

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

Section 42, Pages 1231 - 1260

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

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



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

J. (LESS) WHITE
RES. PHONE WESTPORT 0808

OFFICE PHONE MAIN 6016

B. T. BOWERSOX
ED BOWEN

E. SMART, OFFICE

LESS WHITE
LIVE STOCK COMMISSION CO.
400-402 Live Stock Exchange

BANK REFERENCES
RANDALL NATIONAL BANK
RANDALL, KANSAS
ANY BANKS AT
MANEATO, KANSAS
THE GEM STATE BANK
GEM, KANSAS

STOCK YARDS
KANSAS CITY, MO.

Aug-25-1927.

J.H.Mercer
Topeka Kansas;-
Dear Friend;-

I wrote ,or rather phoned you for a special permit to ship some young feeding bulls to C.A.Lindahl Agenda Kansas.Now Mr Mercer he is a very reliable man as I told your Mr West, and will do just exactly as he agrees to do, and he wants these bulls to feed.He will Castrate each one upon arrival at Agenda, and it will be a real favor to him if you will permit him to castrate them there instead of here.It is hard on them to castrate here and then ship that far,and there is chance for loss in case some of them bleed badly,as there would be no way to take care of them in transit.

He wants to buy several loads of them,and if you will grant us this special favor,I will appreciate it and I know that Mr Lindahl will certainly feel greatful.

He can attend to them at home, and he thinks can have a smaller death loss if handled that way.

We have one load bought ready to ship tomorrow and if you will let them go as per above,wish you would phone me in the morning at Main 6016,Kansas City,and let me know as we have not had them castrated as yet but will do so if we don't get the permission from you to ship them,attended to at destination.

Thanking you for this favor,if it is possible for you to grant it,I am yours very truly-

Less White Comm Co
By *J. Less White*

Mr Mercer:-

Aug. 22, Les White, commission
man at K. C. phoned asking for
permit to ship bulls off K. C.
market for feeding purposes
to C. R. Lindahl at Agenda.
White vouches for Lindahl
and will make affidavit as to
his reliability. Had bad luck
castrating at K. C. last year.
I agreed to write White
immediately upon your return.



(W. H. W.)





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

August 2, 1927

Dr. T. A. Fowler,
805 Live Stock Exchange,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of recent date which has to do with the handling of reactor cattle at the public stockyards at Kansas City, I am enclosing you correspondence in connection with this matter that explains itself.

I call your special attention to Dr. E. J. Carey's letter to Dr. Fleming under date of July 27th. And also to my letter of this date to Dr. Fleming. After you have gone over and studied carefully the contents of this correspondence, write me any suggestions or information that you might have in connection therewith.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.

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



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

805 Live Stock Ex. Bldg.
Kansas City, Mo.

J. H. Mercer,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir,

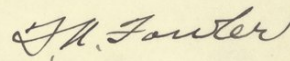
Yours at hand, with reference to the meeting held here July 14th, for the purpose of setting aside pens for reactor cattle.

I wish to advise that I will keep in close touch with the situation and will co-operate in every way possible with the Stock Yard and Government officials, in carrying out their plans or new methods. Although, I think the method now used is very good, and I am of the opinion, after the Government gets through experimenting on the proposition, that they will find out the system now used is good enough.

So far as any reactor cattle getting away, or disposed of, other than for immediate slaughter, coming from Kansas, must say, I have no knowledge of such. Our records will also show, that the reactor animals have been properly identified. Anyway, in comparing the number of reactor cattle coming to the yards from Missouri, with the number from Kansas, would be the same comparison as the state of Maryland with Kansas, in the live stock industry. Because the state of Missouri don't do much tuberculin testing, therefore, they should not have ~~much trouble~~ any trouble identifying their reactors. And I don't think we need any advice coming from them, telling us how to run our business.

Yours truly,

TAF-DCW.



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

August 2, 1927

Dr. J. Fleming,
Inspector in Charge,
Kansas City, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I have yours of the 27th ult. with enclosure from Dr. E. J. Carey which has to do with the handling of reactor cattle from Kansas at the Kansas City stockyards.

I am surprised at the contents of Dr. Carey's letter. I am surprised that Dr. Carey has not notified me or notified you so that you could have done so, as to the difficulty your department has had in handling Kansas reactors. I would be very glad for you to have a report furnished me at any time he finds reactor cattle sold at the Kansas City yards which entails the trouble he referred to in identifying and the final disposition of Kansas reactors. Also, as to whether or not the representatives of this department are co-operating in every way with your department in giving you the information as to the Kansas reactors shipped to the Kansas City market. Also, if Dr. Carey has any records where he has found reactor cattle that have passed into speculators hands or passed to the packing house before identification was made, furnish us with such record.

I thank you for sending Dr. Carey's letter and I assure you that I will look into this quite thoroughly as we do not want any such irregularities to prevail in the disposition of reactor cattle as is indicated in Dr. Carey's letter.

Thanking you, I am

Very truly yours,

JHM/m

Commissioner.



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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
LOCAL OFFICE

23 Federal Building,
Kansas City, Kansas,
July 27, 1927.

Mr. J. H. Mercer,
L. S. S. Commissioner,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of July 25, 1927, relative to certain statements made by Dr. E. J. Cary at the conference held here July 14th, inclosed herewith is letter from Dr. Cary, which is self-explanatory.

Very respectfully,

J. Fleming
Inspector in Charge.



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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
LOCAL OFFICE

800 Live Stock Exchange,
Kansas City, Missouri,
July 27, 1927.

Dr. J. Fleming,
Inspector in Charge,
Kansas City, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to a letter received by you from Mr. J. H. Mercer, under date of July 25, 1927, regarding my statements at the conference held in the live stock exchange office July 14th, relative to the handling of reactors.

From the contents of Mr. Mercer's letter, I am of the opinion that he misinterpreted the meaning of my statement to the effect that reactors had recently been sold at the Kansas City Stock Yards for purposes other than immediate slaughter. My intention was to advise Mr. Mercer of the fact that on several occasions Kansas reactors had been marketed at these yards before the Kansas office, this office, or the commission firm had received any notice or advice that the shipment contained reactor animals. I have personally been to the speculator division on numerous occasions to identify Kansas reactors that had been sold to speculators before this office or the Kansas office here had knowledge of their being here. I have also been to the packers pens and to all the large packing plants here to identify and tag Kansas reactors that had been sold straight before anyone here knew of their being reactors. At Cudahy's and Armour's I have even traced them to the killing floor and identified them by the ear tag on the hide in the hide cellar.

If a certificate had been attached to the waybills our bill man would have found them on arrival of the shipments and advised us to that effect.

Very respectfully,

E. J. Dargy

Supervising Inspector.

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

July 25, 1927

Dr. J. Fleming,
Inspector in Charge,
23 Federal Bldg.,
Kansas City, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

In discussing the disposition of tubercular reactors on the 14th instant, Dr. Carey referred two or three times to the fact that reactors had come to the stockyards at Kansas City and had been sold for purposes other than immediate slaughter recently. He also made mention a time or two that the Missouri plan of disposing of reactors prevented any such happening.

While I did not raise the question at the time, as to where the reactors that were shipped to the Kansas City yards and sold for purposes other than immediate slaughter originated, I assumed that he meant reactors shipped out of Kansas. Since the conference we have had the records in this office with respect to the disposition of Kansas reactors checked over and we do not find where a single reactor shipped to the Kansas City market has been disposed of for any purpose other than immediate slaughter. Or in other words, we have a killing report on all the reactors shipped from the state for more than a year past.

I wish you would have Dr. Carey either write me or you advise me as to whether or not the reactors he referred to were reactor cattle out of Kansas and if so, to furnish me any record he might have in connection with the matter.

I am asking for this for the reason if there has been any Kansas reactors gotten away we would like to know it. I have instructed our representative at the Kansas City market to co-operate with you in every way in working out the plan that was talked over at the conference.

Very truly yours,

JHM/11

Commissioner.

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

July 12, 1927.

Mr. W. H. Weeks, Vice President,
Kansas City Stock Yards Company,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mr. Weeks:

Some time ago Dr. Fleming spoke to me about having a meeting at Kansas City to discuss the handling of dairy cattle that are unloaded for feed and rest at public stock yards and the setting aside of pens for the handling of reactor cattle etc.

I have called this meeting for 4 o'clock Thursday evening of this week. I have asked Dr. H. A. Wilson, State Veterinarian of Missouri to be present, also the Sanitary Committee of the Exchange and Dr. Fleming.

Please arrange to attend this meeting or have someone present to represent the stock yards company.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM:A





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

July 12, 1927.

Mr. B. C. Biggerstaff, Secretary,
Live Stock Exchange,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mr. Biggerstaff:

Some time ago Dr. Fleming spoke to me about having a meeting at Kansas City to discuss the handling of dairy cattle that are unloaded for feed and rest at public stock yards and the setting aside of pens for the handling of reactor cattle etc.

I have called this meeting for 4 o'clock Thursday evening of this week at your office. I am writing you instead of to the Sanitary Committee knowing that you will have present at the meeting whoever the Exchange wishes to be there.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM:A

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

July 12, 1927.

Dr. J. Fleming,
Inspector in Charge,
23 Federal Bldg.,
Kansas City, Kansas.

Dear Doctor:

Referring to our conversation a short time ago in Kansas City with respect to calling a meeting to discuss the handling of dairy cattle which are unloaded for feed and rest at public stock yards and the setting aside of pens for handling tubercular reactors etc.

I have called this conference for 4 o'clock Thursday July 14 at the office of the Secretary of the Kansas City Live Stock Exchange. I am writing Mr. Weeks and Mr. Biggerstaff to have interested persons present and would suggest that you have anyone to attend this meeting that you think should be there.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM.A

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

February 14, 1927

Dr. J. Fleming,
23 Federal Building,
Kansas City, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Answering yours of the 10th instant.

I hardly think I will have time to arrange for a conference to be held at Kansas City in connection with the matter of segregating tuberculin reactors, etc., until after our annual convention at Wichita on the 23rd, 24th and 25th of this month, as I will be in Wichita most all of next week. Will look after this matter, however, soon after the convention and advise you as to the date the conference will be held.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
LOCAL OFFICE

23 Federal Building,
Kansas City, Kansas,
February 10, 1927.

Mr. J. H. Mercer,
L. S. S. Commissioner,
Topeka, Kansas.

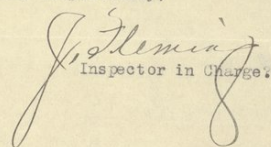
Dear Sir:

Reference is made to conference held in the office of the Secretary of the Live Stock Exchange, Kansas City, Mo., on February 5th, at which time the matter of segregating tuberculin reactors on arrival at the Kansas City Stock Yards was mentioned.

Acting on your suggestion wish to advise that any date you wish to set for the calling of the meeting to discuss the matter will be agreeable to me.

I am heartily in accord with your suggestion that Dr. H. A. Wilson, State Veterinarian of Missouri, be invited to attend this meeting, and would suggest that when the date is decided that Dr. Wilson, as well as other interested persons, be invited to attend.

Very respectfully,


Inspector in Charge.



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

Muscow

July 11, 1927.

Dr. H. A. Wilson, State Veterinarian,
Jefferson City, Mo.

Dear Doctor:

You will recall that the tuberculosis committee of the United States Live Stock Sanitary Association at their last session recommended the setting aside of pens at public markets for the purpose of handling dairy cattle moving interstate etc.

Dr. J. Fleming, Inspector in Charge at Kansas City, suggests that we meet at the stock yards at Kansas City and talk this matter over. Therefore, I would be pleased to have you meet with us about 4 o'clock Thursday evening, of this week, in the Secretary's office in the Live Stock Exchange Building, Kansas City.

Trusting that you can arrange matters so that you will be able to meet with us at that time, I am

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM:A

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

August 3, 1927

Mr. E. Bruce Brunson,
Co. Agent,
Saint Francis, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of the 29th ult. with enclosure and note same. I think your plan of advertising Cheyenne county as a tuberculosis free area a very good one.

With respect to the apparent dissatisfaction on the part of some of your people as to the tuberculosis testing, etc., I call your special attention to rule 18 on page 45 of the biennial report recently sent you. You will note that the rule cites that it has been fully determined that cattle reacting to the tuberculin test are infected with the disease regardless of whether or not they show any visible tuberculosis lesions under post mortem. Occasionally there are reactors that go to market that show no tuberculosis lesions under the post mortem test and of course they are classed O.K. The O.K. appearing on the chart would only indicate that the carcass of the animal passed all right for food. In many instances where tuberculosis lesions are found in cattle, the carcasses are passed for food. In fact, there is only about 2 percent of all reactors slaughtered that are condemned as being unfit for food.

Of course, we know there are objectors to every progressive move even though it be tending toward the betterment of health not only of livestock but of the human family as well and we have to deal with such people as best as possible. The only suggestion I have to make is that you inform any objector you might find in your county that they are in a class of less than 3 percent of the livestock owners in the county and other counties where the county tuberculosis free area work has been done.

I note the records show that K. W. McDonald of Benkelman, Nebraska, had two reactors and that his herd has not been retested. You might confer with Dr. Matney and if he wishes to test the McDonald and Rath herds of cattle have him write me and tell me about what it will cost for him to do the work. If we can we will have him make the retest of these two herds of cattle. Should the expense be too great just to test these two herds we will have the state or federal representatives retest these herds while doing the work in Rawlins county.

We have been having very heavy rains in this section of Kansas during the past two or three weeks. Hope that you have



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Brunson #2

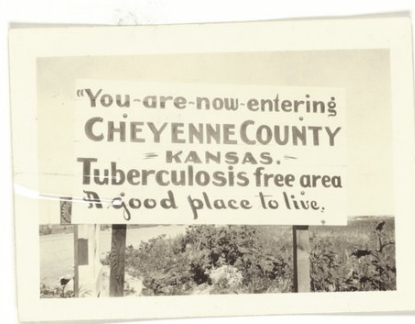
been getting plenty of rain also in your section of the state
and that you will have good corn and other farm crops this
year.

Very truly yours,

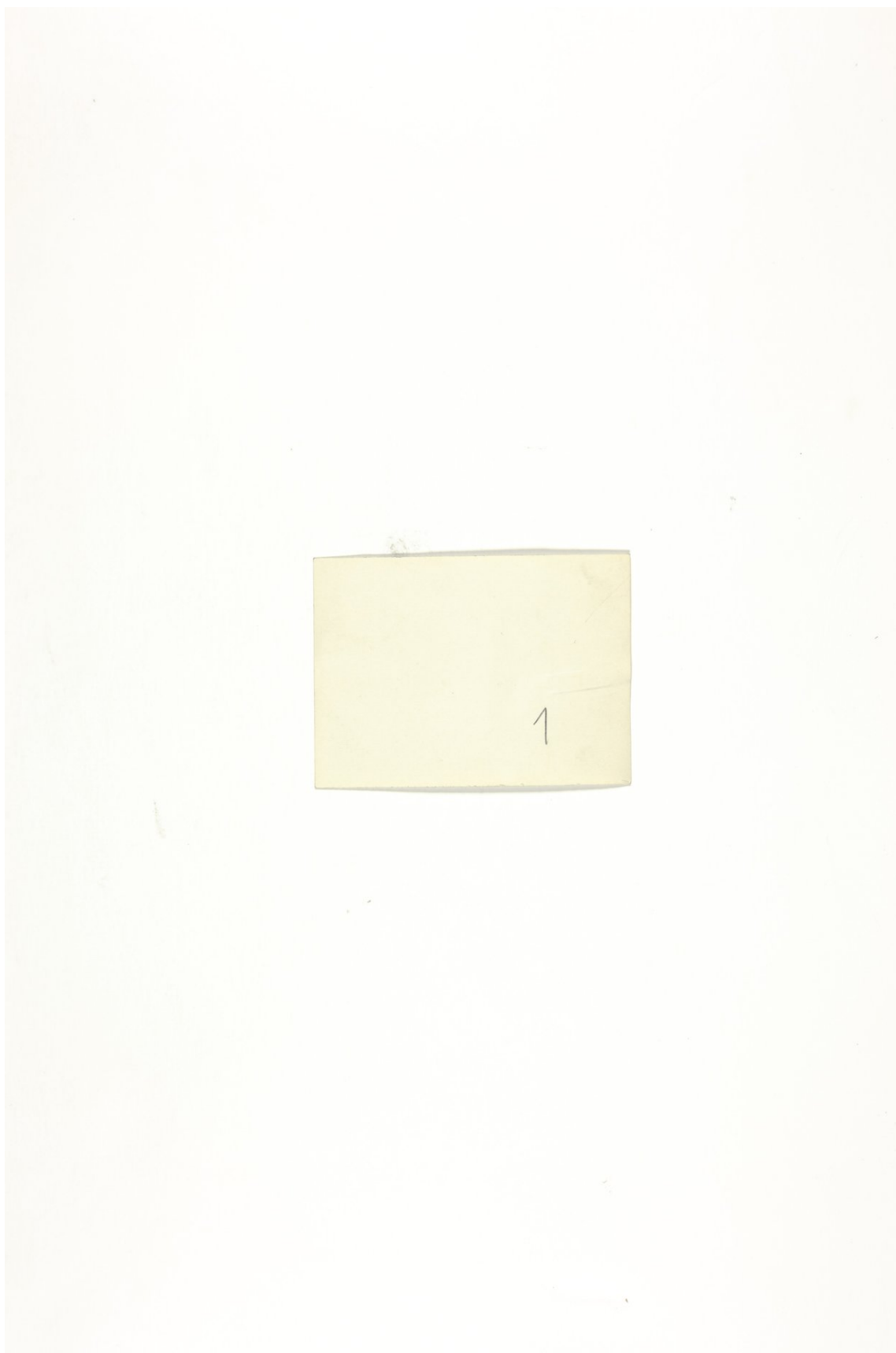
JHE/M

Commissioner.

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



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





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

CO-OPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF KANSAS

Kansas State Agricultural College, United
States Department of Agriculture and Chey-
enne County Farm Bureau Co-operating.

Extension Service
County Agent Work

SAINT FRANCIS KANSAS
July 29, 1927.

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

Dear Mr. Mercer:

Quite a little misunderstanding has arisen in this county as a result of the statements which the owners of reactor cattle have received after the animals have been slaughtered. It appears that one of the columns is to indicate how the cattle passed the inspection test. Many of them are marked "O. K.". I understand of course, that this means that the edible parts of the carcass is O. K. and that the tuberculosis lesions are in other parts of the carcass. However, many of the farmers who have received these statements feel that the animal did not have any tuberculosis at all and as I understand, quite a few criticism of tests is on that account.

I realize of course, that the test is all over so far as this county is concerned for this year but I could not refrain from making the suggestion that if the forms were made differently it might prevent similar misunderstandings in other counties.

I understand also there is some dissatisfaction because K. W. McDonald's herd was not retested. As I recall it, Mr. McDonald, whose address is Benkelman, Nebraska had one or more reactors on the first test and refused to have his cattle tested on the retest.

I am very much interested in having the tuberculosis eradication work in this county go over smoothly and if you care to have Dr. Matney take care of the herds of K. W. McDonald of Benkelman and Gris Rath of Haigler, I will be glad to speak to him about it.

You probably will be interested also in receiving the inclosed picture. It shows the sign which greets all the people entering this county over the six Highways entering the county. Four of them are on the state line.

Very truly yours,

E. Bruce Brunson

E. Bruce Brunson,
County Agricultural Agent.

EBB:CF

Cheyenne Co



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

May 13, 1927

Mr. K. W. McDonald,
Benkelman, Nebr.

Dear Sir:

Answering your letter of the 10th. On looking up the records in connection with the disposition of two reactor cattle belonging to you last April, I find that all the information was furnished you that could be furnished you in connection with the disposition of the two cows. You are entirely mistaken when you say we refused to answer your letter. Furthermore, we have no letter from you under date of April 2nd, as you state. We have a letter from you under date of March 25th and answered same on April 2nd and am enclosing you a copy of the government post mortem of the reactor cattle in question.

There can be but little doubt but what you received the letter in question because it was never returned to this office. I am enclosing a copy, however, of the letter for your information.

Had you noticed on the bottom of the post mortem report you would have noted the name of the inspector that inspected your cattle at Kansas City was Dr. Fleming and if you desire to write him you can address him at 22 Federal Building Kansas City, Kansas. In this connection you are advised that there has been nothing asked of you in connection with the retesting of your herd of cattle other than what is asked and required of every other owner of tubercular infected herds of cattle. Of course, it is presumed that you are a law abiding citizen and under the law we could compel you to have your herd tested at your expense any day that we might set, but we do not wish to be arbitrary in matters of this kind even though your actions have not been of friendly co-operation and we will try and arrange to have your herd of cattle retested sometime in the future when we are testing other herds of infected cattle in your locality and if we can will do this at state's expense.

In the meantime, you are directed not to dispose of any of your cattle for any purpose other than immediate slaughter and should you want to do so advise this department. I am of the opinion should you appeal to any court or attorney that they will advise you that you have made a mistake.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.



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

Benkelman Nebr
May 10, 1927.
J. H. Mercer.

Sir:

In reply to your letter
May 4th, I wrote you ap^{pr}ox
for the inspectors address
at Kansas City who promi-
sed the cows O.K. and
you refused to aug my
letter. I believe the
courts will give me
this right to hear from
him (the inspector) and
then you can test
herd as often as you
want too.

Respt. A. L. McDonald

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

April 2, 1927.

Mr. K. W. McDonald,
Benkelman, Nebraska.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of March 25, wish to say we have looked up the records in this office and find that reactors tagged 8317 and 8316 showed lesions of tuberculosis under post mortem examination. For your information we are enclosing copy of post mortem report.

Tag No. 8318 did not show lesions of tuberculosis under post mortem examination. However, under federal Bureau of Animal Industry regulations an animal that is classed as a reactor under the tuberculin test is considered a diseased animal whether tuberculous lesions are found under post mortem examination or not. The fact that no lesions are found does not necessarily mean that the animal was not infected with tuberculosis. Therefore, as stated above, the animal is classed as diseased and you would not be entitled to the full appraised value.

Trusting that this letter will explain the matter to you fully, I am

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

A



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

Bunkelman Neb
March, 23, 1927
Livestock Sanitary Commissioner
Topeka Kan.
Dear Sir:
The three cows that were
condemned at T.B. were
shipped and sold and passed
Q.H. Therefore I think I
am entitled to their appra-
ised value \$90, \$40, \$60 or \$210.
I have recd from Comm. Co
\$94.75. The cows passing Q.H.
I claim I am entitled to
the remainder \$115.25.
Yours truly
A.H. McDonald

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

Objector

May 4, 1927.

Mr. K. W. McDonald,
Benkelman, Nebraska.

Dear Mr. McDonald:

It has been brought to my attention that your refused to permit the government veterinarian to test your cattle when he called at your place recently for the purpose.

I am quite sure you do not understand the matter or you would not object to having your cattle tested. You no doubt are aware that 85% of the farmers and livestock owners in your county signed a petition and sent it to this office requesting that all the dairy and breeding cattle in the county be tested for tuberculosis. The regulation under which this work is being done requires that all dairy and breeding cattle in the county be tested; also that all other cattle that cannot be kept segregated from the tested cattle must be tested. This testing is done free of charge to owners who cooperate with this department and the veterinarians who are doing the work.

However, if we are put to extra expense and trouble in testing any particular herd, the law gives us authority to charge such expense to the owner of the herd. Therefore, when you have thought this matter over, I feel sure you will decide that the best thing for you to do is to cooperate with us and have your cattle tested now so that the work can be done free of charge to you.

Kindly let me hear from you as to what your decision is.

Very truly yours,

JHM:MH

Commissioner.



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

O. B. CLARK, PRESIDENT
E. S. CARMAN, VICE-PRESIDENT
FAY WARD, SEC.-TREAS.

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SAINT FRANCIS, KANSAS
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT
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WILLIAM COOK, Prairie Rose
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JOHN RAMSEY, South Fork
G. P. HAWTHORNE, Star
C. G. DEVOSE, Sunny Ridge
JOHN WEAVER, Sunnyside
P. M. HUBLECK, Walter
FAY WARD, Wheeler

April 22, 1927.

Object

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

Through Dr. N. L. Townsend:

Dear Sir:

This is to advise in the course of retesting
Cheyenne County, Mr. K. W. McDonald refuses the
test of his herd. Mr. McDonald's address is
Benkelman, Nebraska. The herd is located in
Cheyenne County.

The Kephart & McDonald is included in the
McDonald lot.

Very truly yours,
E. E. Cannon

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

August 4, 1927

Dr. B. C. Harrison,
315 E. Waterman,
Wichita, Kansas.

Dear Doctor:

I am enclosing check for \$175.64 covering your salary and expense for the month of July.

Dr. Dotson started his vacation on Monday the 1st and is to return to his station on August 15th. Therefore, I want you to arrange to go to Comanche county either Sunday the 14th or Monday the 15th to look after the following: Call on the county agent, Fred Sykes. I have written him that you would be in Coldwater the fore part of the week beginning August 15th to test the Baby Beef Club calves. He will arrange to take you from place to place. There are 11 head of these calves to be tested.

Also, while you are in Comanche county call on Thompson Bros., of Coldwater and Jacks and Bromett of Coldwater and find out just where their cattle are located and make an inspection of same for mange. The records show that Thompson Bros., had a shipment of cattle just recently at the market that were found to be infected with scab. I have a letter from Thompson Bros., advising that they had purchased the cattle in question from Jacks & Bromett and Jacks & Kimplo. They also advised that there were cattle back in the pasture from which the cattle that were shipped were taken. It will take you the most of the week to look after this matter in Comanche county.

The week following - the week beginning August 22 go over to Yates Center and inspect sheep belonging to the following: Joe Steiner, H. H. Peters, Fred Frevert, H. W. Thatcher, W. A. Moerer, H. J. Moerer and Geo. Mossoth of Piqua. Dr. Christenson made an inspection of this outbreak of scab in sheep around Yates Center and Toronto and advised the people as to what to do but I have written them that I would have you make an inspection of the sheep along the last of this month and determine whether or not they had cured up the mange among their sheep.

I have written E. C. Furstenberg, 927 North Market, Wichita, that you would get in touch with him and make an inspection of his band of sheep if necessary and give him suggestions as to cleaning up the mange trouble in his band of sheep.

I am leaving tomorrow morning for a short vacation and will be back here in the office along about the 25th. While I am

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

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away Mr. West will be in charge and you can confer with him should you need to in regards to any matters pertaining to the work.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.

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

August 4, 1927

Mr. J. H. King,
Secretary, Wichita Live Stock Exchange Bldg.,
Wichita, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 29th
ult.

I expect to be in Wichita sometime in the near future and will make it a point to see you and have a talk with you concerning the work of our department on the yards at Wichita that does not seem to be satisfactory to you. I might add, however, that you failed to give me the names of the shippers who have been objecting, as you state, to having their cattle tested, and also the names of the party you claim that we had written the "hot" letter to. Would like to have some of this data when I talk this matter over with you.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.



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

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The Wichita Live Stock Exchange Assn.

CHAS. E. HAMILTON, SECRETARY

WICHITA, KANSAS

July 29, 1927.

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

Dear Sir:

I have put off answering your letter of June 3, 1927, in which you challenge some statements in a letter written by me to Mr. R. L. Cuff, of Kansas City April 28, 1927, thinking possibly I might be able to see you here and take this matter up with you personally, as often times there can be misunderstanding thru correspondence, however, I do not wish to let your letter go unanswered any longer.

First I wish to rehearse the Meeting with you, Mr. Cuff, a representative of The Wichita Union Stock Yards Co., myself and others, which meeting was asked for by Mr. Cuff and not myself and which I was asked to attend. When I told you all cattle going into T. B. Free Counties from The Wichita Yards, including steers, had to be T. B. Tested you seemed to be surprised and rather doubted the statement, and asked if our records here at the Yards would show that this was being done. I told you that our records would show this to be the case unless the party signed an Affidavit and you corrected me by stating this was not an Affidavit, simply a blank form that you furnished.

You further stated in about these words "that the steers did not give milk or that we did not use milk from the steers, and that their meat was inspected at the Packing Co., before being offered for consumption and that you didn't see any reason for Testing these steers", which we all agreed. You further stated that you was going to check this up with Dr. Dotson and give us some relief on this T. B. testing of steers if you found same was being done, but up to date there has been no change, unless it is the Testing of more steers than before.

Now getting back to the statement or statements that you choose to challenge. Sometime after this Meeting with you we, that is the Firm with whom I am connected, had a customer from a T. B. Free County who wished to buy a few steers and truck them home, we sold him the steers and I told him I didn't think there would be any trouble about getting them out without being T. B. Tested, but when I went to Dr. Dotson for the Health Certificate, he refused to issue same unless the steers were Tested



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or the party sign one of those Blank Forms agreeing to keep all cattle not T. B. Tested segregated from those that had been so Tested. I told the customer that if I were he I would just sign the Form and go ahead with my steers, but he said he did not care to do this, as he had previously signed one of those Forms, his cattle got mixed, your office was notified of this by someone and he thinks he knows who notified you, and that he received a number of letters from you, or your office, that were such that he did not care to have a recurrence of this situation, but with words probably a good deal more forceable than I am using. So he had the steers Tested as we have had to do in all cases since then, where they went into T. B. Free Counties, unless the mentioned Form was first signed. This same party happened to be back at the yards a few days after I received your letter of June 3, 1927, and I again questioned him as to whether he was sure that he had received any letters from you, and that he said he received one and he thought two, so I accept your challenge, Mr. Mercer, that every statement made in my letter to Mr. Cuff, as well as this letter to you are true, as was given to me by this party.

You further state in your letter of June 3, 1927 that Dr. Dotson's instructions here at Wichita are the same as Dr. Fowler's at Kansas City, I do not question this, but I was in Kansas City a week or so ago and I made it a point to call on a number of Commission Men there and inquired about the Testing of steers going into Kansas T. B. Free Counties, and with no exception they informed me they were not required to Test steers.

Now Mr. Mercer, there seems to be a hitch somewhere and somewhere along the line I am not getting all the facts, for it seems to me if steers are allowed to move off of the K. C. Market we should be entitled to the same privilege here.

You mention that you believe your records will show that your services meet the approval of the livestock producers of Kansas, I do not question this in the least, nor do I wish you to get the impression that I wish to interfere, dictate, or offer any suggestions as to how you should handle your business, but it does seem strange to me that 90% of the patrons of this market that come here to purchase cattle to go into these T. B. Free Counties, do not seem to know they have to have their steers Tested.

Now Mr. Mercer, I want it understood that this letter is written in a most friendly spirit with nothing at all personal and only with an attitude of trying to get an