

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

Section 56, Pages 1651 - 1680

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

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

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

March 17, 1928.

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

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find federal appraisement forms covering a reactor belonging to G. J. Schmidt, Wichita. The animal was tested by Dr. L. E. Dietrich.

I wish you would stop on your way to Pratt County or on your way back at Kingman and call on W. S. Speer, the county agent, and have him advise you as to where one John Saner lives. Drive out to the Saner farm and find out all you can about how many cattle he has, how he handles them and whether or not he has been losing very many calves. It is thought that his herd is infected with contagious abortion and that he is very careless in taking care of his cattle. Get all the particulars you can about it and make a report on same. I would not tell him anything about who reported this only that I have instructed you to make the investigation.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM.A



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

March 27, 1928

Mr. N. L. Rucker,
Co. Agent,
Goodland, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Answering your letter of the 24th instant.
an

At this time we are conducting/experimental tuberculosis test of poultry in Jefferson county. we are conducting this test for the purpose of ascertaining if possible the extent of avian tuberculosis in poultry flocks of this county. So far we never have issued any regulations with respect to the testing of poultry. Therefore, there is no reason why you could not conduct a test if you wish. We could not use any funds for the purpose of testing poultry flocks because there are so many counties on the waiting list for the county free area work. If the experiment in Jefferson county shows that there is a need of state-wide efforts to eradicate avian tuberculosis, then we will ask the next legislature for an appropriation for the purpose. Until that time, however, we could not use any of our funds for this work.

There is quite a careful record kept of all hogs shipped out of clean area counties to the public markets by the packers. They furnish us these records weekly, which gives this department an opportunity to confer with the owners of hogs shipped from free area counties retained as being infected with tuberculosis. I know of no better plan than is now in vogue with the exception if it were possible to tattoo all hogs out of free area counties we could then get a direct check on these hogs so we could tell on what farm they originated. Packers are asking that this be done and it may be that they will require same, but we are opposing any requirement of the kind for the present until we get at least a majority of the counties in the state accredited under the free area plan.

Would be glad to have you give me a report on any work you might do among the poultry flocks of your county and should you do any testing also advise as to the extent of reactors. I might add further that since there is no state or federal regulations with respect to the disposition of poultry that the best plan to follow would be for the owners to sell any reactor birds that you might find for immediate slaughter. It would not be necessary for them to sell them as reacting to the tuberculin test but of course they should not be sold for any other purpose than

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

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killing purposes.

If there is any other information we can give
you in respect to this matter, will be glad to have you write
us.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.



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

TELEPHONE
OFFICE, 618
RESIDENCE, 26

OFFICE, 1107 1/2 MAIN ST.
OFFICE DAY, SATURDAY

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

KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE AND SHERMAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU, COOPERATING

EXTENSION SERVICE
COUNTY AGENT WORK

GOODLAND

March 24, 1928

Mr. J. H. Mercer
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Mercer:

I am wondering just exactly how you would suggest to go about checking up on the men we find are still shipping T.B. hogs. Would it be practical to attempt to test their poultry, and hogs kept for breeding purposes? In this case would you pay the expenses of the local veterinarian to do this work, or would it be permissible for me to make this test? Since the herds and flocks can not be condemned I thought possibly I could make the test myself.

We have a farm lady here, Mrs. Milton Parish of Ruleton, who has made such tests on her own and some of her neighbors flocks for several years. She has been successful in eradicating tuberculosis in her own flock.

If it is practical for a County Agent to make this test, would you furnish tuberculin and an instrument to do the work? I would much prefer to have the work done by one of the Hartwig boys if you can take care of the expenses of such work, but know it will be impractical to make the test if the farmer has to pay the expenses of it.

One buyer has shipped 190 head that were marked, this was Mr. McIntyre. Mr. Zuspann, a direct shipper, has been collecting premium but not marking his hogs. So far as I know he has been remitting the full amount of the premium to the hog owner, the same as Mr. McIntyre has. Any assistance in this work you can give us will be very greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

N. L. Rucker
County Agricultural Agent

NLR:IKP

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



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

Canton, Kans., Mar 27, 1928.

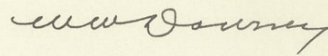
Mr J.H. Mercer,
Topeka, Kans.

Dear Mr Mercer:

Herewith appraisements on Sedgwick County reactors as follows: J.R. Hemphill, Wichita, one, John McMillan, Bayneville, two, Fred Fries, Cheney, one. County Commissioner, F.C. Joergenson made these appraisements and handed them to me when I was in the Court House this noon.

These cattle have or will have been delivered to the Wichita market. Dr potson has been notified.

Yours truly,



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



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER

TOPEKA
Canton, Kans., Mar. 27, 1928.

Mr J.H. Mercer,
Topeka, Kans.

Dear Mr Mercer:

In compliance with the County Agents of Pratt County, I am leaving for Pratt today. He advised me last week that if the weather continued good and no other interference, that they would complete the work in that County Friday. That being the case, I will stay and finish the work on this trip.

Any further work for Pratt County reaching your office, please send to me at Pratt in care of the County Agent.

Yours truly,

W. J. Sawyer

P.S. Since writing the above received your letter mailed to Wichita. Had intended going to Lincoln to make that appraisement when I went to Great Bend, but since you advise the Great Bend work has been attended to am sending the Lincoln appraisement to F.A. Saunders, County Commissioner and am asking him to look after it.

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

March 27, 1928

Mr. George H. Conn,
Freeport, Ill.

Dear Sir:

Answering your letter of the 24th instant.

The following is a list of the tuberculosis accredited counties in Kansas. Also the counties in which the work is now well under way and also where the work will start next fall:

Accredited

Harvey	Wyandotte	Kingman
Leavenworth	Osage	Coffey
Lincoln	Allen	Bourbon
Jackson	Cheyenne	
Sedgwick	Doniphan	
Jewell	Harper	
Johnson	Kano	
Pawnee	Stafford	
Atchison	Brown	
Rice	Rawlins	
Clay	Sheehan	
Douglas	Chase	

Work under way in

Wilson	Smith
Neosho	Franklin
Marshall	Pratt
Washington	Jefferson

Start next fall in

Nemaha	Lyon
Cloud	
McPherson	

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.



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

March 30, 1928

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

Dear Sir:

On compiling the vouchers for the county area work for this month I find that we do not have sufficient money in the tuberculosis fund to meet all obligations. Consequently it will be necessary for us to use the general fund to pay obligations already made. This is going to deplete our general fund to quite a little extent. Therefore, it will be necessary for the elimination of all expenses wherever possible from now until the first of July at least. I mean by this that every effort will be made to keep down the traveling expenses and that no trips will be made at all only when absolutely necessary and then on the most economical plan. There is no reason why the county commissioners cannot furnish transportation in going to the farms for the appraising of cattle. Mr. Gray advises me that he has not had to pay out but little expense for automobile transportation in the counties where he has been engaged for the reason that the county commissioners have been furnishing the transportation. Of course I think the state should pay its expense in matters of this kind but from the fact that we are going to be so short of funds it will be necessary for us to take advantage of these things and utilize county transportation wherever possible.

I hope by curtailing expenses that we will be able to pay the salaries of all regular help. I have had to stop all the testing after this week in the county area work. Of course, the state has done considerably more testing this winter than the federal department and they will go on and finish up the unfinished counties where the work is now under way. I am sending this letter to all our field men.

I might add that we will plan to give all the regular help a two-weeks vacation this summer and if you wish to have your two weeks in June, it will be satisfactory. You can let me know as to this.

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

Canton, Kans., Mar 31, 1929.

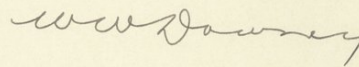
Mr J.H. Mercer,
Topeka, Kans.

Dear Mr Mercer:

Herewith appraisement on two
reactors for Chas Craig, Wichita R.R. #8. Also
appraisement on one for C.D. Bird, Wichita, RR.
#4.

These appraisements were made by County
Commissioner, F.C. Joergenson, and were handed
to me when I was in the Court House this morn-
ing.

Yours truly,



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

March 31, 1928.

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

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find federal appraisement forms covering the following:

Dr. J. T. Artell, Newton--1 reactor by M. L. Dietrich
Ralph Hoar, Larned--1 reactor by Geo. I. Rhea
H. W. Tunnerkamp, Valley Center--1 reactor by J. I. Kirkpatrick

Dr. Wm. Payton has reported a reactor belonging to M. J. Herbert, Belpre, Kansas, which you can no doubt take care of when you go to appraise the Hoar reactor.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

A

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

April 4, 1928

Mr. W. O'Connell,
County Agent,
Marysville, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing you copy of the state and federal co-operative agreement placing Marshall county on the accredited free area list.

According to the voluntary proposition of the four large packers, Swift & Company, Armour & Company, Wilson and Cudahy, hogs bred and fed in Marshall county and sold to any of the packers mentioned are entitled to the 10¢ a hundred premium, by filing a premium card furnished by this department as per the enclosed. The usual way of handling these premium cards is to furnish the banks of the county a supply of the cards so that they can approve same for the shippers who might be their patrons and also to furnish the county agent a supply for his use.

If you will furnish us a list of the banks in your county that you think would take an interest in approving the cards in question we will send them a supply or we will send a supply to you and you can distribute them to the banks in the county. Please advise me as to this at your earliest convenience and the premium cards will be sent out in line with your suggestion.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.

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

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT * * - - - - - - - - - - **

In accordance with the regulations of the State of Kansas the work of eradicating bovine tuberculosis is in progress in Marshall County. All the cattle in Marshall County have been tuberculin tested by either a county, State or Federal veterinarian, and, as a result of said test, tuberculosis is known to exist among cattle not to exceed one-half (.5) of one per cent.

All herds of cattle in which tuberculosis is known to exist (herds containing cattle that have reacted to a tuberculin test) have been quarantined by the State of Kansas, and will be kept in quarantine until released by the proper State livestock sanitary official.

In view of the above, Livestock Commissioner of the State of Kansas does hereby petition the Chief, Bureau of Animal Industry, U.S. Department of Agriculture, to officially declare Marshall County as Modified Accredited Area for a period of three years, providing that during that time the percentage of tuberculosis of cattle does not exceed one-half (.5) of one per cent.

The said Livestock Commissioner hereby agrees to prevent the movement of cattle into Marshall County except in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Methods and Rules for Tuberculosis-Free Accredited Herds of Cattle.

Approved:

J. R. Mohler,
Chief, Bureau of Animal Industry
U.S. Department of Agriculture

J. H. Mercer

Date: March 30, 1928

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

April 5, 1928

Dr. J. R. Mohler,
Chief of B.A.I.,
U.S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

As you know, there are a large number of bacterins and serums placed on the market by biological manufacturing establishments. It is claimed for these serums and bacterins that they are a cure and preventative for certain live stock shipping diseases such as hemorrhagic septicemia, shipping fever, etc.

There is quite a difference of opinion among live stock owners as to the merits of these bacterins. The extent of the use of these bacterins is becoming more or less of a charge on the industry. Therefore, it seems to me that there should be a complete experimental test made of these bacterins and serums by disinterested federal and state authorities in order to obtain a correct knowledge of their usefulness.

I am wondering if it would not be possible for a representative of your department, a representative of the laboratory of the state agricultural college and a representative of this department to carry on an experimental test at the Kansas City stockyards. More than likely it would take from three to six months and maybe longer to complete an experiment of this kind. While it would cost quite a little money yet I believe it is worth while and I am sure we would get the full co-operation of the Kansas City stockyards company and the live stock exchanges.

If you think favorable of this, it might be best for you to delegate someone to meet in conference with interested parties and decide upon a program. Thanking you in advance for a favorable consideration of this matter and an early reply, I am

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.

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

April 5, 1928

Mr. W. H. Weeks,
Kansas City Stock Yards Co.,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir:

Answering your letter of the 3rd instant.

I took the matter up with the Bureau of Animal Industry and also with the State Agricultural College last year with respect to putting on a rigid experimental test of certain bacterins and serums, etc. The time I talked with President Farrelle was in favor of such a test but did not believe they had funds with which to start it at the time.

The Bureau of Animal Industry stated that they had carried on a test to some extent but did not feel disposed to discredit or approve the bacterins and serums that were used as a preventative for yard fever, Hemorrhagic septicemia, etc.

I might add that this matter was discussed at a recent meeting of the executive committee of the Kansas Association and I found quite a number of stockmen in the country were very strong for the hemorrhagic bacterin. Personally, I do not think there is much to it, although I would not want to discourage the use of bacterin until a test is made. I am certainly in accord with your views that if the bacterins are of little or no consequence it is a charge on the industry that should not prevail. I am taking the matter up again today with President Farrell and also with Dr. Mohler with a view of making a real test. Will advise you as to results.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.

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

April 5, 1928

Pres. F. D. Farrell,
K.S.A.C.,
Manhattan, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

You will recall I talked with you at one time about a test of certain serums and bacterins that are used quite extensively at public markets and in the veterinary profession as a preventative and cure for hemorrhagic septicemia and other shipping live stock diseases. I have never believed that there was a great deal of merit in these bacterins and yet there are quite a number of stockmen that have a great deal of faith in them. Therefore, I would not want to discourage the use of them in any way until we were fully convinced that there is no merit in them.

The question therefore arises as to how to make the test. It might be that the laboratory at Manhattan could make a complete test yet it would take a long while to do it. I am wondering if we could not arrange a co-operative plan with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to carry on a test of these bacterins, say at the Kansas City market. Would it be possible for a representative of the college laboratory to take part in an experimental test of this kind? It would entail at least three to six months time to make a complete test of a project of this kind.

I am writing Dr. Mohler with respect to this matter today. I wish you would write me what you think about it.

Thanking you in advance, I am

Very truly yours,

JHM/m

Commissioner.



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

April 9, 1928

Mr. W. O'Connell,
County Agent,
Marysville, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Following up our telephone conversation of Saturday, as you know the 10¢ a hundred premium is paid by the four large packers on hogs originating in county free area territory and is a voluntary act on the part of the packer. There is no rule or law that compels them to pay this 10¢ a hundred premium, hence the necessity of complying as nearly as one can with the packers requirements. The instructions as to handling the premium card you will note on the back of the card.

In connection with the co-operative shipping organizations, I might add it is necessary for the shipper to have the card filled out and signed by the owner of the hogs. A shipper cannot certify that he bred and fed the hogs in question. However, by segregating and weighing each farmer's hogs separate and filing the card the packer will pay on shipments where there is more than one owner providing, of course, all the hogs in the shipment are out of an accredited county. The packers claim they paid over three million dollars last year on premiums on hogs located in county free area territory in the several states of the nation. Since the amount is getting so large they are becoming more technical. I note at a meeting they held not long ago at Chicago they claim they are going to demand the tattooing of hogs originating in free area territory. Of course we are going to try to get them to change this to some extent as it will be quite a little bother to tattoo hogs when there are so many different owners, especially.

If there is any further information you need in connection with the 10¢ a hundred premium, write us.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.



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

KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
MANHATTAN, KANSAS
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

April 10, 1928

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

Dear Mr. Mercer:

President Farrell has referred to me your letter of April 5 in which you state the need for further study of methods of preventing livestock shipping diseases which are often ascribed to hemorrhagic septicemia.

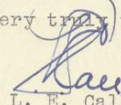
I have conferred with Dean R. R. Dykstra of our Department of Veterinary Medicine and he has prepared a statement of facts relative to shipping fever which sets forth the best information that is available on this subject at this time. I am enclosing herewith a copy of Dean Dykstra's statement.

It would appear from the information available that much remains to be learned regarding the cause of these diseases and methods of preventing them. This work is of such a character that it will require facilities which we do not have at our disposal at the present time and is a problem that the United States Department of Agriculture is in the best position to solve.

I am glad to learn from your letter to President Farrell that you have written Dr. Mohler in regard to the matter. When you hear from him, I will be interested to learn what the Department is in a position to do. We would be glad to cooperate with the Department in any work that they wish to undertake in Kansas in so far as our facilities will permit.

Assuring you of our interest in this problem,
I remain

Very truly yours,


L. E. Call, Director

Agricultural Experiment Station

LEC:M

cc- F.D. Farrell
R.R. Dykstra



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

SHIPPING FEVER (HEMORRHAGIC SEPTICEMIA?) FACTS.

The term "shipping fever" is usually applied to a diseased condition affecting animals, especially after they have passed through public stock yards. Shipping fever is not a clinical entity. It is believed that in a very large percentage of the cases it is hemorrhagic septicemia, though it may be any one of quite a large number of diseases affecting the respiratory apparatus.

The importance of the above point is that vaccination against hemorrhagic septicemia probably protects against this disease, but this would not prevent the animals from contracting any of the other diseases included under the general term shipping fever. This is one of the reasons why so-called hemorrhagic septicemia vaccination may, by those not familiar with the facts, be considered a failure.

The diagnosis of hemorrhagic septicemia is in a very large percentage of the cases based on post mortem lesions and a bacteriological examination. Careful research workers question the value of such a diagnosis and maintain that if the bacteria found in such an examination are not pathogenic for laboratory animals, the presence of hemorrhagic septicemia has not been established.

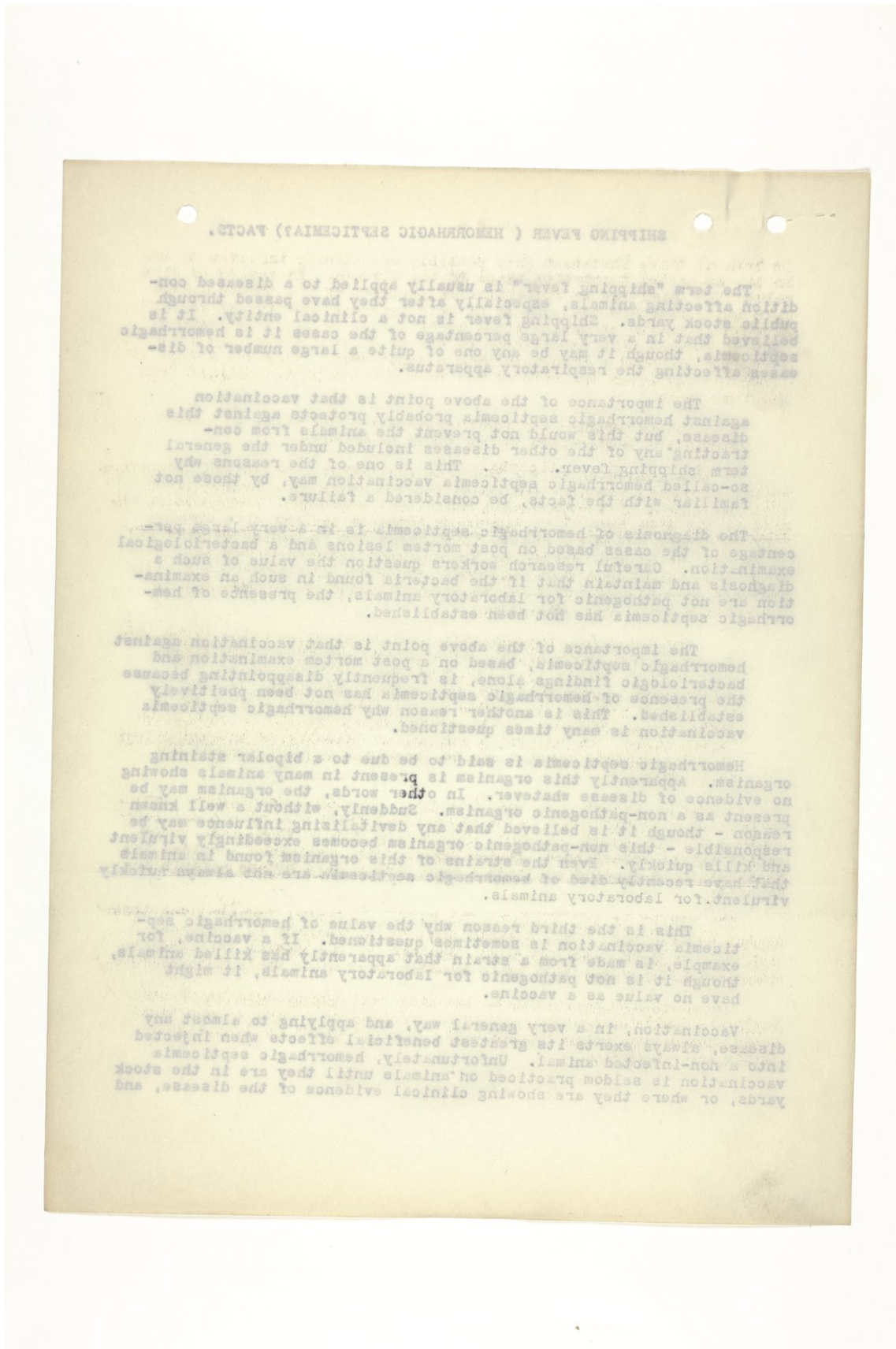
The importance of the above point is that vaccination against hemorrhagic septicemia, based on a post mortem examination and bacteriologic findings alone, is frequently disappointing because the presence of hemorrhagic septicemia has not been positively established. This is another reason why hemorrhagic septicemia vaccination is many times questioned.

Hemorrhagic septicemia is said to be due to a bipolar staining organism. Apparently this organism is present in many animals showing no evidence of disease whatever. In other words, the organism may be present as a non-pathogenic organism. Suddenly, without a well known reason - though it is believed that any devitalizing influence may be responsible - this non-pathogenic organism becomes exceedingly virulent and kills quickly. Even the strains of this organism found in animals that have recently died of hemorrhagic septicemia are not always quickly virulent for laboratory animals.

This is the third reason why the value of hemorrhagic septicemia vaccination is sometimes questioned. If a vaccine, for example, is made from a strain that apparently has killed animals, though it is not pathogenic for laboratory animals, it might have no value as a vaccine.

Vaccination, in a very general way, and applying to almost any disease, always exerts its greatest beneficial effects when injected into a non-infected animal. Unfortunately, hemorrhagic septicemia vaccination is seldom practiced on animals until they are in the stock yards, or where they are showing clinical evidence of the disease, and

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in both of these instances they probably are already infected or are in the so-called incubative stage of the disease. In regard to this point, the Committee on Miscellaneous Diseases of the United States Live Stock Sanitary Association in 1927 reported that out of 151,457 cattle vaccinated at public stock yards before shipment to country points, returns were received on 57,946 of these animals, the death rate being 662 supposedly from hemorrhagic septicemia. This was a loss of 1.14% and was about the same as for unvaccinated cattle shipped from the same yards.

The foregoing is a fourth reason why the value of hemorrhagic septicemia vaccination is sometimes questioned.

In 1924 Gochenour of the Pathological Division of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry announced the isolation of a consistently virulent strain of a hemorrhagic septicemia organism. Announcement was made at the same time of an aggressin prepared against this strain. Very carefully conducted tests, which are given in detail on page 433 of Volume LXV of the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association indicate that this aggressin, injected into non-exposed, susceptible cattle produced in these animals a high grade immunity to hemorrhagic septicemia infection.

The foregoing demonstrates that under proper conditions with the right kind of material, an immunity may be conferred that will persist for at least one year and possibly longer. It furthermore points out that this vaccine at least has been exhaustively tested. In regard to this vaccine the Chief of the Pathological Division of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry says: "In carefully controlled experiments we have proved that susceptible animals can be immunized against hemorrhagic septicemia."

A report presented at the Live Stock Sanitary Association meeting in Chicago in 1928 by Dr. A. W. Miller indicates that numerous experiments have been conducted which demonstrate that a high grade of immunity may be established against hemorrhagic septicemia provided the vaccination is applied at least a week or ten days before animals are exposed.

The report of the Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry for 1925 states as follows: "The rapidity with which immunity is produced, together with its long duration, warrants the conclusion that hemorrhagic septicemia aggressin is a valuable veterinary biological product."

Other experiments point to the fact that hemorrhagic septicemia bacterins and hemorrhagic septicemia vaccines also have a very high grade immunizing value, though considerably less than hemorrhagic septicemia aggressin.



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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"CHIEF OF BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY,"
AND REFER TO
E-274

April 13, 1928.

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

Dear Mr. Mercer:

Your letter of April 5 was received during my absence, hence the delay in my reply.

From your letter I understand that you propose, first of all, a conference to decide upon the advisability of undertaking a sort of cooperative study of the effectiveness of serums and bacterins used to cure or prevent hemorrhagic septicemia of cattle. Such a conference would be preliminary to the organization of an experimental force to study those questions in the Kansas City Stock Yards.

Considerable work has already been done but there are no doubt questions which could be studied to advantage. The amount of work which we could undertake would naturally be limited by the funds as well as by the capable investigators that would be available. It occurs to me, also, that perhaps if such studies were finally decided upon they should be carried out in the fall or winter. In other words, there seems to be a question whether the present season is a good one. Many other questions will no doubt arise as this matter is given further consideration. However, I shall be very glad to have a representative from this Bureau join with you or some delegated representative from your office, and including also a representative from the Kansas State Agricultural College, to give preliminary consideration to your proposal. Do you consider it desirable to proceed with this preliminary conference at an early date, or would it be better to defer such a conference until some time in the summer? I shall be glad to hear further from you on this subject.

Very truly yours,

J. R. Mohler.

Chief of Bureau.

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

April 16, 1928

Dr. H. F. Dotson,
Livestock Exchange Bldg.,
Wichita, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Answering your letter of the 13th
instant.

I am wondering if there is any way
that you might detect the trouble you refer to
in hogs when vaccinating them. The information
I have is that to vaccinate hogs infected with
acute enteritis agitates the trouble and causes
quite heavy losses. Hence the importance of
knowing how to diagnose a case of enteritis.
What have you in mind as to how this could be
worked out?

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM/M

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

April 16, 1928

Dr. H. F. Dotson,
Livestock Exchange Bldg.,
Wichita, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Answering your letter of the 13th instant.

I am wondering if there is any way that
you might detect trouble you refer to in hogs
when vaccinating them. The information I have is
that to vaccinate hogs infected with acute enteritis
irritates and causes quite heavy loss

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



J. H. MERCER
COMMISSIONER

State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

Livestock Exchange Building,
Wichita, Kansas,
April 13, 1928.

Mr. J. H. Mercer, Commissioner,
State House,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Wednesday of this week, in company with Dr. Curry of the United Serum Company, I made a trip to McPherson, Kansas, to investigate sickness in hogs belonging to H. L. E. Nordling.

These hogs were purchased on the Wichita Yards and was vaccinated by me. They began to get sick about ten days after reaching destination, and on the date of our visit 31 head had died, and there were fully that many more very sick, and it is probable that there will be a very heavy death loss before the condition is brought under control.

The cause of the sickness and loss that he is sustaining is due to acute enteritis. I think this disease is causing more losses in the stock hog feeding establishments than all other diseases combined, there does not seem to be any real effective measures to prevent this disease and the methods of control are far from being satisfactory. This is the first serious loss that has been reported to us during the past eight months.

Yours truly,

H. F. Watson

HFD*EL

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

April 18, 1928

Mr. J. E. Dohser,
Jotmore, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Answering your letter of the 12th instant.

I have looked up the records with respect to the test of your herd and find that we have started the accreditation of your herd with the test made by Dr. Winchester of Kinsley as of October 31st, 1927. Since there were no reactor cattle found in your herd under the test made by Dr. Winchester it will not be necessary for you to have your herd tested before next fall, or about a year from the first test.

Under the present regulations two annual tests and no reactors found makes the herd eligible for accreditation, so if we would test your herd now it would have to be tested again in 6 months before it could be accredited. Therefore, if this arrangement is satisfactory, the test of your herd will not be made until fall as above suggested.

I am Trusting this arrangement is satisfactory,

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM/M

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



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

DR. ARTHUR O'TOOLE
VETERINARIAN

Arnold, Ness County, Kansas *April 25-1928*

Hon. J. H. Merar
Topeka, Kans.

Dear Sir: -

In reply to your inquiry of April 21. I will say that I have not seen Mr. Dill's hogs for a few days but the condition that exists in this lot of hogs. they are running behind the steers with a very small corn ration, and the steers are now getting ground corn and molasses mixture. he has about one hog to each steer. the condition that develops is a chronic diarrhea. with loss of appetite and die upon postmortem they show necrotic enteritis which is very extensive in the large intestines.

yours truly
Arthur O'Toole



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

April 21, 1928

Diebolt

Dr. Arthur O'Toole,
Arnold, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

You will recall I talked with you at
Wa-Keeney with respect to the sickness on the
Diebolt herd of hogs.

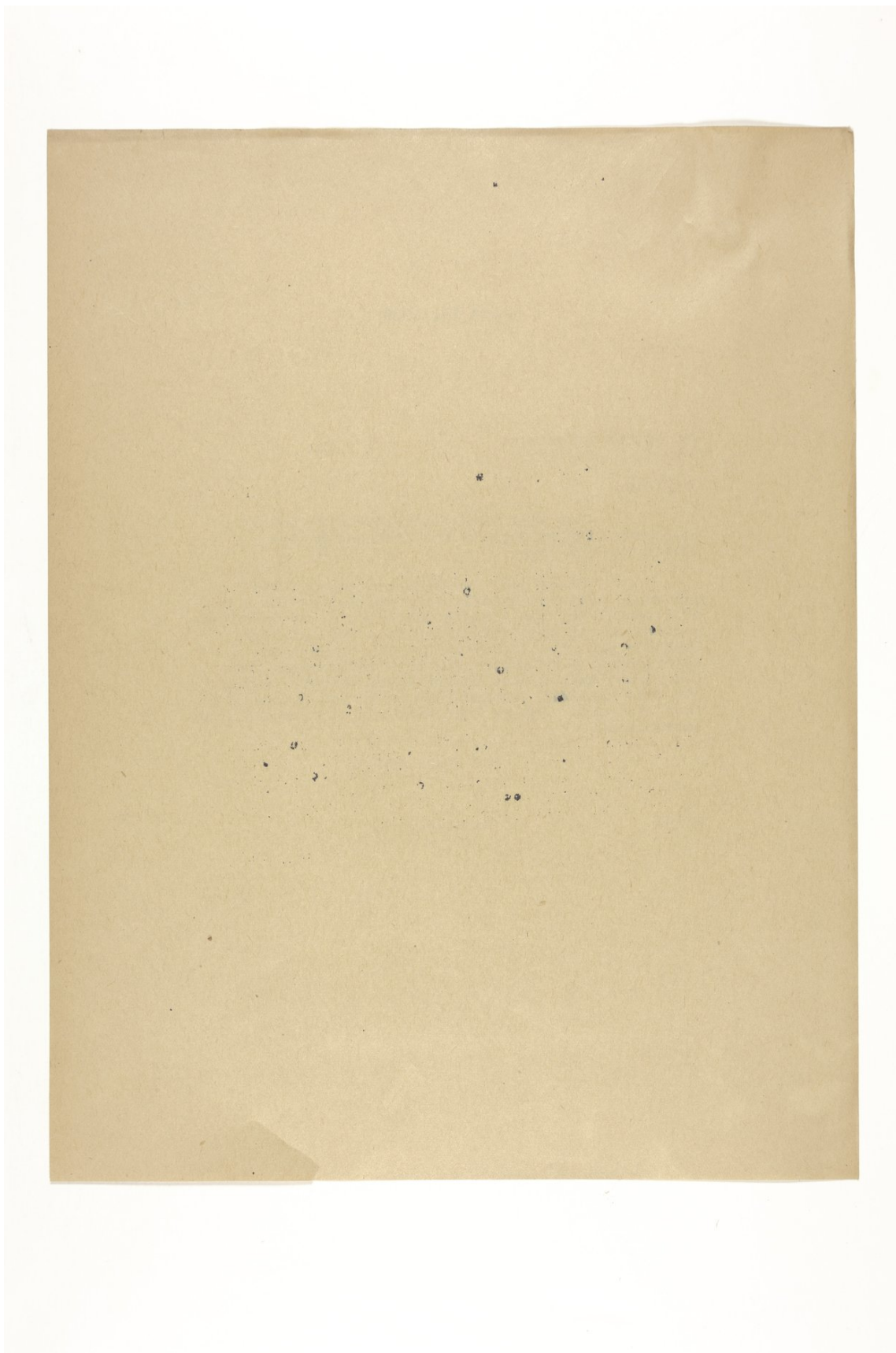
Since you have seen the hogs, I wish
you would write me briefly your opinion of the case.
If I recall it, you thought there was a little under-
nourishment in connection with this herd of hogs.
Anything you have to say to me will be kept in
confidence. I am asking for this information for
the reason that I want to write Mr. Diebolt giving
him some explicit instructions as to how he should
feed his hogs. Let me hear from you at your earliest
convenience.

Very truly yours,

J.H.M.

Commissioner.

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



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

April 21, 1928

Mr. John J. Diebolt,
Wa-Keeney, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

On receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, I wrote Dr. Frank who recently made the investigation of the trouble in your hogs and asked him to advise me as to what he thought should be done or as to whether or not a further investigation should be made. I am enclosing you a copy of his reply.

I think his suggestion about sending specimens to the laboratory at Manhattan is a very good one as more than likely it will take a laboratory investigation to determine what the trouble is. Should you send specimens it will be very necessary that you put them in a substantial container so they will keep good while in transit. You had best write Dr. Frank the day that you express the specimens.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.