one to take this matter up with the authorities in Washington and insist on these people being prosecuted for the protection of the people of this state. This part of the state is beginning to develop into a dairy country and everyone here who knows about this case, and nearly every one does, is very much interested and thinks that every thing possible should be done to bring these people to justice.

Thanking you for what you have already done toward helping us in this matter, I am,

Yours Very Truly,

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



Sept. 17th, 1923.

Dr. J. H. McNeil,  
Chief of Bureau of Animal Industry,  
Trenton, N. J.

Dear Sir:-

I just received a letter from Mr. T. C. Wilson, Larned, Kansas, inquiring as to whether or not you had written any further with respect to the tubercular cattle he purchased on the Hellings farm in your state.

I refer you to your letter of August 14th. You will note you advised me that you would confer with Mr. Hellings and also with Dr. Dennish and advise me further. I am enclosing you a copy of the postmortem findings of the cattle in question.

Yours truly,

Commissioner.

JHM/ECT.



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

Sept. 17th, 1923.

Mr. T. C. Wilson,  
Larned, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to yours of the 10th: I have never received any further correspondence from Dr. McNeil with respect to the tubercular cattle in question.

I am writing him again today asking him to please advise us as to what his investigation developed.

The animal bearing #612475, or government condemned tag #140320 was condemned and it will be alright for you to change the record in question accordingly.

Yours truly,

Commissioner.

JHM/ECT.



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

T. C. WILSON  
REAL ESTATE  
LARNED, KANSAS

September 10, 1923.

Mr. J. H. Mercer,  
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I have your favor of the 8th enclosing copies of the result of ~~the~~ the post-mortem on the Hellings heifers. I note on these copies that you sent me that they are all checked as being used for food. I think however that number 612475 was condemned and tanked. If I am correct, with your permission, I will change that on these copies.

Would you also kindly let me hear from you as soon as you hear from Dr. McNeil in reference to his interview with Mr. Hellings and the Veterinarian, Dr. Dennish. I wrote to Dr. Dennish soon after these cattle were tested but he never answered my letter.

Thanking you very much for the many favors I am recieving at your hands, I am,

Yours Very Truly,

*T. C. Wilson*

*Bad  
orig tag # 140320*



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

Sept. 8th, 1923.

Mr. T. C. Wilson,  
Larned, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

As per your request of recent date, I am enclosing post-mortems of the animals in question.

Let me know if I can be of any further assistance to you.

Yours truly,

APB/ECT•

Commissioner.



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

T. C. WILSON  
REAL ESTATE  
LARNED, KANSAS

*File*

August 30, 1923.

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

Dear Sir:

I have your favor of August 23rd. I called at the office for a letter addressed to J. C. Wilson and sure enough got your former letter. I thank you very much for the interest you have taken and for what you have done to help us in this matter.

I note that Mr. McNeil says in his letter that he will confer with Mr. Hellings and Dr. Dennish. I would like very much to know what Dr. Dennish has to say. I wrote to him myself but he never answered my letter. I think it would be a good idea to send Mr. McNeil a copy of the autopsy report and get from him if possible a list of the names and addresses of all the persons to whom the Hellings have made inter-state shipments of cattle during last year and this year up to date. It is very probable that he has shipped tuberculous cattle to other people and I would like to make some investigation along this line.

Would you also kindly send me two or three copies of the autopsy report. I have taken the matter up with the American Jersey Cattle Club of which Hellings is a member and I would like to send them a copy of this report.

I enclose letters herewith as per your request. Assuring you that Mr. Knechtel and I appreciate your help very much, I am,

Yours Very Truly,

*J. C. Wilson*





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

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ALVA AGEE, SECRETARY  
TRENTON

ADDRESS COMMUNICATIONS TO  
J. H. McNEIL, CHIEF,  
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

August 14, 1923.

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

My dear Sir:

In response to your inquiry of July 21st, with reference to the five head of cattle purchased from the Hellings Farm, Trenton, will advise that the herd of Mr. Hellings is not under State nor Federal supervision, neither have animals sold from this farm been tested by representatives of this Bureau. Our records indicate that a number of tuberculin tests have been made for cattle shipped out of the State, and that no reactors have been reported to this office and this particular instance is the first that has been brought to our attention where animals have reacted after having been shipped interstate.

I assure you we are very sorry that such a thing as this should have occurred. The result of the post-mortem examination would seem to indicate that the infection was extensive. We will confer with Mr. Hellings and also Dr. Dennish. If you think it advisable we would be very glad to have a copy of the autopsy report.

Awaiting your pleasure, I am

Yours very truly,

JHM:P

*J. H. McNeil*  
Chief, Bureau of Animal Industry.

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

July 21, 1923.

Mr. A. M. Hellings,  
Route No. 1,  
Trenton, N. J.

Dear Sir:

From the records in this office it appears that T. C. Wilson and C. E. Knechtel of Larned, Kansas, bought five head of Jersey heifers from your farm and shipped them to Larned, Kansas. These cattle were added to clean tested herds.

On June 8, 1923, Dr. P. I. Kershner, a veterinary inspector of the U.S. Bureau of Animal Industry, tested the Wilson and Knechtel herds of cattle and all five of these heifers reacted to the test. These were the only cattle in the entire herds that showed any reaction.

Mr. Wilson has written this office requesting that we make an investigation with respect to the matter. Therefore, I wish you would advise me as to the standing of your herd of cattle with respect to tuberculosis; whether or not you have had tuberculosis in your herd etc.

Thanking you in advance for this information, I am

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM:A



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

July 21, 1923.

Dr. J. H. McNeil, Chief,  
Bureau of Animal Industry,  
New Jersey Department of Agriculture,  
Trenton, N. J.

Dear Sir:

In December 1922 and January 1923, Mr. T. C. Wilson and Mr. C. F. Knechtel of Larned bought five head of cattle from the Hellings Homestead Farm, Trenton, N.J. The records show that they were tested by Dr. B. B. Dennish, Trenton, N.J., two of them under date of December 18, 1922, and 3 of them under date of January 30, 1923. These cattle were shipped to Larned, Kansas.

On June 8th, 1923, Dr. P. I. Kershner, Veterinary Inspector, Bureau of Animal Industry, tested the entire herds of Mr. Wilson and Mr. Knechtel, including the five Hellings cattle, and all five of the Hellings cattle reacted to the test. No other cattle in either the Knechtel or Wilson herd showed any signs of reaction.

The five reactors have been shipped to market and slaughtered under government inspection and the report of the government office shows that all of them were tubercular. One of the animals was condemned and tanked.

Mr. Wilson and Mr. Knechtel are very much dissatisfied with their purchases and are wondering how such a thing could happen. Therefore, I am writing you and will be pleased to have you advise me as to the history of the Hellings herd.

Thanking you in advance for any information you may give me regarding this matter, I am

Very truly yours,

JHML:A

Commissioner.