

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

Section 2, Pages 31 - 60

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 Commission

Date: April 1924-May 1926

Callnumber: Livestock Sanitary Commissioner, correspondence, 1924-1926

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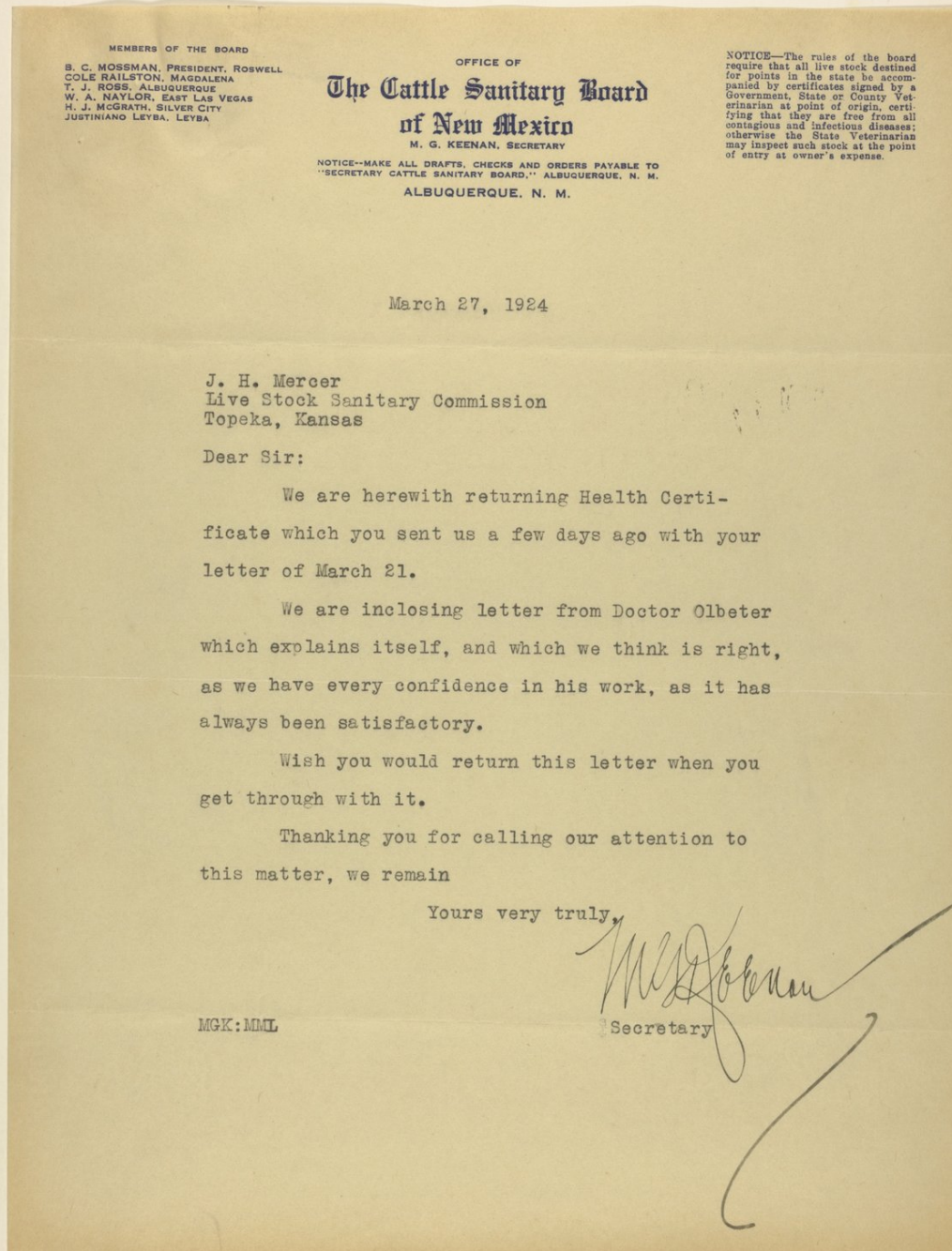
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Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

C O P Y

Clayton, N. M.
March 24, 1924.

Mr. M. G. Keenan,
Albuquerque, N. M.

Dear sir:

Your letter in regard to the Mr. Pitkin cattle received and am very much surprised at its contents as to what Mr. Pitkin had to say, and am inclosing the certificate of the tests which are right.

I will also say that the only time I saw Mr. Pitkin at all during the test was when I injected the cattle at six p. m. as he was busy at loading his car and was still at it when I delivered the certificates to him and I don't know as to whether he was at the Ellis place all during that day or only at about five o'clock when he turned the cattle out to water as I had to put them back to get the last temperature at about six p. m.

I met the cattle coming to Clayton about ten o'clock when I was going south of town on a call and made the first temperature on my way back and never saw Mr. Pitkin then and only when I made the injection, and all the next day kept the cattle in a stable and only had the help of two boys to help any at all whenever I got the temperatures as Mr. Pitkin was busy at the car loading. It is a common thing to have to do this sort of thing and not be able to get any help from the owner as they seem to think they are paying for it so let you do it and then make a grand yell that they were cheated.

Mr. Pitkin is not talking about what he knows only what he thinks and I know that these two boys had a great time watching me work and ask all sorts of questions, and the only way I got to see the cattle was by a young lad that drove them in to point them out to me.

Very sorry that this sort of thing should come up but I get that sort of BUNK allso I have had them say that the Inspector never got put of his wagon when he had them tested back home and also a big kick in the price, which I assure you will be a plenty on all cattle I inspect in or around N. M. and they will all get a real test at all times as I have given them all as I can not fill out your papers and not do the right thing.

Respectfully,

(Signed) R. M. Olbeter.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

March 21, 1924.

Dr. E. J. Robinson,
Cheney, Kansas.

Dear sir:

I have yours of the 18th and note same.

I have taken the matter up with the State Veterinarian of New Mexico with respect to the test of Mr. Pipkin's cattle. Of course, under the circumstances we could not retest his herd of cattle before the last of April but if you will keep it in mind and test at that time the state will pay you for your time and services. Also ask Mr. Pipkin what this man charged him for the work. Unless this veterinarian explains this matter satisfactorily he will not be permitted to test any more cattle for shipment into Kansas. I am thoroughly in accord with your views with respect to punishing anyone guilty of this kind of work and especially in such an important matter as testing of dairy cattle.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

March 21, 1924.

State Veterinarian,
c/o Sanitary Board,
Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Dear sir:

I am enclosing tuberculin test record that explains itself.

The matter with respect to this chart was called to my attention by the owner Mr. C. E. Pipkin. He advises me that there were no pre temperature records on this test and that there was but one post temperature reading made.

From the fact that I am unable to make out the doctor's name I am sending this to you with the request that you give me the name of the veterinarian that made this test and any further information you might have with respect to his legality as a practitioner.

Please return this chart with whatever comment you might wish to make.

Thanking you in advance.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF

LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

March 18, 1924.

Dr. E. J. Robinson,
Cheney, Kansas.

Dear doctor:

After you was in the office the other day I looked up through the records to see whether or not we had a record of shipment of cow from New Mexico that you spoke of. As I did not get to see you again I am enclosing you the health record that was filed here in accordance with our regulations. Look this over and then advise me as to what you think of it and also make any suggestions you might have in mind what would be best for us to do. According to the chart it seems to be regular.

Very truly yours,

J. H. Mercer

Commissioner.

JHM:P

Cheney Kans. March 18th, 1924.

Mr J.H.Mercer,
Topeka Kans.

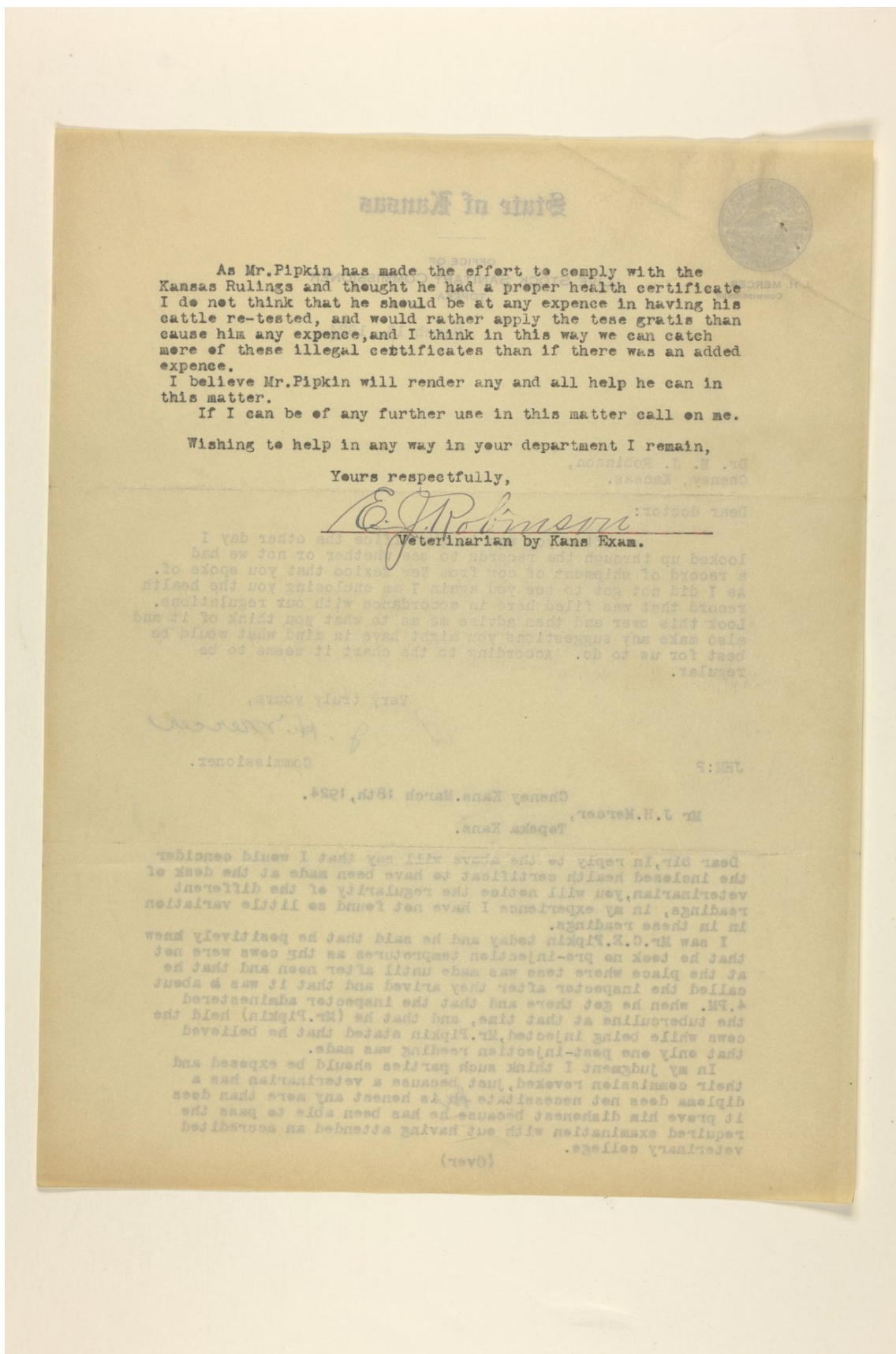
Dear Sir, In reply to the above will say that I would consider the inclosed health certificat to have been made at the desk of veterinarian, you will notice the regularity of the different readings, in my experience I have not found so little variation in in these readings.

I saw Mr. C.E. Pipkin today and he said that he positively knew that he took no pre-injection temperatures as the cows were not at the place where these was made until after noon and that he called the inspector after they arrived and that it was about 4.P.M. when he got there and that the inspector administered the tuberculine at that time, and that he (Mr. Pipkin) held the cows while being injected, Mr. Pipkin stated that he believed that only one post-injection reading was made.

In my judgment I think such parties should be exposed and their commission revoked, just because a veterinarian has a diploma does not necessitate his honest any more than does it prove him dishonest because he has been able to pass the required examination with out having attended an accredited veterinary college.

(Over)

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926



As Mr. Pipkin has made the effort to comply with the Kansas Rulings and thought he had a proper health certificate I do not think that he should be at any expence in having his cattle re-tested, and would rather apply the tese gratis than cause him any expence, and I think in this way we can catch more of these illegal certificates than if there was an added expence.

I believe Mr. Pipkin will render any and all help he can in this matter.

If I can be of any further use in this matter call on me.

Wishing to help in any way in your department I remain,

Yours respectfully,

E. J. Robinson
Veterinarian by Kans Exam.

Looking up through the records to see whether or not we had a record of shipment of cow from you since that you spoke of. As I did not see to see you again I am enclosing you the health record that was filed here in accordance with our regulations. Look this over and then advise me as to what you think of it and also make any suggestions you might have in mind what would be best for us to do. According to the chart it seems to be regular.

Very truly yours,

E. J. Robinson

Commissioner

LEN: P

Cheney, Kansas, March 18th, 1924.

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

Dear Sir, in reply to the above will say that I would consider the inclosed health certificate to have been made at the desk of veterinarian, you will notice the regularity of the different readings, in my experience I have not found so little variation in these readings.

I saw Mr. D. E. Pipkin today and he said that he positively knew that he took no pre-injection temperature as the cows were not at the place where tests were made until after noon and that he called the inspector after they arrived and that it was a about 4 PM. when he got there and that the inspector administered the tuberculin at that time, and that he (Mr. Pipkin) held the cows while being injected. Mr. Pipkin stated that he believed that only one post-injection reading was made.

In my judgment I think such parties should be exposed and their commission revoked, just because a veterinarian has a diploma does not necessitate that he honest any more than does it prove him dishonest because he has been able to pass the required examination with out having attended an accredited veterinary college.

(over)

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

March 13, 1924.

Dr. E. J. Robinson,
Cheney, Kansas.

Dear doctor:

After you was in the office the other day I looked up through the records to see whether or not we had a record of shipment of cow from New Mexico that you spoke of. As I did not get to see you again I am enclosing you the health record that was filed here in accordance with our regulations. Look this over and then advise me as to what you think of it and also make any suggestions you might have in mind what would be best for us to do. According to the chart it seems to be regular.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

April 10, 1924.

Mr. C. S. Walker,
Macksville, Kansas.

Dear sir:

Answering your letter of the 8th instant.

The federal and state accredited herd testing is available for any owner of dairy and breeding cattle in the state and I am enclosing you a copy of the memorandum of application. I might add in this connection that I think your Farm Bureau is undertaking a good work, however, they should undertake this work under the clean area plan as is provided for in Part II of the enclosed bulletin. I am writing Mr. Banks, Chairman of the Tuberculosis Committee, and sending him a copy of this regulation and making some suggestions, etc. I have always taken the position that the state and government ought to test all the dairy and breeding cattle in the state at the expense of the state and government. However, on account of the limited appropriation that we receive we can not do this. At the last session of Legislature we got appropriation through for \$25,000 to do this very work but the bill did not become a law.

Any further information we can give you will be glad to do so.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

April 10, 1924.

Mr. Roy Banks,
Larned, Kansas.

Dear sir:

I have a letter from your county enclosing a card that is being sent out to the cattle owners of your county with respect to a tuberculosis testing eradication campaign.

You are engaged in a good work, however, I believe that it would be to the better interest of the cattle owners of your county if you would undertake this work under the modified clean area plan. By coming under this plan we would then compel every owner of dairy and breeding cattle in your county to have his herd tested. I am sending you a copy of bulletin 16 and call your attention to Part II which provides for the plan in the clean area and modified work.

In this connection we are now testing all the dairy and breeding cattle in Leavenworth, Lincoln and Hargey Counties. This work will soon be completed. The work in Leavenworth and Lincoln Counties is all being done at the state and government expense. In fact it is my judgment that all this work should be done at state and government expense but the state and government appropriations are limited and of course this work can only be taken up in a small way for the present. It is hoped that the next Legislature will provide ample funds with which to carry this work on. In Harvey County the government furnishes a veterinary inspector and the state has been furnishing 2 veterinary inspectors and the County Farm Bureau has been paying the part of the services of the local veterinarians to do the testing under the clean area plan in their county. That county will soon be completed. Jackson County is next on the list, having sent their petitions in sometime ago. Sedgwick County has also sent petitions in. Other counties are starting their petitions at this time.

I call your attention to this matter for the reason that all tuberculosis testing comes under the direction of the department here and where we do the work in accordance with regulations we can then reach out and have everyone test alike.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

#2 Roy Banks

But where it is carried on at the option of the owners a great many will not have their herds tested.

Will be very glad to give you any help or information we can with respect to the work in your county.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

Wichita Kan
Apr 8-1927

Mr. J. H. Mercer
Dear Sir

I am inclosing
a Card from the Kansas Co.
Farm Bureau. The Card is
Self explanatory but I want to
know if Federal accredited
Testing is not still available
and visit it. Also more
desirable, and also cheaper
than County testing. I object
to joining an association that
is working against the best
interests of the farmer, in
most ways at least, just to
be able to get my Cows
tested.

Yours Truly
C. J. Walker



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

April 11, 1924.

Mr. Ivy Allen, Chairman
Agricultural Committee,
Burlington, Kansas.

Dear sir:

Answering your letter of the 9th.

I am enclosing you a bulletin which contains regulations with respect to free and modified area tuberculosis testing. Call your special attention to Part II. Quite a little clean area testing has been done in several counties in line with the provisions of this bulletin. We will soon have completed the testing of all the dairy and breeding cattle in the counties of Leavenworth, Lincoln and Harvey. The state and federal government has done the work in these counties at state and federal government expense. We have several other counties that have filed their petitions and the next work that will be taken up will be in Jackson County. We can not expand in this work to any great extent for the reason that neither the state or federal government has funds with which to do so. It is my judgment that the free area tuberculosis testing is the only economical and practical method of eradicating tuberculosis and this work should be done at the federal government and state expense. I was successful in getting an appropriation through the last Legislature of \$25,000 to carry on this work but it failed to become a law. In this connection I might add that several counties are testing cattle under the plan as outlined in the bulletin at the owner's expense and the work can be done when properly organized at a cost not to exceed 15 to 20 cents per head.

It would be quite difficult for me to give you any specific cases where any person contracted bovine tuberculosis but it is the opinion of almost all professional men that have made this a study that it is transmissible from one to the other. The best evidence I can give you would be the results of an experimental test that was carried on in the state of New York. The City of New York required all dairy cattle to be tested for tuberculosis that were selling milk to the city and also required all milk furnished through creameries to be pasteurized. This

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

#2 Ivy Allen

requirement lasted something like 3 years and during that time there was a 40 per cent reduction in the death loss of the babies in the city of New York on account of tuberculosis.

We do not keep a record of the towns and cities in the state that have ordinances requiring the testing of cattle for tuberculosis but there are quite a number of cities in the state, both large and small, that have such ordinances.

Any other help or assistance we can give you will be glad to hear from you.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

<p>A. J. SANDERS President</p>	<p>H. E. DOUGLASS Treasurer</p>	<p>RAYMOND J. REED Vice President</p>	<p>FLOYD S. ECORD Secretary</p>
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"You'll Like Burlington"

The Burlington Commercial Club

Burlington, Kansas

PAST PRESIDENTS

John Redmond.....1910-11-12
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S. P. Crahan.....1918
F. R. Hammond.....1919
J. E. Dickinson.....1920
D. O. Gifford.....1921
L. H. Hannen.....1922
O. G. Mechem.....1923

4-9-24

J. H. Mercer
Topeka Kan.

Dear Sir The agricultural committee of the Burlington Commercial Club are preparing a program on T.B. free area would like to have what information you can send on how to proceed, also if you have any specific information where humans have contracted T.B. from using milk what percent of the towns of 3000 or less in Kan that prohibit the sale of milk from cows not tested

yours Truly
Ivy Allen
chairman ag. com.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

April 11, 1924.

Dr. W. R. Barnard,
Belleville, Kansas.

Dear doctor:

I have your report of the investigation of the trouble at Oberlin and wish to thank you for your promptness in looking after this matter.

I have a letter from Mr. Benton, President of the Oberlin National Bank who was very much pleased with the way you handled the case and with your services.

I am writing Mr. Emerson and also Mr. Norton advising them of the importance of complying strictly with your directions in the treating and handling of the cattle in question.

Referring to your letter of March 24th. I have been intending to answer this letter for some time but have neglected to do so. If all of the veterinarians in the state were as considerate of rendering an efficient service to their customers as you are it is quite doubtful whether we would ever need to issue any permits to farmers to use the virus in the vaccination of their hogs unless it would be in a territory where no practitioner was located, but unfortunately such is not the case. There is no doubt in my mind, however, but what there are a large number of hog producers in the state that are using the virus that hold no permit and I am going to try out your suggestion by asking all the principal Serum Companies to furnish me a list of the laymen in Kansas to whom they furnish virus. Of course we have absolute jurisdiction and control over the use of the virus in the state and therefor, under the circumstances, we can compel any Serum company to furnish us any information we desire or prohibit them from selling the virus in the state.

On reading your letter over today I find your reference to the circular you sent me and I am unable to find that circular. It was pinned to your letter but it has been torn loose and lost. If you have another copy of it I wish you would send it to me. In this connection I am glad to say

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

#2 Dr. W. R. Barnard

that I have never had a single word of complaint from any of your people against you during all the years that I have been in this office. That surely is a good record and one of which you should be proud. This can not be said of any other practitioner in the state that has been in practice any length of time.

Answering your inquiry with reference to my position politically. I am sorry to say that I am not backing the same candidate you are for Governor. I am for Ex-Governor Stubbs for the nomination. I know Mr. Ben Paulen well, and favorable. He is a very fine man. Clyde Reed is not a bad man, but in my judgment neither one of these men could win next fall if they should receive the nomination, against Davis. I believe that we can elect Stubbs. He is pretty well known over the state and while he has a good many political enemies yet at the same time it is not so pronounced as it used to be and in fact the Party is not so badly split up now as it was back 10 or 15 years ago. Stubbs will hold the Farmer vote and it is going to take someone that can hold that vote to hold them together. Mr. Reed is a newspaper man and is backed entirely by the newspapers of the States of Missouri and Kansas and that is going to hurt him this time. Paulen is a banker and the farmers of Kansas have seen so much bank stationery in the last 3 years that the name "Banker" does not sound good to them and they are not going to support a banker.

If I was acting on my personal choice I suppose I would support Paulen but I am acting, this time, on my judgment as to what is best for the Party. My judgment leads me to believe that we can come nearer winning with Stubbs as the Nominee of the Party in November than any other one of the candidates mentioned. There can be no question but what if election was held tomorrow Stubbs would be nominated but, of course, you can not tell what may take place by next August. However, I am not taking any active public part in this political controversy. My position as Secretary of the Association forbids me to do this but yet at the same time I am doing what little I can in a quiet way for Mr. Stubbs and I hope you will not work very hard against him out there because if we nominate and elected him he will be the friend of such fellows as you and me.

Thanking you again for your splendid co-operation and with my very best wishes, I remain,

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

April 11, 1924.

Mr. C. S. Emerson,
Oberlin, Kansas.

Dear sir:

I just received a report from Dr. W. R. Barnard, who recently made investigation of the trouble among your cattle.

He advises that he told you what the trouble might be and also advised you as to treatment and care. He states in his report that it will be very necessary to follow out the instructions he gave you. That unless you do follow these instructions that you would probably lose more cattle. Therefor, it is very necessary that you do as nearly as you possibly can in carrying out the instructions Dr. Barnard gave you.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

April 11, 1924.

Mr. E. R. Norton,
Oberlin, Kansas.

Dear sir:

I just received a report from Dr. W. R. Barnard, who recently made investigation of the trouble among your cattle.

He advises that he told you what the trouble might be and also advised you as to treatment and care. He states in his report that it will be very necessary to follow out the instructions he gave you. That unless you do follow these instructions that you would probably lose more cattle. Therefore, it is very necessary that you do as nearly as you possibly can in carrying out the instructions Dr. Barnard gave you.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

Office of
W.R. Barnard, Veterinarian,
Belleville, Kansas.

Belleville, Kansas.
April 9th, 1924.

Referring to Oberlin National Bank call April 5th, 1924

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

Dear Mr Mercer:

The following is a complete report of conditions found on two farms, the only two visited on the above referred to trip. I visited these two farms on April 8th, in company Dr Earl Wilson, local veterinarian, who had these cases under his care.

Farm of C.S. Emerson, Oberlin, Kansas, located about five miles S.W. History, - losses started Dec. 25th, 1923, since that time, five cows; one yearling; fifteen suckling calves have died and three or four made recoveries. The condition of the recovered animals is very poor, emaciated. Other cattle fair condition.

Sanitation, -

Well, location fine, with good supply tank. Lots have good drainage. Sheds in bank, hay roof poorly covered with water draining into it, very deep in manure and unfit for occupation. Feeding done on ground. Had a good variety.

Symptoms, - slightly nervous, get weak, go down, can be gotten up and will eat and drink, but keep getting more and more emaciated. some (5) older animals recover, the younger die. Animals come down one or two at a time and not all together.

Occurance, -

The disease manifests itself more pronounced at or just following a damp or wet spell of weather. The sheds were bedded down with prairie hay to keep cattle out of mud they tramped over and eat this hay, thus the occasion for the older animals getting the infection, which is in the soil and bedding. The udders of the cows became soiled, the calves sucked the cows, thus the heavy calf loss. Was told every calf that sucked a certain cow died and cow finally died.

Diagnosis - Botulism, - diagnosis was determined by history, conditions on farm, past weather conditions as applied to attach and physical condition of animals recovering. No post mortems were made for lack of subjects. One calf was ordered shipped to Veterinary Department, Kansas State Agriculture College.

Farm of E.R. Norton, Oberlin, Kansas 12 miles northwest.

History - Had two cases a year ago identical to present condition, disease occurs over a longer period. Has lost six cows; five yearlings. Has a cow down now since the 5th of February, eats drinks and ruminates. Animals all show deficiency of muscular strength when down and normal when gotten up, except a slower movement. Conditions on this farm are identical with the Emerson farm as far as drainage, sanitation, occurrence and diagnosis are concerned. This man has also lost four or five head of horses with same symptoms as cattle.

Recommendations, - This trouble is due to contamination, on both farms there are no feed racks. Feed is fed on the ground and during the bad weather the sheds were heavily bedded for comfort out of the weather. The stock has eat this materialk after tramping over it. I recommended that drainage be cut back of buildings to keep water from running through them, that sheds and lots be shut from cattle until they could be cleaned out and filled higher than ground outside with fresh dirt. That racks be built to feed roughness in or fed out on prairie. This man Norton stands to lose 20 head of hogs out of 80 from cholera. They were vaccinated when first noticed sick by Dr Earl Wilson, Oberlin.

W. R. Barnard D.V.S.

I informed them to expect a continuance if directions not followed. With present weather conditions & Pros coming on, I expect no further trouble if kept from sheds.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

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 24th, 1924.

Mr J.H.Mercer,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Mr Mercer:

I recieved your letter some time ago offering to assist me in controlling the hog cholera in the vicinity of Belleville. I am very grateful to you, but I believe I still can handle the situation without expense to your department. I find on doubling back to many of these cases of infection that some of my clients are very careless probably lazy and I stopped in to see how an infected bunch of hogs were doing not long ago and found quite a stack of them in a pile not burned. I seen to it thay they was on the fire before I left.

I would have answered your letter sooner, but I have been down with the Flu since the 6th, just now getting out and around.

Some time ago you will remember I wrote you for a list of the farmers who had permits to vaccinate their own hogs. I am very thankful to you for it. I have a pretty good line up on this and have good reason to know that where there is one that has a permit there are about five that havn't. I am enclosing a circular to show you what the farmer is recieving, it is not hurting me, it will make me business. We can compete with this concern without any trouble. Some farmers never think to find out what things are worth at home, just think they can get it cheaper away, and shoot. I feel that I have always been freer from this than a big majority of practitioners, however a lot are farmers are going to bite and of course some of them are going to loose hogs. How would it be to require every serum co selling virus to farmers to furnish you a monthly report of the names and addresses of such purchasers so that you could run a check on cholera conditions in such localities?

Well Mr Mercer, changing the subject to politics, I wonder if we are not aliming ourselves with the same candiate for Governor, I am a Ben Paulen man, have you any argument against him? While this is a feeler and if I am on the wrong track I want to hear it. There were a few Reed men around here until the convention but now there are more for Paulen. Davis has a lot of friends among the farmers and if Reed or Stubbs should get the nomination Davis will be elected. Paulen has less opposition and I havnt heard a word against him.

W. R. Barnard

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

Wilson Kan April
1924 ¹²/₁₂

J.H. Mercer.
D ofc No 142.
Dear Sir.

In regards to the cow that
had tuberculosis we kill
her and disposed of her 2nd day
her number was 3305

Louis Whitmer
Wilson/12

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

March 7, 1924.

Mr. Louis F. Whitmer,
Wilson, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

We are enclosing herewith order drawn on the Board of County Commissioners of Russell County for \$25.00, same being one-half the appraised value of your cow--tag No. 3305 recently condemned on account of being infected with the contagious disease, tuberculosis.

You will go before a notary public and qualify to this order and then present same, together with the attached copy of appraisal, to your Board of County Commissioners, and they will issue you warrant on your County Treasurer covering same.

Yours very truly,

Commissioner.

10-100

Wilson Mo. Feb 21. 1924

I received your letter
in regards to the cow
that has been tested out
with the tuberculin and
as I want it turned over
to the State to be
appraised and disposed
of kindly do this as
quick as you can
as it is a bother and
expence here now.

Yours truly

Gus L. Whitmer

Wilson Kansas

This cow goes to
Russell Co

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

February 16, 1924.

Mr. Lew Whitmer,
Wilson, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of tuberculin test report on your cattle and note that one animal reacted to the test applied by Doctor C. E. Haines.

No statement is made as to how you will dispose of this animal. For your information we are enclosing a copy of the rules and regulations of this department and call your attention to Sec. 34, page 20, which outlines methods whereby animals that react to the test may be disposed of. You will note that an owner may either sell his reactor for immediate slaughter under direction of this department and subject to post-mortem examination, or he may have same appraised and turn it over to the county and the state for disposition. Under the first option the owner receives net proceeds arising from the sale, while in the latter instance the county pays him one-half the amount at which the animal is appraised by the appraising board.

Kindly write us as to how you choose to dispose of this reactor. In the meantime you will not sell nor dispose of the animal nor of any of her dairy products.

Yours very truly,

Commissioner.

9-4938

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

April 12, 1924.

Mr. H. F. Dotson,
Livestock Exchange,
Wichita, Kansas.

Dear sir:

Answering your inquiry with respect to the testing of dairy and breeding cattle in the public stock yards at Wichita.

Our regulations call for the testing of all cattle to be used for dairy and breeding purposes by an inspector of the Bureau of Animal Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, or a veterinary inspector delegated for the purpose by the State Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner.

The instructions heretofore given you with respect to range cows that were to go into feed lots or to the grazing districts could be passed out in this manner without the test, on a statement of the owner or the agent representing the owner to that effect, providing it is your judgment that they should be permitted to do so. We think that there are shipments when the owner intends to take the cattle to the feed lot or pasture, fatten them to return them to market for beef purposes, and when you find these cases prevailing it will be all right for you to let the cattle in question move off the yards in this manner. However, when it comes to the native cattle, the regulation should be strictly adhered to. You are aware that the federal government and all the states are spending thousands of dollars in an effort to eradicate tuberculosis from livestock of the country, therefor, it is very necessary that no animals infected with this disease be permitted to move from a public stock yard.

It is not necessary for me to go into this matter in detail for the reason that I believe you fully understand our position and I would suggest that you notify all of the commission merchants and traders handling dairy and breeding cattle, of these requirements and also notify them that no she cattle or bulls can be shipped off the yards excepting on your permit, destination Kansas points and impress upon each of them that it is in violation of the law for them to do otherwise. Exercise your good judgment in these matters and at any time that it is your opinion, that ^{any} ~~the~~ class of cattle, be they range cattle or otherwise, ^{should} ~~be~~ tested for tuberculosis you are directed to proceed to do so.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

#2 H. F. Dotson

It would be advisable for you to send each of the interested parties operating in the Wichita yards, a copy of bulletin 10 and also a form letter setting out these matters similar to the kind you handed me at the Lassen Hotel. It is very necessary, of course, to keep on pleasant terms with all these dealers yet at the same time it is very necessary to be firm in your dealings with them with respect to the rules and regulations.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

April 17, 1924.

Mr. John E. Martin,
817 State Street,
Emporia, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Martin:

I have yours of the 14th with enclosure.

I am very familiar with the deplorable situation in California with respect to the foot and mouth disease. On the date following the information we received at this office of this outbreak we issued regulations against the shipment of any livestock from California into this state. We have not modified this regulation since it was issued. It may be necessary for us to change the regulation and include any and all classes of merchandise that might be carriers of this disease. Unless they get this outbreak of foot and mouth under control in California within the next week or ten days we will do this.

I am of the opinion that the railroads are giving the most careful consideration to this matter for the reason that if they would not comply with both state and federal regulations they could be held responsible for any damages that might occur in carrying foot and mouth infection into clean territory. I am quite sure that the railroads are co-operating in every way possible to stamp out this disease.

Thanking you for writing me and if there is any further information we can give you at any time we will be glad to do so.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1924-1926

JOHN E. MARTIN
817 STATE STREET

Emporia, Kansas.

April, 14th, 1924.

Mr. J. H. Mercer,
Topeka, Kans.

Dear Mr. Mercer;

I am handing you herewith copy of Special Bulletin No. 23 issued by the Assistant Director of Health, through the County Superintendent of Schools, of Los Angeles County, Calif. relative to the feet and mouth disease, which is so prevalent in California, the back of the bulletin bears some remarks from a friend of mine who is in Calif.

I also attach an article from the May issue of the Sunset Magazine bearing on the subject.

No doubt but that you are fully conversant with this matter and as Chief of the Sanitary Board have resorted to all possible precautions to keep this dreadful disease out of Kansas.

In conversation with several of our prominent stockmen, they are wondering if the Railroads are rendering every possible assistance, and if by chance there could be a leakage of stock cars from California through Arizona, Nevada, Oregon or Washington, for instance lumber might be shipped in an infected car.

Would be glad to hear from you.

Yours truly,

John E. Martin

Sunset Magazine,
May, 1924

11

Fight or Pay Tribute?

The Western Live Stock Industry Faces a Crisis

By Walter V. Woehlke

IS it better policy to pay tribute of \$150,000,000 every year or to spend \$15,000,000 in a bloody fight against the enemy once every ten years? That question had to be answered by the Federal Government and the state authorities of California in February. They did not hesitate. The immediate and unanimous decision was to fight. Rifles and disinfectants were brought up, steam shovels began to dig trenches and the eighth war against the foreign invader, the hoof-and-mouth disease, was on.

This dreaded sickness of cloven-hoofed animals is caused by an organism so tiny that it has never been isolated or seen under the microscope. It causes painful blisters to appear in the mouth and between the toes of cattle, hogs, sheep and other domestic animals. The blisters break and ulcerate in four or five days; most of the animals recover, but enough of them suffer from secondary attacks which in hogs usually cause the entire hoof to slough off, to serve as sources of reinfection and as vehicles for spreading the highly contagious disease.

When an animal is stricken, the painful blisters prevent it from eating, drinking or moving. It stands round and loses weight with great rapidity. Infected dairy cows do not regain their normal flow of milk for a year after the attack, and the attack does not render them immune. If exposed, they may be reinfected several times. And after a severe attack an animal does not fully recover; it is permanently weakened and its value is greatly diminished. Competent authorities have estimated that the hoof-and-mouth disease would cost the live stock industry of the United States \$150,000,000 annually should it ever become as firmly established in the United States as it is in continental Europe.

So far the only certain and positive method of eradicating the disease is the immediate killing and quick-lime burial of every animal in an infected herd, together with strict quarantine measures and the wholesale use of disinfectants. "Get the sick animals under the ground faster than new cases develop," is the slogan. England and the United States have practised this drastic method and kept themselves clean, but continental Europe hesitated and now the disease is too firmly established from the Volga to the English Channel to be controlled or wiped out.

The seventh and greatest outbreak of the

hoof-and-mouth disease started in the Chicago stockyards in 1914, spread through twenty-two states and was not suppressed until 185,000 head of stock had been killed and buried. It cost \$14,000,000 to win. For ten years the enemy stayed away. Then, in February of this year, he reached California via Japan and spread through the dairy herds of four counties near San Francisco Bay. In one instance a sick and lost calf spread the disease in twenty small dairies while hunting for its mother.

The present infection is supposed to have come from Japan with garbage from a transport fed to hogs. It was suppressed in less than four weeks during which time 15,000 head of cattle, hogs and other animals were shot and buried. Six weeks after the first outbreak, a second center of infection was discovered inland in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada among large herds of beef cattle. The disease had become so well established that 3000 to 4000 head were infected. This new outbreak presented a most serious problem, for if the pest should be carried to the open range by wandering cattle, deer, coyotes or birds, its eradication might become almost impossible. Accordingly hunters were despatched to wipe out every living thing in the vicinity of the contaminated district, but the results are still in doubt and developments are watched most anxiously.

The new outbreak will cost the Federal Government and the state of California millions of dollars, not only to compensate the owners of the slaughtered stock but for the heavy expenses of the campaign.

But the investment is worth while. Already the strict quarantine measures against California live stock and other farm products by the rest of the country and foreign nations are supplying a foretaste of the market loss that would ensue should the disease be permanently established. It *must* be eradicated no matter what the immediate cost.

Its eradication will require full and complete cooperation between Federal, state and county officers and the public, especially the owners of live stock. It seems almost incredible, for instance, that the second outbreak of the disease in California should have spread to 3000 cattle before its presence was discovered and reported. The right vigilance and experience on the part of owners and county veterinarian should have resulted in a far earlier discovery of the disease considering the fact that it was raging only fifty miles away and its presence was alarming live stock owners and veterinarians three thousand miles distant.

If the hoof-and-mouth disease leaps out of the fenced pastures into the unfenced ranges, the difficulties of suppressing it will be increased tenfold. As a precautionary measure the authorities sent out two hundred hunters and cowboys with rifles and poison to destroy every running, burrowing or flying wild creature on an area of a thousand mountainous square miles, that no potential carrier of the disease might survive. Even airplanes were used to locate isolated herds of cattle showing infection by standing huddled together in motionless groups.

The present outbreak of the hoof-and-mouth disease reinforces the argument in favor of drastic quarantine regulations efficiently enforced against the importation of any plant material or live stock

which may be the means of introducing new pests to the United States. The American farmer has troubles enough meeting foreign competition in the world market without having his high production costs increased by the introduction of the numerous plant pests and animal diseases of Europe and Asia which so far have been kept away from North America. And the best means of keeping them away is the existence of vigilant, efficient, non-political departments of agriculture, both national and state. Fortunately both California and the Nation have reason to be well satisfied with the performance of their agricultural departments in this emergency.



A few of 375 dairy cows killed on a California ranch in the fight against the outbreak of the foot-and-mouth disease. Federal and state authorities are slaughtering tens of thousands of cattle and hogs to prevent the disease from reaching the open ranges of the Far West

12

Sunset Magazine,
May, 1924



Slowly he raised his head and there was a look of awe upon his face as he hoarsely whispered, "It's gold!"

Gold—Man's Greatest Game

By J. R. Jones

Author of: *Playing the Gold Camps*

Illustrated by Harold von Schmidt

WE had drained the last drop of water from our canteens and were dejectedly picking our way up a gulch in one of the low mountain ranges that flanked the sands of a Nevada desert. The gulch was of furnace heat and the rocks burned our fingers when we touched them. Camp and water were three miles away and we dreaded the torture of that rugged distance. Not even a horned toad or lizard was in sight, and the bleached skull of a mountain sheep was the only evidence that life had ever existed in this arid region.

I lifted my eyes and what I saw quickened my step and rejuvenated my body like a glass of cold water. As I hastened on I found that Dad was at my heels and a few moments later we paused before a colored streak that cut straight across the hard slate formation. Scattered quartz lay at our feet and I brought the butt end of my prospector's pick down with a ringing blow on a projecting point of the ledge. I turned the fragment back and forth in the sunlight and steadied it as my eye caught a glint of yellow. Hastily I focused the magnifying glass and my heart jumped as I plainly saw a speck of gold. I silently passed the rock to Dad, and his gray head bent above the piece of quartz. He gazed intently and then his hands dropped before him. Slowly he raised his head and there was a look of awe upon his face as he hoarsely whispered, "It's gold!"

For several moments the old man stood as though dazed. Then his tall frame straightened; his hat was flung in the air and he danced among the rocks. His face, darkened by desert heat, was now lit

with joy and he tried to shout, but only croaks came from his parched throat. We flung ourselves at that wall of rock and picked and broke quartz with feverish haste. The excitement and exertion caused the sun apparently to suck the last drop of moisture from our bodies. We could scarcely speak and when overcome we sat with our eyes glued to bits of broken quartz.

Air Castles

For many months Dad and I had broken rock among the Nevada hills, and not a glint of gold had we seen. We had endured the tortures of fierce heat, thirst and bad water as every desert prospector must do. From lack of money we had lived on scant food, and now a speck of gold had appeared to tease us on. We gladly accepted the challenge, and I am sure neither of us turned our eyes toward camp during the burning hours of that afternoon. The sun sank. It was only then that we filled our pockets with quartz and turned with swollen tongues toward the spring where we were camped.

We passed a bad night. Every time we dropped to sleep that speck of gold grew to the size of a nugget, and always a stream of cold water dashed down that dry gulch. I say we, for time after time Dad and I arose to drink at the spring and when we compared notes our dreams were quite similar.

Daylight was the signal to grind rock, and soon the clink of pestle and mortar broke the calm of the desert morning. When the piece of quartz was ground to dust it was poured into the little frying pan which we kept especially for panning purposes. Dad kneaded water into the dust as carefully as a housewife mixes dough for the baking. Finally the pan and contents were immersed in water and Dad began the peculiar, twisting motion that sloughed the waste and settled the gold to the bottom of the pan.

Panning is a process that requires time and care, and those were anxious moments that we passed awaiting the tiny streak of black sand that finally showed in the bottom of the pan. A splash of water; a deft turn, and a film of gold flashed before our eyes.

It was enough. We were already rich. We talked of dollars in figures of millions. True, there were preliminary details that needed attention and we lost no time in filling our water bags for a return to our find. A mountain lay between camp and mining claim. It was a cruel climb from either side, and lack of water prevented us from moving closer.

Day after day we toiled to the limit of our endurance. We built a high stone monument at the discovery point and between two flat rocks we inserted a piece of paper which gave the information that we had located a quartz claim extending seven hundred and fifty feet in a south-westerly direction, seven hundred and fifty feet in a north-easterly direction, with three hundred feet on each side the center line of location. At each corner and side center would be found stone