

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

Section 68, Pages 2011 - 2040

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

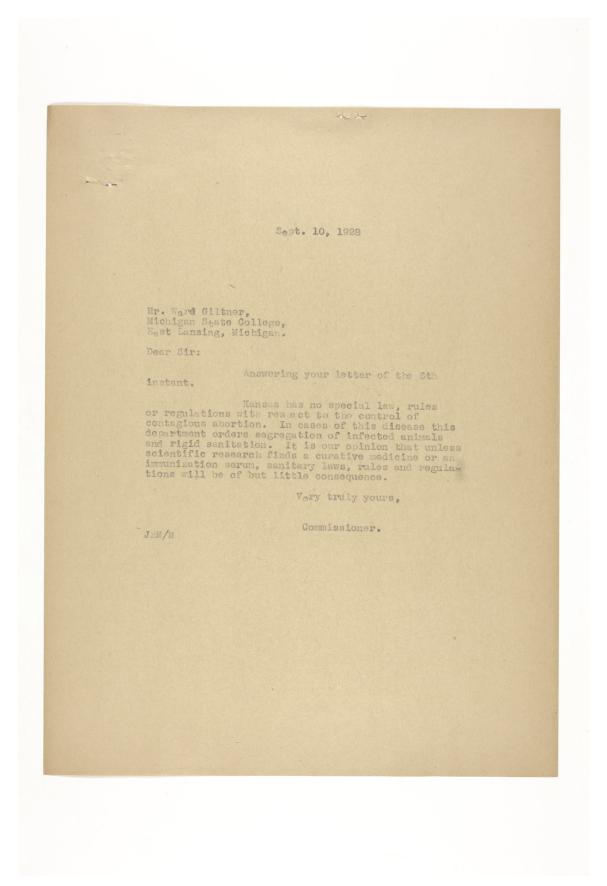
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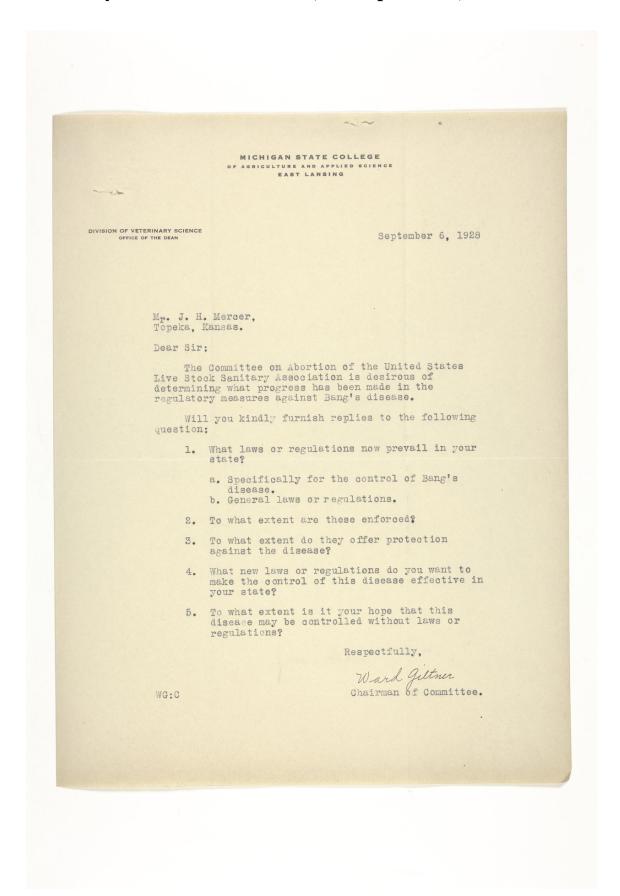
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KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY











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



State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

Livestock Exchange Building, Wichita, Kansas, September 14, 1928.

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

Dear Sir:

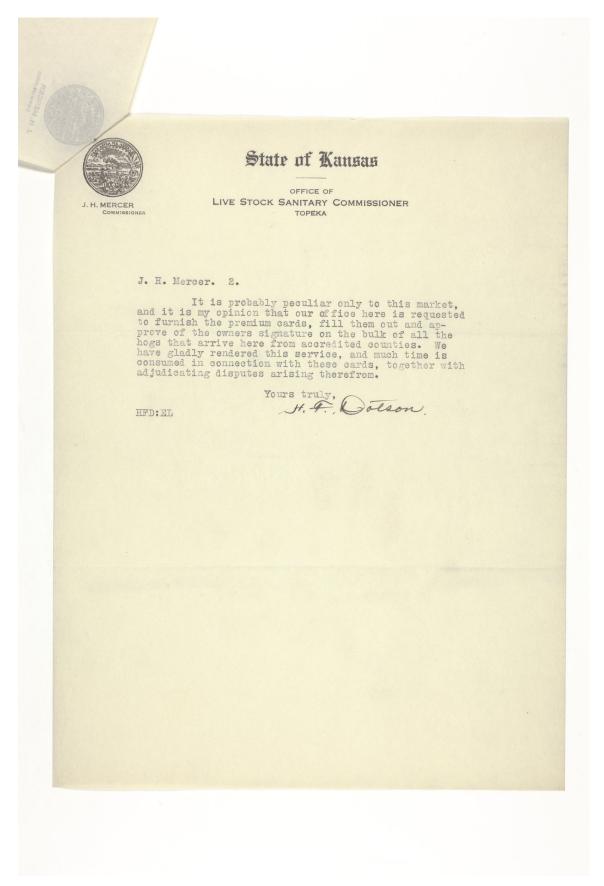
In accordance with previous instructions from you, we are enclosing herewith data compiled from our records, covering our activities at the Wichita Stock Yards for the past two years.

Your attention is called to the immense amount of inspection and vaccination as shown by the enclosed tabulation. In addition to these figures, our records reveal a vast amount of miscellaneous professional work, such as castration, spaying, treatment of diseased livestock, mallein testing, inspection of horses and mules for soundness and etc. As in previous years, we have continued and improved our usefulness, acting as shippers agent in disputes, relative to feed, service charges, damage claims relative to crippled animals and etc. On account of the serious losses in livestock from shipping fever, a most active supervision of livestock sanitation has been maintained upon the yards, and considerable experimental work has been carried out to determine the cause, and learn if we may methods that will minimize these losses. Valuable data has been obtained as result of this experimental work, and a report of same will be given at a later date.

The recording of tubercular animals sent to the Wichita market for slaughter, assistance and information given the owners of tubercular animals, dealing with postmortem findings, method of appraisement and etc, has been no small part of our work during the past two years. It has been our policy for a number of years to give helpful information to livestock men in matters of disease control and veterinary problems in general. That this service has been popular, is indicated by the ever increasing inquiries, conferences and correspondence.

Mention should be made of service rendered by this office to owners of hogs from accredited counties, in filling out an approving of premium cards.







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

Sept. 18, 1928

Mr. F: W. Schowalter, Halstead, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Answering your letter of recent date. 50 cents a head for the testing of cattle at the public market may seem a little high yet because of the nature of the service the owner is required to pay for same. However, it appears that you have been paying too much for the 72-hour reading on in other words the finishing of the test started at the public market. As you know it would not costyou any more so far as the service is concerned to have the cattle tested at the market and have the test completed than to start the test and have the test finished at destination. The reason for finishing the test at destination is, as you state to eliminate the feed cost at the market during the three days the cattle are to be held to finish the test.

Since it is only a short distance from Newton to your place it should not cost you to exceed \$5 and the cost of transportation from Newton to Halstead and return, as it would take but very little of a veterinarians time to make the final reading on even two carloads of cattle. In this connection, I believe it you would take this up with Dr. Dotson at Wichita that he would arrange to drive out to your place and make the 72-hour reading on tested cattle without any expense other than his transportation cost from Wichita to Halstead and return. It might not be possible for him to do this at all times but I would suggest that you take the matter up with him theleast and find out.

You do not seem to understand the recent ruling on the segregation of untested cattle. It is not compulsory to keep the tested cattle and untested cattle separated unless tuberculosis has been found in your herd. So there was no reason for you to keep the load of bulls you refer to segregated from your tested cattle unless you wished to do so. I would take it from your letter that you buy quite a number of cattle at Wichita. Therefore, I would suggest that the first time you are down to Wichita that you have a talk with Dr. Dotson and see if you cannot make satisfactory arrangements with him to make the reading on your cattle eliminating the extreme extra expense you seem to be put to since you state that it has cost you approximately \$1 per head to complete the test. I have no objection to your showing him this letter and then if you cannot make satisfactory arrangements with Dr. Dotson write me further.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner



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object. now the law does not ask of any one to do the impossible, but to have to test breeding cattle, or if a and not feeding cattle and then keep them seperate at home, me mercer you are stockman enough to know that is practically impossible, and it doubt if it is always carried out, and Clean Clean I would suggest this; Test all cattle feeding or breeding at cost, and let a man ship them home and have a Net. take them off at home. I state here my own case, I shipped in 2 cars of down had them tested, shipped in I dan of young bulls not tested, at the Rame time, well what did we do, we kept the bulls in a separate pen at the yels, drove first the bulls out, than after awhite drove the cows out, we put them in diff lots one bunch on one side of the road



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

the other brench on the other side to day we casterate the bulls, well what are we going to do, got to bring the bulls over to the corral where the cowo are so we can do the work in the born, sufforing the bulls or steers now, break out + get mixed with the cows? How often Does the Government test the farmers ours only once maybe twice but dout think Ro, its been long enough ago Ro I forgat. I believe the government should just hire a man to test all cattle at cost and ship them the country toled could be kept clean that Way. Yours Truly Heldowalter.



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

Se t. 21, 1928

Mr. X. J. Kennedy, County Commissioner, Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

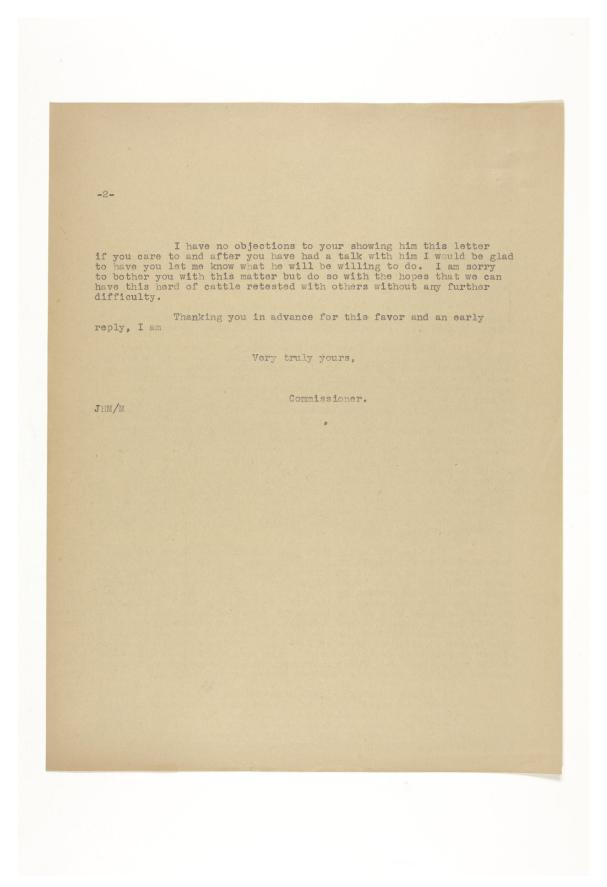
There are several infected herds of cattle in and around Lawrence, consisting of the Kemper Dairy herd and herds belonging to Vanroy Miller, H. H. Vernon, Chas. Sanders and Elmer Brown.

You perhaps know that Mr. Brown has always objected to having his herd of dairy cattle tested. I think Mr. Brown is perhaps consistent in his opposition to the tuberculin testing of cattle, However he is only one out of many thousands that takes such a position. We have taken every step possible to secure the co-operation of Mr. Brown in this work but we have been unable to get his co-operation in any way. Both times his herd has been tested it has been necessary to place the control of the testing in the hands of the sheriff. County commissioners of Douglas county and this department have been most considerate of Mr. Brown's position in all of these matters. The state has paid the expenses of trips to the Brown farm and unnecessary expenses of veterinarians, having sent two on one occasion. The county commissioners have paid the sheriff's expenses in both instances as I recall it. Since the state and the county has been so considerate of Mr. Brown I am wondering if it is not possible for you to secure his co-operation in the retesting of his herd now in the very near future. Surely Mr. Brown cannot charge that this department or that the county officials of Douglas county have been unfair to him in any way or mistreated him in any way. Hence the reason why he should give us his co-operation.

I wish you would take this matter up with him and find out just what he is willing to do. I am not taking this matter up with him and will not do so until I hear from you. I might add, however, in this connection, that if Mr. Brown compels us to go to unnecessary expense in connection with the retesting of his herd that we certainly will deal with him in the strictest sense of the law in connection with same and any unnecessary expense that we are put to by reason of his refusal to co-operate he will have to pay. The law provides that he should do so and we certainly in this instance will see that he does it. I would not ask you to take this matter up with Mr. Brown if I did not know that Mr. Brown was rather bitter against this department and I have been unable to reason with him on the proposition and, furthermore, meu being his neighbor, I thought perhaps you might accemplish what we have been unable to do.

I have been acquainted with the Brown family for a long while and have endeavored at all times to be more than considerate with the official dealings we have had with him. Therefore, since Mr. Brown has taken the position he has and forced us to deal with him in the strict legal sense, that is exactly what we will do unless he shows a willingness to co-operate and have his cattle tested the same as other people.







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

DR. P. B. DARLINGTON VETERINARIAN

OFFICE 405 EAST MAIN ST. TELEPHONE 492

CHANUTE, KANSAS

Sept., 24, 1928.

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

Dear Mr. Mercer:
I returned Friday from making an investigation of the trouble Mr. Nælson, who lives north of Yates Center, has been having among his cattle, and find he was losing his cattle with anaplasmosis. I gave Dr. Spencer the full instructions regarding the treatment of this condition and also went into a post-mortem examination with him, so I think he should be able to recognize this committion, should he again be confronted with it.

I have had several scattering cases recently in my own territory. This trouble is certainly much more virulent this year than it has been any year under my observation, animals are dying in shorter periods of time than I have ever seen before. I sincerely hope that our investigators will be able to throw some light on the subject in the near future. If this trouble cannot be curbed and continues to become as much worse in the future as it has in the past two or three years, It will certainly become a menace to the livestock industry. I remain.

PB Parlington

PBD/FS



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

KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE MANHATTAN, KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY September 25, 1928

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

Dear Mr. Mercer

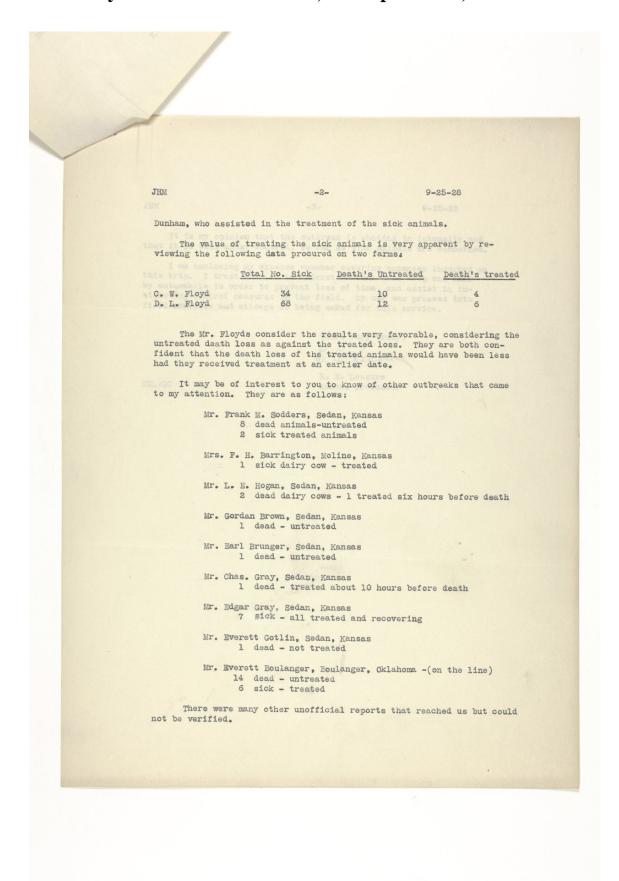
Returning from Sedan, Sunday, September 23, I herewith submit my report of my operations and the progress made in controlling Anaplasmosis among cattle on the farms of C. W. Floyd, Dean L. Floyd, and others.

I arrived in Sedan the afternoon of the 15th and immediately reported to Mr. Dean Floyd and Doctor Smith. Since Doctor Darlington had visited the field previously to my arrival and diagnosed the disease as Anaplasmosis, I immediately began my investigation. Several sick animals were caught and examined, all of which showed symptoms of anaplasmosis. A dead animal was procured and autopsied. The autopsy lesions were those of anaplasmosis. The diagnosis was later confirmed by microscopic blood examinations. Since several animals were sick it was decided to observe the several herds closely and cut out all affected animals. This was accordingly done on the 16th. Treatment was begun on a large scale and experiments were conducted as to dosage and remedy in order to determine the dosage and best medicinal medicant. This experiment is still underway and will not be reported upon until the conclusion of the outbreak. However, treatment has proved very beneficial as will be shown elsewhere in

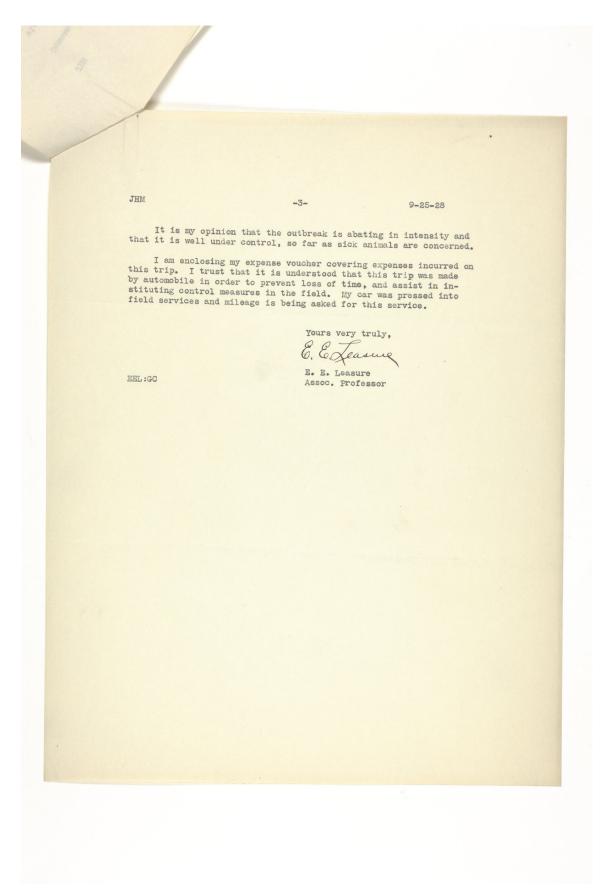
On the 17th Doctors Stiles and McConnell arrived and went over the situation with Doctor Smith, the stockmen, and myself. Later Doctors DarLington, Nichols, Lienhardt, and others arrived. The situation was discussed pro and con and all agreed that the method of treatment be carried out. Also many ideas were advanced as to means of transmission and as to experiments that could be performed on the field and elsewhere, as to a means of determining the mode of transmission. Accordingly it was agreed that five animals, healthy and from free areas be procured and established at suitable quarters to determine if the disease could be transmitted directly from sick to healthy animals by direct blood incoulation. It is also hoped that this experiment may be enlarged to include parasitic investigation at a later date. All agreed that the mode of transmission would be a difficult one to solve and one that would probably consume considerable time and research investigation.

Since the disease had assumed alarming proportions the remainder of my time was spent in helping Doctor Smith treat the sick animals and in compiling data. The situation was later relieved by the arrival of Doctor











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Sept. 25, 1928

Mr. Paul W. Keith, LaCygne, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I have yours of the 20th with check enclosed for \$6 dues to the Kansas Live Stock Association and thank you very much for same. Receipt will be sent you for same from the Association office in the very near future.

With respect to your treating hogs with swine plague aggression. I know of no law that would prevent you from doing this. Of course, if you prescribed this as a treatment and charged for your services in that respect then you would be violating the veterinary practice act, but just to vaccinate hogs and charge them a certain amount for the dose administered, I think you are entirely within your rights in doing this. Your charge, however, should be so much a dose for the serum or aggression used. I think they charge from 5 to 7 cents to administer bacterins at the public markets, and that includes the services and the cost of the serum or aggressin.

I am not fully convinced that the serum or aggressin is helpful. However, I will not raise any objection to its use. We are starting an investigation to determine the merits of certain serums and bacterins in treating cattle and hogs. When we are through with the investigation we hope to be able to know whether its use is of benefit or otherwise. I might add, in this connection, that in many instances where a layman uses the virus in the vaccination of hogs that he secures the signatures of his neighbors to a petition to this department requesting that he be privileged to treat their hogs as well as his own. Since the serum ar aggression is free from germ disease I hardly think it necessary for a petition of this kind in this case.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.



A. H. T. A. Fair Association AUSTICES A. H. T. A. 42 LACYGNE, KANSAS Sight 20 1928 Mr. J. W. Mercer Dear Lin Enclosed find mychiels for 6°C to pay up mydues to the S. S. a. This is sumply a matter y negligence on my part, ash asleing you if I will "get in bad" vaccinating some of the neighbors hose for some plague. They pay me total aggression cost of Aprel CC, Althen swap works for my time. Would 3 be allowed to sharge for my services while vaccinating. Lond of the "vito" here rather penny. They have vaccenated for chlores the hogo died, and running some the lost 4 hogo in one hirds & fortiell we lost 4 hogo in one hirds & fortiell Wellen 4 found news aymptoms in one t septicemia in the otherone, They have page with agreesion one		
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Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

Sept. 27, 1928

Dr. Chas. C. Foulk, Sedan, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I was talking with C. W. Floyd yesterday and he advised me that he believed the outbreak of anaplasmosis was fairly well under control and that conditions were much better. I am certainly glad to hear this. He also advised me that Dr. Leasure of the Agricultural college had been called back to Manhattan. This was a surprise to me for the reason that I had been assured by President Farrell and Dr. Dykstra that Dr. Leasure would be left at Sedan as long as he was needed. I presume that Dr. Stiles is back at Sedan by this time. I wish you would confer with him and if he needs veterinary help in starting his experiment you can assist him at least until a representative of the experiment department of the college is sent back to Sedan, devoting all of your spare time otherwise to the treating of the disease in and around Sedan. Dr. Stiles can give you an outline of what has been done up to the time he left for Oklahoma and also as to the college's connection with the experimental project started.

I am enclosing you a copy of a message received Monday from Dr. Mohler. You can hand this to Dr. Stiles if you wish. It is presumed that Dr. Day is at Sedan also at this time as the message indicates that he had been ordered to report at Sedan at once. As stated in my former letter, of course, I want you to keep in close touch with Mr. Floyd as he is vitally interested in the work down there and also in the experiment that is being carried out.

I wish you would advise us also by return mail whether or not you found any reactor cattle at Pittsburg. To date we have received no report of your work down there and since you tested several hundred head of cattle more than likely you found reactors and of course they would need to be disposed of. Get this report to us at your earliest convenience and also the Jefferson county poultry report. We are making up our biennial report at this time and want to turn the material in to the state printer next week. We may have to work of nights a little while until we get these records made up but it is very necessary that we have them.

In this connection I want you to send by return mail an outline of the treatment that is being used by your veterinarians. Also that given you by Dr. Darlington and Dr. Nichols. Give us this treatment formula accurately because I am going to publish it also in the report.

Very truly yours,

JHM /M

Commissioner



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

Sept. 27, 1928

Mr. V. W. Hancock, Burlington, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

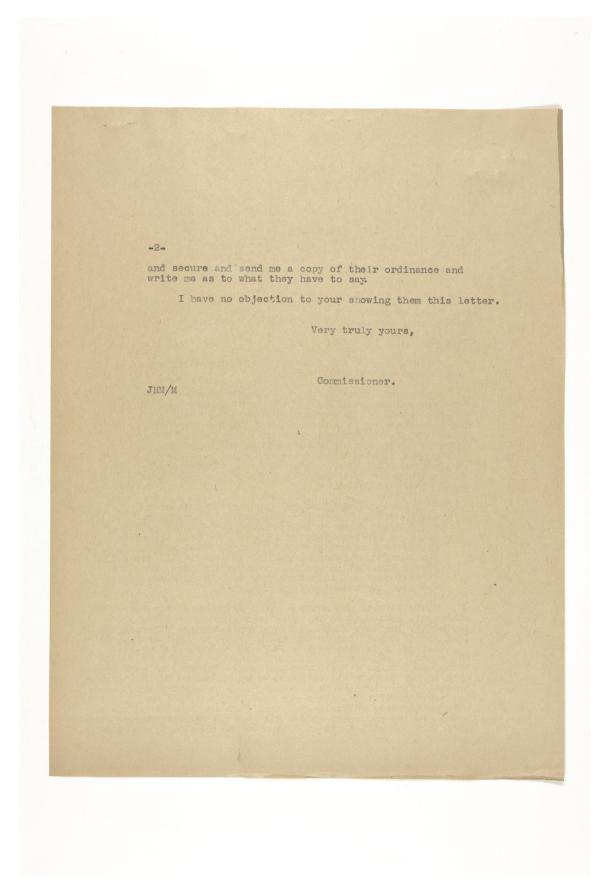
Your letter of the 22nd with newspaper clipping at hand and same carefully noted.

Under the Kansas law an incorporated town or city can pass ordinances affecting the city's government in the conduct of business within the corporate limits of the city applying to persons living outside the city. Of course, I have not seen the ordinance you refer to, however, Eurlington could not pass an ordinance requiring the testing of cattle owned within the city limits or outside of the city limits in violation of the sanitary law of the state. The law governing the matter reads as follows:

That the governing body of any city of this state shall have the power by ordinance duly enacted to require the owner or owners or other persons operating dairy herds or selling or offering for sale any milk or its products within such city, to first subject the cow from which such milk or its product is derived to the examination and test for tuberculosis under the direction of and in accordance with rules prescribed by the live stock sanitary commissioner."

You will note the section cited stipulates that the tuberculin test must be in accordance with the results prescribed by the live stock sanitary commissioner. Therefore, I am not in a position to state whether or not the ordinance in question is methine with the section of law cited until I see same. I might add that they would have a right to demand an annual test as a health proposition. However, we have been able so far to have all cities make an ordinance admitting dairy products from clean herds in county free area territory, and I believe that if this matter was taken up in such a way with the city authorities of Burlington that such arrangements might be made. I wish you would confer with the county attorney or city officials and call their attention to the section of law cited and secud















Burlington Kacusas Sept 22 1828 My Hear Mr Mercani The endrosed clipping explains itaself. After a county has complied with heach requirements as to make a T.B. free county and been declared such is the born Cosmail of persons selling smilk
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Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

Sept. 27, 1928

Mr. Wm Gregory, Osage City, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

While I was in Chautauqua county last week engaged in investigating an outbreak of disease among cattle, the report came to this department that you were losing hogs.

Dr. R. B. Christenson, veterinary representative of this department reports that he made an investigation and found that the sick hogs in question were in a herd that you had recently purchased from Wene Williams of West Plains, Missouri, and that Dr. Kraus had diagnosed the condition as hog cholera and vaccinated the herd. He stated that they autopsied a hog and found that it was not cholera that was causing your loss but mixed infection or necrotic enteritis and that he advised you of Dr. Jungerman's treatment and you suggested that he call Dr. Jungerman, which he did.

With respect to Dr. Jungerman's treatment we want a very close observation made. Dr. Jungerman advises us that he has been working on a remedy for the treating of hogs infected in a similar manner to yours for several years and that he feels that he has mastered the experiment and is now ready to demonstrate the usefullness of his treatment. We have been sending him at the state's expense to treat herds so infected for the purpose of finding but as to the merits of his remedy. He advises us that he makes a charge for his treatment of the actual cost, or 30% a dose. Therefore, I wish you would let me know as to what you think of the treatment and as to its results. Also please furnish me further information with respect to the purchase of this carload of hogs - whether or not you bought them in Missouri or whether you had some one else buy them for you. I am asking for this information for the reason that if someone else bought these hogs for you I want to trace back and find out as to whether or not Missouri is selling hogs to our people that originate on disease infected farms. There has been bad results in several cars of hogs shipped out of Missouri during the past few months.

I was sorry I was not in the office when you were here but as stated above was on official business in the south part of the state. Keep us posted on how things are doing on your farm and I assure you that we will be glad to do everything we can to stop the spread of the disease and loss among your hogs.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.



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



State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

Kansas City, Mo. 805 Exchange Bldg., Sept. 28, 1928

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

Dear Sir:

In answer to your letter of September 26th with reference to the 8 head of F. L. Varnum's cattle.

We tested two cows and six bulls on September 21st. for Mr. Varnum and was informed by the Comm. Firm that they were going out with a mixed load of heifers and steers. We of course mailed the releasing agreement to Dr. Bogue on the eight head, but after receiving your letter saying that only two out of the eight were shipped, I immediately called the Comm. merchant and found out that the six bulls were trucked out later. Fo I called Dr. Bogue over the telephone instructing him to go back and make the 72-hour reading on the bulls.

I just received a letter from ${\tt Dr.}\ {\tt Bogue}\ {\tt saying}\ {\tt that}\ {\tt he}\ {\tt examined}\ {\tt the}\ {\tt bulls}\ {\tt and}\ {\tt found}\ {\tt no}\ {\tt reactors.}$

I am also returning the interstate chart on the K. L. Peterson twenty-six head of cattle that were tested and released here before shipment was made.

Yours truly, J. a. Lowler

F:C



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

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