

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

Section 24, Pages 691 - 720

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: June 1926-September 1929

Callnumber: Livestock Sanitary Commissioner, Correspondence, 1926-1929

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 310296

Item Identifier: 310296

www.kansasmemory.org/item/310296

KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

said and write you, also told him
it might be a good plan for
him as a local man, a tax payer
and a banker to see the commis-
sioners there and write his and the
county commissioners' recommenda-
tions to you -

I told him I thought you
would be willing to help Mr. Shogren
as you had already done if it
could be done legally.

Respectfully,

H. B. Brock

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

September 29, 1926.

Mr. Oscar Shogren,
Assaria, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with our talk here in the office a few days ago, I am enclosing you copy of a letter written to the Board of County Commissioners of your county.

You will recall I suggested that you make up a statement of the time your men put in in burying the dead cattle in your pasture and also the number of head that were buried. As yet I have not received this statement but if you will make it up I will take the matter up with the Attorney General and find out whether or not I can legally pay you for the disposition of the carcasses etc.

If the County Commissioners of your county act favorably on the suggestions contained in my letter, a date will be fixed for the final closing up of this transaction.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM.A



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

September 29, 1926.

Board of County Commissioners,
Saline County,
Salina, Kansas.

Dear Sirs:

You will no doubt recall a conference that was held in your office on July 19, 1926, which had to do with the Oscar Shogren herd of cattle. Therefore, it will not be necessary for me to go into any detail with respect to the trouble and loss Mr. Shogren had in his herd of steers as you are familiar with the entire affair.

At the time of the conference in your office it was supposed that the Shogren herd of cattle were infected with rabies as it had been diagnosed as such as a result of a laboratory investigation made by the State Agricultural College at Manhattan. You will recall it was decided that the best thing to do in the interest of public good and to save Mr. Shogren from further financial loss, was to have Mr. Shogren send his herd of cattle to market and have them sold for immediate slaughter subject to post mortem inspection. The records show that Mr. Shogren shipped the cattle on July 20th and they were sold on the 21st but were not slaughtered until the 24th.

Specimens were taken on the 19th by experts from the Agricultural College and the Jensen-Salsbury Laboratory, Kansas City, Missouri. No evidence of rabies or any other disease was found by the laboratory investigations made at Manhattan and Kansas City according to the report from these institutions. Specimens from the cattle shipped to Kansas City were obtained by representatives of the Federal government and were sent to the Federal Bureau Pathological Laboratory, Omaha, Nebraska for investigation. No disease was found under the investigation made by the Federal government.

Therefore, under the circumstances it is my opinion that Saline County could indemnify Mr. Shogren for whatever amount the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, Mr. Shogren

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

Board of County Commissioners,
Salina, Kansas.

-2-

and a representative of this department would agree upon
on the 48 head of cattle shipped to market and on the one
head that was ordered killed in the pasture by the Live
Stock Commissioner for experimental purposes on July 19.

Please advise me with respect to this matter at your
earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM.A

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

August 4th, 1926.

Mr. Oscar Shogren,
Assaria, Kansas.

Dear sir:

I have copy of the account sales of your 46 head of cattle and also a report from Dr. J. Fleming, Inspector in Charge B.A.I. meat inspection at Kansas City, of the post mortem inspection of the cattle.

He advises that specimens taken from two head of the cattle were sent to the Bureau Pathological Laboratory at Omaha for laboratory analysis and as soon as this report is filed we will write you further concerning the matter.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
LOCAL OFFICE

Room 23, Federal Building,
Kansas City, Kansas,
July 29, 1926.

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

Sir:

With reference to the fourth paragraph of my letter of the 27th instant concerning the Shogren cattle, please be advised that this office is in receipt of a report from the Bureau Pathological Laboratory, Omaha, Nebraska, showing the following:

Pathological findings, negative. No Negri bodies demonstrated.

Respectfully,


Inspector in Charge,
Meat Inspection.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

July 30th, 1926.

Mr. E. N. Olsson,
c/o Burlington Live Stock Comm. Co.,
Livestock Exchange Building,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear sir:

I have yours of the 28th with copy of account sales
of the Oscar Shogren cattle and thank you very much
for same.

We will do what we can in endeavoring to have Saline
county reimburse Mr. Shogren for whatever the law will
permit be done in connection with this transaction.
I am of the opinion that we can make some sort of
arrangement whereby he can be reimbursed to some extent
on the 46 head of cattle that were shipped to market
but I know of no law whereby Mr. Shogren could be
reimbursed for the cattle that died. The loss of the
21 head of cattle is an unfortunate happening but neither
the state nor the county is responsible in any way for
the loss and therefore will not be liable to Mr. Shogren
any more than they would be to any other unfortunate
person who happens to sustain losses by death or
otherwise of livestock.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

Assaria Ks 12-23-26
Mr J. H. Mercer.
Dear Sir.
Yours of 14 at hand & note
same. Now I have
had several talks with the
commissioners in regard to
this deal but I don't
think that they are going
to do anything unless
they would be advised more
thoroughly. or some
higher authority would
advise them as to indemnifying
me anything on this loss
they seem to think that
the state or your office



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

<p>CHARLES G. PAGE PRESIDENT H. VANE COEN 1ST VICE-PRES. EDW. N. OLSSON 2ND VICE-PRES. W. R. BROWN SECY & TREAS. OFFICERS</p> <p>726-28-30-32 LIVE STOCK EXCHANGE BUILDING TELEPHONE MAIN 6271</p>	<p>Burlington LIVE STOCK COMMISSION COMPANY</p> <p>INCORPORATED LIVE STOCK COMMISSION MERCHANTS</p> <p>STOCKERS AND FEEDERS A SPECIALTY STOCK YARDS KANSAS CITY, MO.</p>	<p>CATTLE CHARLES G. PAGE H. VANE COEN W. R. BROWN EDW. N. OLSSON WALLACE G. LAWS</p> <p>HOGS CHAS. L. STONER OFFICE M. G. SHERMAN</p>
--	---	--

July 28th, 1926.

Mr. J. H. Mercer,
Topeka, Kansas.
Dear Sir:

Enclosed you will find copy of account sales for two loads of steers sold for Oscar Shogren of Assaria, Kansas, these cattle were sold subject to inspection by us on the 21st of this month and we got paid for them today. If these cattle could have sold for stockers the day they arrived, they would have brought from 1.00 to 1.25 per cwt more than what the killers gave for them.

Armour & Co., could not find any thing wrong with these cattle so of course Mr. Shogren is holding the sack for this difference in the price on these cattle. I would think that the State of Kansas or Saline County, should reimburse him, the difference of what they brought and what they should have brought and also for the 21 head that he lost.

You will find Mr. Shogren is very fair in his dealings on this bunch of cattle and he cannot stand all of this loss and here is hoping that you can do something for him. Can assure you that we will appreciate it if you will take this matter up with him in the near future. Thanking you for anything that you might do for him, remain

Yours very truly,
BURLINGTON LIVE STOCK COM. CO.
BY *E. N. Olson*

BNO-W



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
LOCAL OFFICE

Room 23, Federal Building,
Kansas City, Kansas,
July 27, 1926.

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

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of July 24, 1926 concerning the Shogren cattle. For your information beg to state I received a report by telephone from Dr. Cary that these cattle were bought subject to post-mortem inspection, by Armour & Company July 23. They were driven that afternoon and yarded in Armour's pens at the plant. One animal was sick and unable to walk so it was brought over in the crib cart. Our information was that some cattle from this herd had died recently but as we had not the complete history (at the time) the cattle were held until the following morning, July 24, in order to allow time to obtain the history of the herd and for further observance of the cattle.

A very careful ante-mortem inspection was made the evening of July 23 and all the cattle appeared normal except the one mentioned above. The morning of July 24 another ante-mortem inspection was made and another steer found sick and unable to rise.

The two sick steers were condemned ante-mortem. The remainder of the herd, being normal, were permitted to go to slaughter. On post-mortem inspection one carcass was condemned for pericarditis. The remainder of the lot (with the exception of one steer affected with actinomyosis, head condemned) were normal and were passed for food.

An autopsy was conducted on the two animals condemned ante-mortem but the findings were negative. The brains of these two animals were preserved and were forwarded, July 26, to the Bureau pathological laboratory at South Omaha, Nebraska, with a request that an examination be made for evidence of rabies. You will be advised of the laboratory findings immediately upon receipt of same by this office.

About seven o'clock on the morning of the 24th, at my request, instructions were issued by the management of Armour & Company to dispose of the two sick animals soon as possible as they appeared to be suffering greatly. These instructions, it appears, were misinterpreted by the employee to whom given and he ordered the lot driven up for slaughter. Mr. McElroy, Superintendent, expressed his regret for this mistake.

Very truly yours,

J. Fleming
Inspector in Charge,
Meat Inspection.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

CHARLES G. PAGE
PRESIDENT
H. VANE COEN
1ST VICE-PRES.
EDW. N. OLSSON
2ND VICE-PRES.
W. R. BROWN
SECTY & TREAS.
~~S.M. BREITWEISER~~
~~H. VANE COEN~~
~~R.F. BOGARDUS~~
OWNERS

726-28-30-32
LIVE STOCK EXCHANGE
BUILDING
TELEPHONE MAIN 6271

Burlington

LIVE STOCK COMMISSION COMPANY

INCORPORATED
LIVE STOCK
COMMISSION MERCHANTS
STOCKERS AND FEEDERS A SPECIALTY
STOCK YARDS

CATTLE
CHARLES G. PAGE
H. VANE COEN
W. R. BROWN
EDW. N. OLSSON
WALLACE G. LAWS

~~CATTLE~~
~~S.M. BREITWEISER~~
~~H. VANE COEN~~
~~R.F. BOGARDUS~~
~~EDW. N. OLSSON~~
~~WALLACE G. LAWS~~

HOGS
CHAS. L. STONER
OFFICE
M.G. SHERMAN

KANSAS CITY, MO. 7-28 1926

Sold for account of Oscar Shopen P.O. Ossaria Ks.

PURCHASER	CATTLE	HOGS	SHEEP	WEIGHT	SOWS	STAGS	DOCK	PRICE	AMOUNT	TOTAL
Armour	34			30420				6	182520	
	12			9530				450	42885	
	46			39930						
										225405

Sold July 21st-

SHIPPED FROM		FREIGHT AND BACK CHARGES	
CAR NO.	WEIGHT	R. R.	Yardage
40053	22000	-22-48.40	Ins. Insp. 18
37630	22000	-22-48.40	Hay 675 Pounds 928
			Corn Bushels 10
			12246
			Commission 33.90
			Net proceeds E. & O. E. 15636
			2097.69

Currency 100.00 Cash
Deposited 2087.69
Credit
Use of

Copy No.



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

CHARLES G. PAGE
PRESIDENT
H. VANE COEN
1ST VICE-PRES.
EDW. N. OLSSON
2ND VICE-PRES.
W. R. BROWN
SECY. & TREAS.
~~EDWARD W. BROWN~~
~~W. R. BROWN~~
~~W. R. BROWN~~
OWNERS

726-28-30-32
LIVE STOCK EXCHANGE
BUILDING
TELEPHONE MAIN 6271

Burlington

LIVE STOCK

COMMISSION COMPANY

INCORPORATED
LIVE STOCK
COMMISSION MERCHANTS

STOCKERS AND FEEDERS A SPECIALTY
STOCK YARDS

CATTLE
CHARLES G. PAGE
H. VANE COEN
W. R. BROWN
EDW. N. OLSSON
WALLACE G. LAWS

~~EDWARD W. BROWN~~
~~W. R. BROWN~~
~~W. R. BROWN~~
~~W. R. BROWN~~
~~W. R. BROWN~~

HOGS
CHAS. L. STONER
OFFICE
M. G. SHERMAN

KANSAS CITY, MO. 7-28 1926

Sold for account of Oscar Shopen P.O. Ossaria, Ks.

PURCHASER	CATTLE	HOGS	SHEEP	WEIGHT	SOWS	STAGS	DOCK	PRICE	AMOUNT	TOTAL
<i>Ammon</i>	34			30420				6	182520	
	12			9530				450	42885	
	46			39950						225405
<p><i>Sold July 21st</i></p>										

SHIPPED FROM *Ossaria, Ks.* FREIGHT AND BACK CHARGES

CAR NO.	WEIGHT	R. R.	Yardage	Ins.	Insp.	Hay	Pounds	Corn	Bushels
40053	22000	22-48.40							
37630	22000	22-48.40				675			

9680

1610

18

928

10

12246

Commission 33.90

Net proceeds E. & O. E.

15636

2097.69

Currency *089.00* Cash

Deposited *089.69*

Credit

Use of

Copy

No.



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

A. L. SMITH, SHERIFF
C. G. RECHT, UNDERSHERIFF

COURT COVENES
SECOND TUESDAY IN MARCH
SECOND TUESDAY IN SEPTEMBER
FIRST TUESDAY IN DECEMBER



SHERIFF'S OFFICE SALINE COUNTY

SALINA, KANSAS. JULY 16th 1926

MR J.H. MERCER.
LIVE STOCK COMM.
Topeka KANSAS?

DEAR SIR.. In rea to the phone message on date of July
16. 1926. OSCAR SHUGRAN CATTLE.

I was at this place om date of July 15th and find the fowling.
on date of July the 11th Mr shugran killed three hed of these cattle
On date of July 14th ha had to kill three had.
This making A total of twelve hed he has had to kill.

I was lost to know what steps to take for the safety of the people in
this part of the County.

I would like to here from you on this case and just what to do or if any
action on my part I should do.
Please let me here from you.

Sheriff A.L.Smith.
Salina Kansas.

*West made
investigation
7/17/26
A.L.M.*

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

July 14th, 1926.

Mr. Oscar Shogren,
Assaria, Kansas.

Dear sir:

Mr. W. G. West, a representative of this department,
just filed his report of his investigation of the
trouble in your herd of cattle.

According to the report you had lost 8 head up to the
date Mr. West and Dr. Kubin were at your place on the
10th. Laboratory at Manhattan diagnosed the trouble
as rabies and Dr. Kubin's diagnosis was also rabies.
Under the circumstances it is quite difficult to advise
you what to do. It is hardly possible that the infected
cattle are transmitting the disease to the other cattle
because it would be very remote for such to happen. It
seems rather strange, however, that the disease would keep
showing up in your herd at intervals as it seems to be
doing. Usually after cattle are bitten by a mad dog
or a rabid animal of any kind the disease develops in
from 7 to 21 days and if it does not develop in that time
it very seldom ever develops. Mr. West advises you had
4 infected steers in your pasture at the time he was there
on the 10th. Of course if it is possible for you to get
those infected out of the pasture and put them in a shed
or barn it might be best but I know it is quite difficult
to handle wild western cattle in this manner. I would
suggest that if there have been any new cases develop
since Mr. West was there that you advise us and we will
have further investigation made and render you every
assistance we possibly can to eradicate the trouble.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

July 11, 1926

Mr J. H. Mercer,
Topeka, Kans.

re Rabies at Asaria

Dear Sir:-

In compliance with your letter of July 1st, I phoned Mr A. J. Petersen, Lindsborg regarding rabies outbreak of rabies in Oscar Shogren pasture 5 mi E. of Asaria. Petersen reported 5 steers dead but no sick cattle. He vaccinated all the remaining cattle with single dosage 10 c.c. Petersen assured me there was no question regarding the diagnosis of the trouble as rabies. Laboratory analysis had confirmed his findings. He felt there was no necessity of an investigation or quarantine unless other developments made their appearance. On July 9, Oscar Shogren of Asaria tried to get our Topeka office and me at McPherson all day but failed. On July 10 upon my return to McPherson I phoned Mr Shogren who urged me to come at once as several more of his steers were sick.



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

I arranged with Mr. Keelin to drive to Assaria that afternoon. Upon our arrival at the pasture we found four two year old whiteface steers sick. They would bellow, lie down with spasms, get up and run after us or attack a stone if we would throw one along the ground. One steer that was in the worst condition was killed and examined. Mr. Keelin pronounced it rabies without any question.

Mr. Shupen had lost 6 head and several more will die. I told him he would hear from you and would keep us informed regarding the matter.

Very truly yours,
W. G. Lusk

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

July 1st, 1926.

Mr. W. G. West,
McPherson, Kansas.

Dear Mr. West:

I am enclosing you correspondence which is self-explanatory.

I wish you would get in touch with Dr. Peterson and if you think it advisable make an investigation of this trouble before you come back to Topeka.

I returned from Chicago yesterday noon. We had a very successful meeting I think of the National Livestock and Meat Board. Every member of the board was present with the exception of two and everyone seemed to be feeling optimistic as to future prices of livestock.

Everything quiet around both offices during this week.

Very truly yours,

J. H. Mercer
Commissioner.

JHM:P

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

July 1st, 1926.

Dr. A. J. Peterson,
Lindsborg, Kansas.

Dear sir:

Answering your letter of the 26th ultimo.

W. G. West, a representative of this department, is taking a week's vacation in McPherson this week and I am forwarding your letter to him with the request that he get in phone communication with you and if he thought it advisable to call and establish a quarantine in your locality. No doubt Mr. West will confer with you in the next day or two.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

Lindsborg, Kans.
6-26-28.

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

Dear Sir:-

I am in receipt of a letter from the Dept. of Pathology, of the Kans. State Agricultural College containing conformation of a positive diagnosis of Rabies, on brain from steer, head of steer shipped them for examination.

This steer was one out of four that have died with similar symptoms in the last three or four weeks two of these previous to this steer that my attention was called to the fourth dying shortly after.

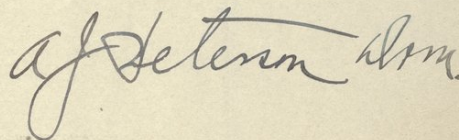
The owner suspected poisoning or some other cause as cause of death in the first two animals and nothing was done to determine cause of death.

There are some sixty head of steers in this herd in one pasture. I am at loss to know where the infection originated, as there has not been any report of any cases of rabies in dogs in this locality for some time.

This pasture is located in Saline County, five miles due east of Assaria, Kans. and are owned by Oscar Shogren, Assaria, Kans.

Any advice or suggestions that you may be able to give in this matter would be appreciated.

Yours truly,



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
MANHATTAN, KANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY

June 25, 1926

Dr. A. J. Peterson
Lindsborg, Kansas

Dear Doctor:

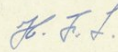
The cow head you sent us for examination has been received and examined. Our diagnosis is positive for rabies.

This letter is in confirmation of a telegraphic report sent you to the effect that the head was positive for rabies and advised that all persons bitten start the Pasteur treatment immediately.

This case should be reported by you to the Hon. J. H. Mercer, State Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner, Topeka, Kansas, together with such information as you may have relative to dogs, cats, or live stock that may have been bitten by this animal.

If there are any questions regarding this report, do not hesitate to write us.

Yours very truly,



H. F. Lienhardt
Head, Dept. of Pathology

HFL:GEC



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

Mr J. H. Mercer.
Topeka, Kans.

July 19, 1926.

Dear sir:-

On July 17, I arrived in Salina and in company with Wm Battersby County commissioner and sheriff Smith, drove to the Oscar Shogren farm and pasture east of Astoria. We found one steer nearly dead and one wild steer, both apparently suffering with rabies. Mr Shogren had previously lost 12 steers with rabies in his pasture. We posted 5 warning cards on the pasture fence.

Complaint had been made to the sheriff that two cattle had died in pasture one mile east of Shogren pasture, and had not been buried. We drove to the owner's place near Gypsum and he reported, two 600 pound yearlings had died of Blackleg about 10 days ago. He agreed to at once bury with lime the carcasses. He had marketed \$40 head of his cattle from this pasture.

I talked with a neighbor of Oscar Shogren's



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

who with his small boy had bathed
in the cement water tank in the shoppen
pasture. The man and boy were taking
the Pasteur treatment at a cost of [#]100⁰⁰

Mr Shoppen is discouraged as he
feels there are several additional cattle
in the pasture which are gaunt and
~~do not~~ seem to be loosing flesh, which
he believes will soon develop rabies
symptoms. He will keep our department
advised in case other cattle show signs
of the disease. I left a copy of the law
with Mr Shoppen, and read the section
to him which refers to the indemnity
of animals affected with rabies.

Very truly yours,

W. S. L. W.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

July 16th, 1926.

Mr. Oscar Shogren,
Assaria, Kansas.

Dear sir:

I have your letter of yesterday and note same.

The sheriff of Saline county just called me and after talking with him I concluded to send Mr. West, representative of this department, out to your place and he will likely be there tomorrow sometime, perhaps before this letter reaches you.

We want to do everything we can to help you but as stated in my letter a few days ago we were more or less at sea as to what to do because we have no knowledge of the source of the infection and under the law we can not appraise and condemn livestock infected with rabies. Mr. West and the sheriff will go over this matter with you and help you any way they can.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.

Ossana 16 6/15²⁶
Mr J. H. Mercer.
Dear Sir.
Yours of 14th at hand.
To day. & note what
you say. —
On Sunday. morning after
Mr West & Kukin was at
my. pasture. We went
out there & dug down
3 of those 1 was dead & 2
we shot. ~~the~~ yesterday
we went out there & buried
3 more 1 dead. & 2 we shot
so we put 3. in a truck
& sprinkled with lime.
before covering up. & we
are doing every thing to

protect our neighbors
cattle. but this seems
a strange affair if
these cattle only 66 head
on 240 acres past & on the
4. sides is 442 cattle & then
on south we run into
what is generally called the
ridge and all grass past
mephoson or for 30 miles

We had a party 1 mile
east of here that had
a bunch of young cattle
that was shipped to
market. that the report
is that they died from
Black leg. but they had
been vaccinated by the

the Liquid this spring
so they should not show
up on this dry grass now
I was told that they
just kept on shrinking
and died. & the opinion
of some seem to be that
they had it to.

We have one that
seems to have had it &
seems to recover it is not
getting any more. so
we are thinking that
maybe we don't feel like
killing any more. there were
a good drove of cattle just
a lot of 100 to 1200 cattle of a
costing 2.75 to 5.00 @ K.C. in
Dec. weighing 847. Run cattle

done extraordinary untill
6 weeks ago since they have
been losing all of them
it seems to be a difficult
thing to know what to
do here to
Now even i believe it
would be a good step to
have some one here
that had some authority
hoping to hear from you
again.
and yours
Oscar Shogren

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

EDISON F. KUBIN, D. V. M.
Veterinarian

McPHERSON, KANSAS.

July, 13, 1926

Hon. J. H. Mercer,
Topeka, Kansas
Dear Mr. Mercer;

Under date of July 10th. Mr. West and myself visited the pasture containing 57 head of two year old steers owned by Oscar Schogren, Assyria, Kansas. As had been reported by Mr. Schogren, five steers of this herd had already died. Dr. A. J. Peterson of Lindsborg had been called two weeks previous to our visit and made a diagnosis of rabies. The head of one steer was sent to Manhattan and a laboratory examination confirmed the diagnosis of rabies. Mr. Schogren informed us that all of the steers had the same symptoms and that he was sure they had rabies but was anxious to know where the matter would terminate. Dr. Peterson injected 10cc rabies vaccine per head on June 29. We found five steers sick on our visit and all showing well marked symptoms of rabies. In our judgement they were infected before the vaccination on the 29 of June. Whether all ten steers were bitten at the same time and showed a different incubation period we could not state definitely. While it does not seem probable that a sick steer would bite others in the herd it isn't reasonable to presume such to be impossible. When a stone was rolled on the ground in front of one of the sick steers he made biting motions at it. If we would presume it impossible for the bite to be made by the front teeth we still have the possibility of a bite by the first grinders either by taking hold of the tail or the leg below the knee. Before leaving the subject of infection I believe it could have taken place in either of the two ways, that is, by having all been bitten at the same time or that a sick steer could bite several and thus keep the disease going in the herd.

There are other cattle in pastures near this one but none of the infected animals have been out nor even made an attempt to do so, besides there being good fences, which reasons lead us to believe that the spread of infection from this immediate herd is not very probable.

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

EDISON F. KUBIN, D. V. M.
Veterinarian

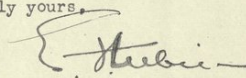
McPHERSON, KANSAS.

I believe Mr. Schogren was satisfied with Petersons diagnosis but rather was anxious to know if possible when more steers would cease coming down. We left the impression with him that probably no more would get sick which conclusion I think is correct.

I am not going into the history of this herd, I presume Peterson has already given this.

Mrs. West just informed me that Mr. West was in Topeka so you will get from him any points that I have omitted.

Very truly yours,





Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

July 1st, 1926.

Mr. W. G. West,
McPherson, Kansas.

Dear Mr. West:

I am enclosing you correspondence whith is self-explanatory.

I wish you would get in touch with Dr. Peterson and if you think it advisable make an investigation of this trouble before you come back to Topeka.

I returned from Chicago yesterday noon. We had a very successful meeting I think of the National Livestock and Meat Board. Every member of the board was present with the exception of two and everyone seemed to be feeling optimistic as to future prices of livestock.

Everything quiet around both offices during this week.

Very truly yours,

JHM:P

Commissioner.