

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

### Section 81, Pages 2401 - 2429

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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KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY



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

L. L. WHITNEY, D. V. M.

PHONE ~~40~~ 67

~~PALMER~~, KANSAS.

*Syndore Ks*

*Palmer, Kansas, Mar 20 1924*

*J. H. Mercer  
Topeka  
Kansas*

*Dear Sir:-*

*Will you please send  
me tuberculin for intradermal testing  
of about 800 to 1000 head of cows also  
some more test charts. We are  
planning on putting on a campaign  
down here and have about 500 ready to go  
now. Do I furnish the cartage for the  
reactors or does the state furnish them*

*Resph.*

*L. L. Whitney  
Syndore  
Ks*

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

March 22, 1924.

Mr. H. W. Balthrope,  
Whiting, Kansas.

Dear sir:

I have yours of the 21st and note same.

I know of no one you have offended in this office.

While it is true that your herd of cattle is not classed as an accredited herd yet it is true that they are under supervision and are being tested free of charge under the federal and state co-operative plan of accredited herd testing and by reason of this you are entitled to a federal indemnity on any reactors found in your herd. If your herd was not being tested in this manner you would not receive any federal indemnity on the reactor cattle found in your herd and would come under the direct provisions of the state law with respect to receiving one-half of the appraised value of the reacting animals. To illustrate: All reacting animals that are not under supervision or an accredited herd program are appraised under the state law and the owner is issued an order on the Board of County Commissioners of his county for one-half of that appraised value and the proceeds of the animal, whatever it might be, goes to the county instead of the owner and he gets no federal indemnity.

Had you not been under federal and state supervision you would have received an order for \$150, one-half of the appraised value of your bull and the \$28.75 would have gone to the treasurer of your county. Therefor, from the fact that your herd is under accredited herd supervision you received the salvage from the sale of the bull, one-third of the appraised value from your county and \$50 from the government (or if you have not received it you will) totalling \$169.17 instead of \$150. The appraisement of your bull was regular, the County Commissioners agreed to it and your representative agreed to it and all signed the appraisement and the order we issued was in line therewith. Therefor there seems to be no way to adjust this other than for you to withdraw your herd from the accredited herd list and refund to the government any indemnity paid you by them and make a new agreement with the County





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

#2 H. W. Balthrope

Commissioners of your county and turn over to them the salvage from the sale of this bull and then issue an order for the \$150. If you desire to do this and the County Commissioners wishes to consent to same we will consent to it also.

Of course if the County Commissioners of your county desire to give you \$30.83 which would be the county paying you one-half of the appraised value instead of one-third, would make no difference to this department but I couldnot issue an order to that effect.

I am quite sure that you have not made any money in the cattle business for several years. However, I know nothing about the profit that they have made in the government oil leases you refer to and not being a physician I am not familiar with any government hospital projects and I am not certainly in accord with any move that would be looting our people out of anything that is unfair or unjust in governmental matters and will join hands with you or anyone else by helping to punish people that are guilty of any such action.

Trusting that I have made this matter plain and with my very best wishes.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

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

Dr. H. W. BALTHROPE, DENTIST.

WHITING, KANSAS

March 21

1924

Mr J. H. Mercer  
Topeka Kas  
Dear Sir

If I have offended any one connected with your office force. I beg your pardon, and if Mr Rudick says that he explained to Frank Anderson, why of course I blame he did, but why was it necessary to do so when we are not on the accredited list.

You say in this letter of March 20<sup>th</sup>. as follows:— It is true that we have been issuing an order on the board of county commissioners for  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the appraised value of tubercular cattle. and do yet on all herds that are not on the list of accredited herds under the co-operative federal and state government-testing plan. That is what I am "holding"



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

Dr. H. W. BALTHROPE, DENTIST.

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WHITING, KANSAS. ————— 192

About, We are not on the Accredited list; I wish to goodness we were but our last test was the only clean test we have had, since Lawson was on the job. He gave us one, but that was all.

As to the liberality of Kansas relation to the T.B. cattle in our herd I would have to have a pair of field glasses to see that as regards. If we had have been fortunate enough to have had a bunch of cheap or plain breed cattle, why we might have made a little money, not as much as ~~it~~ in Government oil leases, or building Government hospitals, and etc but a little. The thing that interests me most, at present writing, are we or are we not entitled to <sup>3082</sup> more money.

Yours Truly H. W. Balthrope

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

March 20, 1924.

Mr. H. W. Balthrope,  
Whiting, Kansas.

Dear sir:

Answering your letter of recent date with respect to the appraisement for your bull recently condemned as being infected with tuberculosis. I would have answered sooner but waited until Mr. Burdick came into the office so I could discuss the matter with him with respect as to whether or not he had given you information as to why the county would pay you one-third of the appraised value of the bull instead of one-half. He advises me that he fully explained this to the man in charge of your farm when the appraisement was made.

Referring to the law on the subject, I call your attention to the proviso to section 11084 you referred to which reads as follows: "Provided, that unless otherwise expressly provided only one-half of such appraised value of such animals shall be paid to the owner." It is true that we have been issuing an order on the board of county commissioners for one-half of the appraised value of tubercular cattle and do yet on all herds that are not on the list of accredited herds under the co-operative federal and state government testing plan. Under this plan the owner receives the salvage and the government pays one-third of the difference between the salvage and the appraised value of the animal providing it does not exceed \$50 and the county pays one-third of the difference between the appraised value less the salvage. In this case the owner always gets more than one-half of the appraised value and this plan of appraising is in line with the law under the provisions above cited and in compliance with the regulations of the federal government who participates in the payment of these tubercular cattle.

The records show that your bull was appraised for \$300 and one-half of that amount would be \$150 which would be paid by the county and the county would receive the salvage. In this case you received the salvage of \$28.75, also you received an order on your board of county commissioners for \$90.42 and no doubt will receive an order from the government for \$50 which would total \$169.17. So you get \$169.17 instead of \$150.

Under the above plan in almost every case the owner receives more under this plan than he would under the old plan but in your case the government can not pay you the full one-third





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

#2 H. W. Balthrope

value because they are only limited to \$50 on pure bred cattle.

In this connection I do not feel that the people of Kansas have any just right to complain as to the method of indemnifying them for tubercular condemned cattle. A large number of the states have limitations on the amount to be paid which is usually not to exceed \$25 on grade cattle or \$50 on pure bred cattle and the matter has been up in Congress with respect to the federal government paying anything on cattle condemned for tuberculosis. It is my judgment that it will not be long until cattle owners that are so unfortunate as to have tubercular animals in their herds will simply have to take what the salvage is and lose the rest.

I don't know just what you mean by saying that the commissioner is putting something over on you or that Mr. Burdick, whom you state you have had explicit confidence in, has done likewise. I am sorry that you have no confidence in the commissioner but regardless of this, this department is only trying to serve the people in the best way possible and we are not going to be "peevish" by criticisms of this kind and I assure you we will be glad to help you at any time or give you any information we can. If the explanation I have given you with respect to the matter is not plain drop in the office some day when you are in Topeka and I will talk the matter over fully with you.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.





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

**KANSAS REACTORS** Jackson

Owner Bathrop Bros. & Andrews, Topeka

Date tested Jan 10, 1923 By whom L Campbell

No. tested 52 No. reactors 7 No. suspicious 0

Description Bull held for breeding purposes

Tag No. 140158-4-60-1-2-3-4 No. held for retest 0

Date to be retested 200 125 350 150 8700 Date retested 0

By whom retested 0 Results 0

Date Ap. Feb 12, 1923 By whom A P Bandyck

Amount Ap. 60.150 Date sold 2/15-23 To whom Wolff

Account sales 8178.55 Loss to county 0

Post mortem all showed but passed

Remarks Order sent 2/14-23  
af sales check sent 2/21-23  
Dread receipt 2/22-23

9-4154  
(Over)

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

140161 Apper 1-31-24 by  
A.P. Burdick at 300<sup>00</sup>  
Sold 3-7-24 to Wolff Pk. Co. for 25<sup>75</sup>  
T.B. lesions found, Passed for food.  
Order for 90<sup>42</sup> sent 3-13-24  
Order calls check " "  
For pays 50<sup>00</sup>



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

Dr. H. W. BALTHROPE, DENTIST.

WHITING, KANSAS — March 14 — 1924

Mr. J. H. Mercer  
Topeka Kas

Dear Sir

Your order on the Co Commission  
for 90<sup>th</sup> recd, and in reply would  
say. Will you kindly enlighten us  
on the method you are now using  
to pay the indemnities on T. B. cattle?

If you would kindly furnish us  
with a copy of this ruling a Law  
or take this case for instance, written  
out in detail on a piece of paper, we  
then perhaps could get some intelligent  
idea of this deal. The Bull was appraised  
at 300<sup>00</sup>. your order for less than 1/3 in  
dead of 1/2 less us guessing.

It seems to me that a breeder  
as hard as times are with the cattle  
business, should at least be informed  
on the frequent changes of the laws. We

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Dr. H. W. BALTHROPE, DENTIST.

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WHITING, KANSAS. ————— 192

ful like we have had me put over on  
us by the Commissioners, and even  
Mr. Budich, a man that we have  
always had the utmost confidence in.  
The folder sent out from your  
office a few years ago. "Rules and  
Regulations, Live Stock Laws" which  
is the very thing we have pertaining to  
this business, has a section 11084 but  
if there is any thing in that relative  
to paying me 1/3 of the appraisement.  
I can't read it. Not say.

Please explain this to us so  
we can understand it.

Yours Truly

H. W. Balthrope





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

### North Central Kansas Free Fair

#### AGRICULTURE

R. B. DONHAM, Pres.  
J. G. LOFY, Vice-Pres.  
G. H. BRAMWELL, Treas.  
W. R. BARNARD, Sec.

OFFICIAL A. P. A. SHOW

SEPTEMBER 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1924

BELLEVILLE, KANSAS  
CROSS ROADS OF AMERICA

#### AMUSEMENTS

BELLEVILLE CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE

#### CONCESSIONS

DR. E. V. KALIN.

March 28th, 1924

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

Dear Mr Mercer:

Attached please find my service and expense account  
from December 4th, 1923 to date.

On the trip to Sabetha my speedometer registered just  
125 miles from Belleville to Sabetha. I did not come  
back that way, but went on up, to Humbolt, Nebraska to see  
the Powers Bros sheep which were sick and said to be  
identical. I did this as a more thorough method in handling  
the trouble at Sabetha. I did not charge the extra mileage  
up there.

The phone call to Power Brothers was urge them to get a  
couple of sheep to their State Laboratories for com-  
parison with the diagnosis of our own State College. The  
condition on their ranch was identical to McCalahans as  
best I could see, but the diagnosis from Lincoln I understand  
was Hemorrhagic Septicaemia while that at Manhattan stated  
the condition in the McCalahan sheep must be due to diet as  
no pathological bacteria could be found either by animal  
experiment or microscopically.

The calls on March 5th were in response to phone call from  
you, I could not get the satisfaction from Dr Pugh that was  
necessary, therefor call Mr Mayhew and talked to him. After  
talking to him I found that a trip was not necessary.

Very truly yours,

W. R. Barnard,

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

March 26, 1924.

Mr. H. M. Woolf,  
c/o Woolf Brothers,  
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear sir:

Answering your letter dated the 26th.

The records in the case with respect to the Pure Bred Hereford bull shows that he was tested under date of September 3, 1921, and classed as a reactor. The records further show that arrangements were made for you to hold the bull for breeding purposes. After being advised by Mr. W. M. Henderson, our representative who had conferred with the county commissioners of Johnson county with respect to the appraisement of the animal. We have no further records in this case until account sales with check attached reached this office a few days ago. Since you shipped this bull to market without any appraisement there are no provisions under the Kansas law whereby you could be indemnified in any way for payment. You are entitled to the net proceeds and we are herewith enclosing same. I might add that you are mistaken with respect to the bull not showing any tubercular lesions and for your information we are enclosing you copy of the post mortem.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.



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

March 21, 1924.

Mr. H. M. Woolf,  
c/o Woolf Brothers,  
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir:

The records in this office show that on September 3, 1921, Dr. L. C. Songer tested your herd of cattle and classed one of them--a pure-bred bull--as a reactor. The records also show that you were permitted to hold this bull in quarantine for breeding purposes.

In this morning's mail we received account sales, check and post mortem report covering one bull. These reports are made out in the name of H. M. Woolf but the bull was not tagged so we cannot definitely identify the animal.

We will appreciate it if you will advise immediately upon receipt of this letter whether or not you have had the bull, which was condemned by Dr. Songer, slaughtered and if so whether the animal was appraised. If no appraisal was made, net proceeds from the sale belong to you and same will be sent you.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

A

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

Woolf Brothers  
KANSAS CITY

March 26, 1924.

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

Dear Sir:

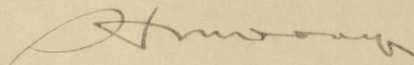
I have your letter of March 21st regarding the  
bull "Beau Blanc Visage" which was a reactor.

I paid \$6100 for this animal, and very care-  
fully guarded him against infecting any of the  
other cattle.

After he was slaughtered as a reactor, he  
showed no signs of the infection in his carcass.  
Can I make a small claim against the County?  
I understand there is a fund set aside for  
purposes of this kind.

Yours very truly,

HW\* A





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

March 1, 1922.

Mr. H. M. Woolf,  
c/o Woolf Brothers,  
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of February 24th, it will be all right for you to keep the bull in question just as long as you wish to by keeping him segregated from your other cattle.

You can use him for a breeding bull but he must not be turned loose with your other cattle. It depends also on where he is placed on your farm as to whether or not you can secure an accredited herd certificate on your other cattle. However, since the last test shows that this bull reacted it will be a year at least before you can be accredited. Therefore, it will be easy for you to keep him for that length of time anyway.

I will likely be in Kansas City in the next day or so and will call you up and talk with you further concerning this matter.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

M.A

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

Woolf Brothers

KANSAS CITY

February 24th 1922

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

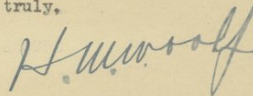
Dear Sir:

Answering your letter of the 20th.

Mr. Henderson was in to see me relative  
to the bull and I told him I would make  
up my mind in the next few days.

As the bull is segregated now I would  
like to ask what will be necessary in  
case I decide not to have this bull  
condemned.

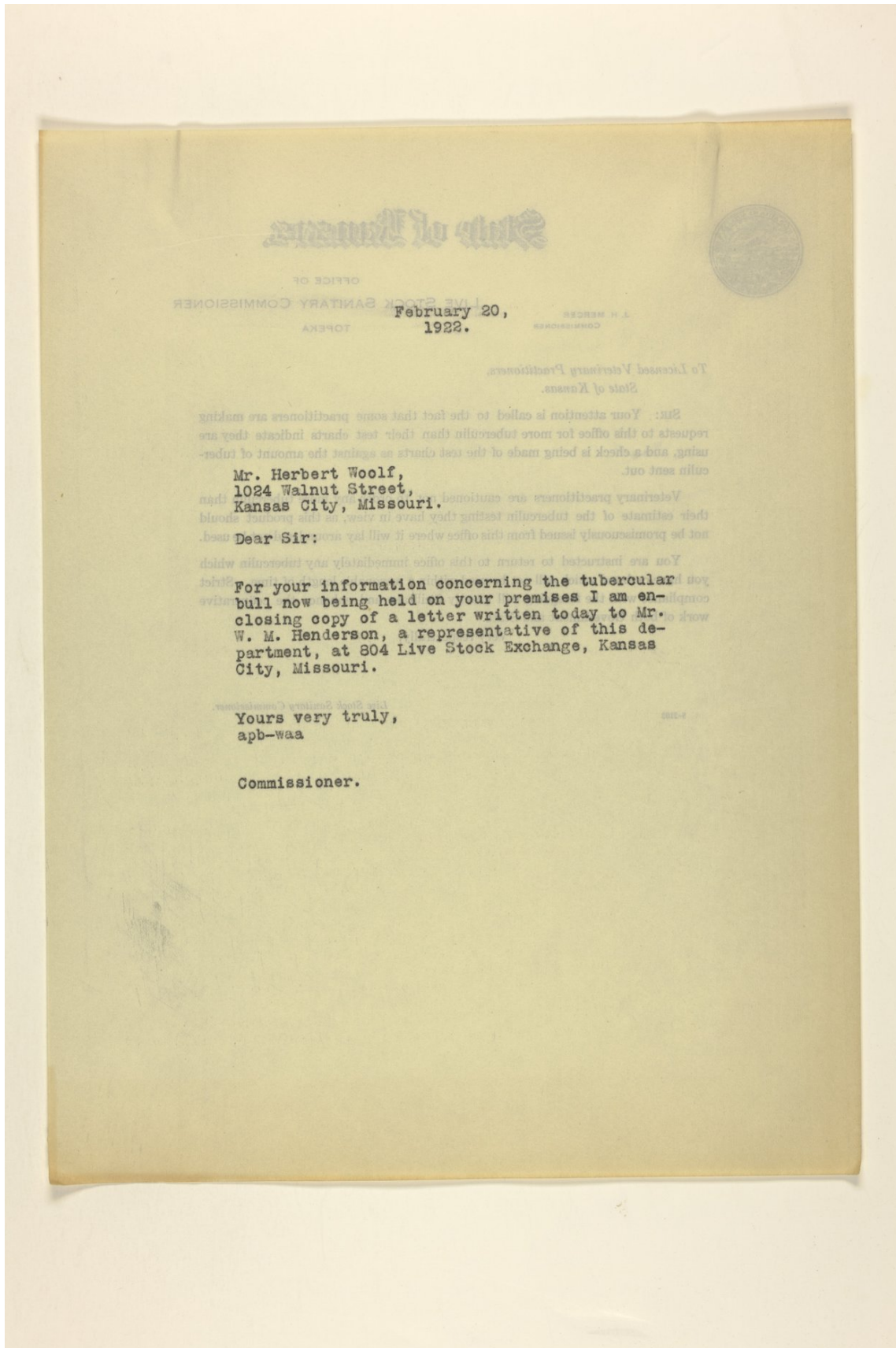
Yours very truly,



HMW:EC



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



February 20,  
1922.

Mr. Herbert Woolf,  
1024 Walnut Street,  
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Sir:

For your information concerning the tubercular  
bull now being held on your premises I am en-  
closing copy of a letter written today to Mr.  
W. M. Henderson, a representative of this de-  
partment, at 804 Live Stock Exchange, Kansas  
City, Missouri.

Yours very truly,  
apb-waa

Commissioner.

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



### State of Kansas

OFFICE OF

LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER

J. H. MERCER  
COMMISSIONER

TOPEKA

*To Licensed Veterinary Practitioners,  
State of Kansas.*

SIR: Your attention is called to the fact that some practitioners are making requests to this office for more tuberculin than their test charts indicate they are using, and a check is being made of the test charts as against the amount of tuberculin sent out.

Veterinary practitioners are cautioned not to order any more tuberculin than their estimate of the tuberculin testing they have in view, as this product should not be promiscuously issued from this office where it will lay around and not be used.

You are instructed to return to this office immediately any tuberculin which you have on hand which will not be used within a reasonable length of time. Strict compliance with the foregoing will greatly facilitate and enhance the coöperative work of both Government and State.

Very respectfully,

*Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner.*

8-2102



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

cc to H. M. Woolf

Mr. W. M. Henderson,  
Kansas City -

I have your letter stating that the county commissioners are willing to appraise the Wolf Bull for \$400.

No doubt this will seem an extremely low value to Mr. Wolf. However under the present circumstances it is ~~the opinion of~~ ~~the~~ our opinion that is a fair appraisement in fact as much or more than the animal would be appraised for in any state where tubercular eradication is being carried on under state and federal co-operation.

The only way Mr. Wolf can realize and the true value of the

bull is for him hold the animal  
in segregation under rules prescribed  
by this department.

If Mr. Wolf so desires we will  
take the matter up with the Bureau  
of Animal Industry and outline  
a plan whereby the animal can  
be held without violating the  
accreditation of this herd under  
the co-operative plan.

Mr. Burdick may be in Kansas  
City the first of the week to con-  
fer with Mr. Marriage concerning  
the apprehension of his cattle at  
Indian Springs, and if so he  
will take the matter up with  
Mr. Wolfe. If he does not  
come you are authorized to  
see Mr. Wolf and make the  
arrangement if he so desires.

Very I



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

March 27, 1924.

Mr. Robt. E. Curtis, County Agent,  
Minneapolis, Kansas.

Dear sir:

Answering your letter of the 21st instant.

There has been no change in the rule with respect to the payment of condemned tubercular cattle so far as state reactors are concerned. Reactor cattle found in accredited or herds under supervision are appraised differently from the regular state reactors. State reactors are appraised by the county paying one-half of the appraised value to the owner and whatever salvage there might be goes to the county. Accredited reactors are appraised by the salvage going to the owner. The amount of salvage being deducted from the appraised value; the county paying one-third of what is left and the government one-third of what is left and the owner loses the rest.

As above stated, this rule only applies to the appraising of cattle that are on the accredited herd list.

If I have not made this plain to you will be glad to furnish you any further information I can.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

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

March 27, 1924.

Mr. Chas. F. Dodds, General Manager,  
The Butzer Packing Company,  
1300 West Elm Street,  
Salina, Kansas.

Dear sir:

Answering your letter of the 21st.

I appreciate your letter indicating your willingness to co-operate in the extermination of the tubercular cattle, etc.

As you perhaps know, the county pays the owner of tubercular reactors for whatever allowance is made to the owner. The state pays nothing to the owners. Hence any loss that incurs with respect to the disposition of tubercular animal is the county's loss and it is this department's duty to see to it that these reactors are disposed of to the best financial advantage to the county.

I am making this statement for the reason that you make reference in your letter that certain funds might go to the state in case certain conditions happen.

I do not believe that you will have any difficulty in getting a government inspector established at your institution. Therefore, if you will write to Dr. J. R. Mohler, Chief, Bureau of Animal Industry, Washington, D. C., advising him that your Packing Company slaughters so many hogs and cattle a year and that you desire a government meat inspector I feel quite sure that he will send a government inspector to Salina for the purpose and, of course, this inspection will cost your plant nothing and there can be no question but what it will be an asset to your business. Should you make this application to Dr. Mohler and you do not get a favorable response I will be very glad to go into the matter and help you. I know Dr. Mohler very well and also the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Wallace, and would be very glad to give any help I could to securing this service for your plant.

In the mean time should we have any number of reactors of any consequence in Saline County that would be diverted to your plant we will try and assemble them in as large a number as possible



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

#2 Chas. F. Doddg

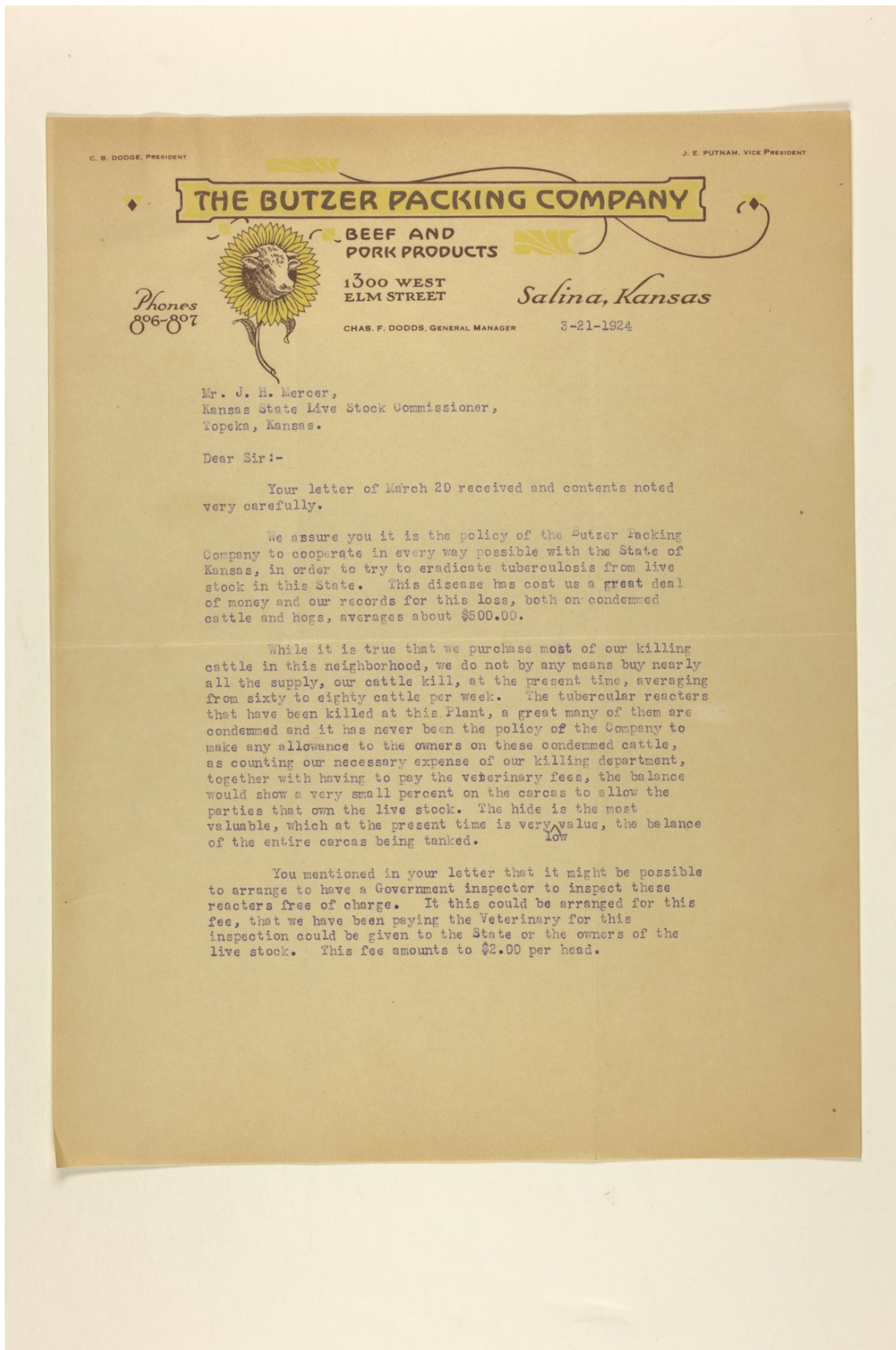
and then send either a state or government inspector to make the inspection when they are killed.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

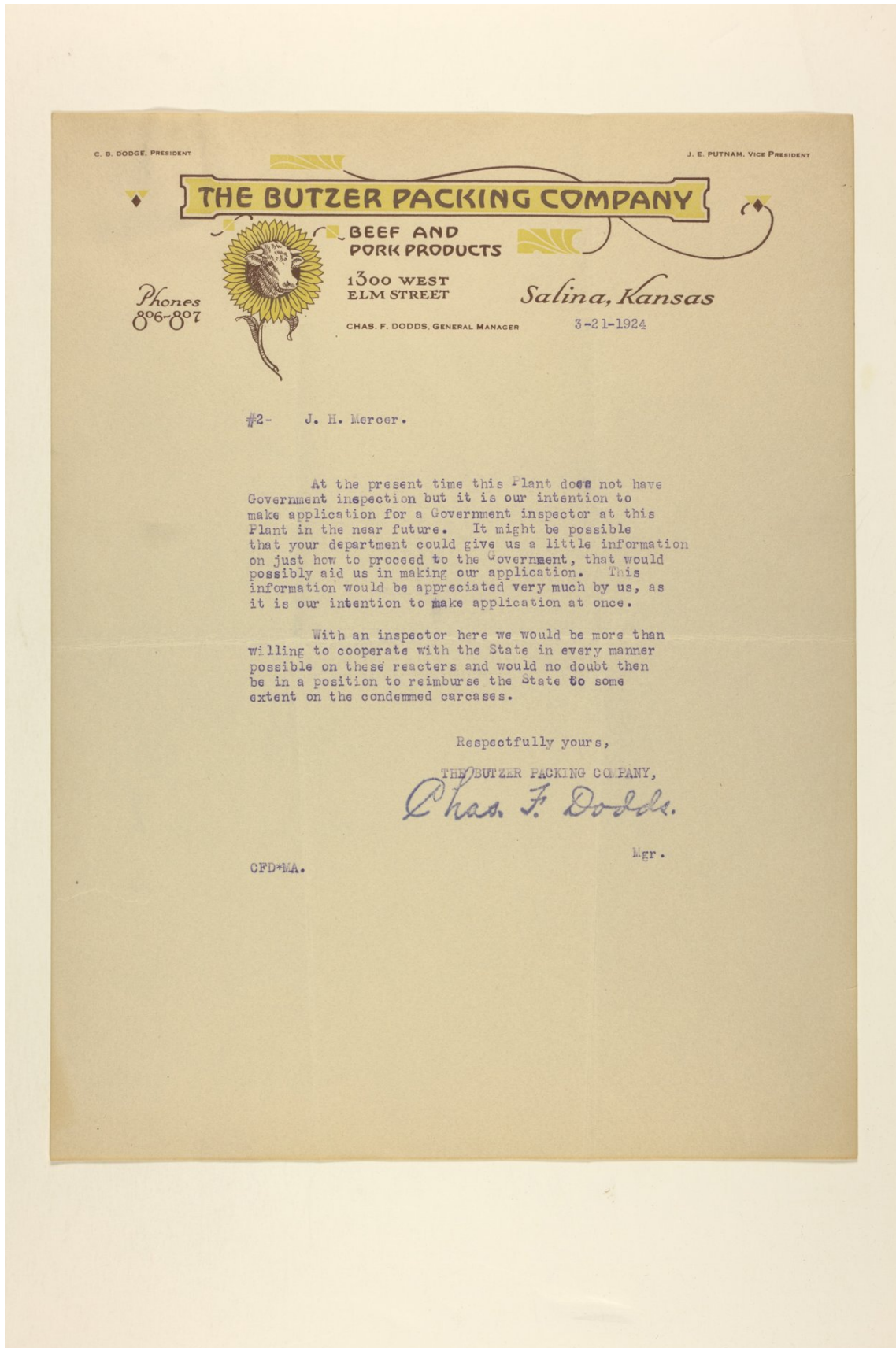
Commissioner.

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





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



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

March 20, 1924.

Butzer Packing Company,  
Salina, Kansas.

Gentlemen:

The State of Kansas is spending considerable money in trying to eradicate tuberculosis from the livestock of the state. The records show that packing houses where government meat inspection is maintained loses many carcasses of meat animals on account of the animal being infected with tuberculosis. The fact that there is a uniform effort being made all over the United States to clean up this disease the packing houses in almost every locality are co-operating in every way possible for the reason that the eradication of this disease means much to them.

A large number of these tubercular reactors have been killed at your plant and in most every instance at an entire loss to the owner of the county. We have no such record from any other killing establishment in the state. In fact there is some little salvage allowed by every packing plant even though the carcass of the animal is condemned. This runs all the way from \$2 to \$5, \$15, or \$20, depending largely upon the size of the animal.

The information we have is that your firm buys most all of the killing cattle in your immediate neighborhood, hence there is no chance to ship these tubercular reactors to another market. Therefor I am wondering if it is not possible for you people to handle these reactors in such a way that you can allow the county or the owner something for the carcasses even though the carcasses might be condemned. I am calling your attention to this matter as I presume you are interested in the eradication of diseases in livestock as there is no question but what it is of great benefit to everyone engaged in the slaughtering of livestock for meat purposes. It might be possible for us to arrange to have a government inspector inspect these tubercular reactor cattle free of charge providing it would be to your advantage to have it done. I will be glad to have you write me fully concerning this matter as the law requires us to dispose of these cattle in the best

S



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

#2 Butzer Packing Company

manner possible in the interest of the county or the owner.

Thanking you for an early reply.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

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

March 20, 1924.

Mr. Wm. C. Battersby, Commissioner,  
Salina, Kansas.

Dear sir:

Answering your letter of the 15th instant.

I presume that there are shipments of cattle made from your county to the Kansas City market occasionally. If so, any tuberculosis reactors could be put in with these shipments and be sent to market even though there might not be but one or two head. Tubercular animal could be penned off in a car of hogs but the shipping expenses would be so large that it would not pay to do this.

I see no reason why the Butzer Packing Company should not pay the same price for these reactor cattle as other packing plants do. It also seems to me that it would be to the advantage of the Butzer Packing Company to have a government inspector in their plant to inspect all meat animals killed. I am quite sure that all they would need to do to secure this service free to them would be to make application to the Washington Office, Bureau of Animal Industry, for the purpose. I am writing them today with respect to this matter and will send you a copy of their reply. However, I think it very necessary that in the future we make some other arrangements with respect to the reactor cattle so the county will get some little return in the way of salvage for the animal disposed of.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.