

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

### **Section 92, Pages 2731 - 2760**

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

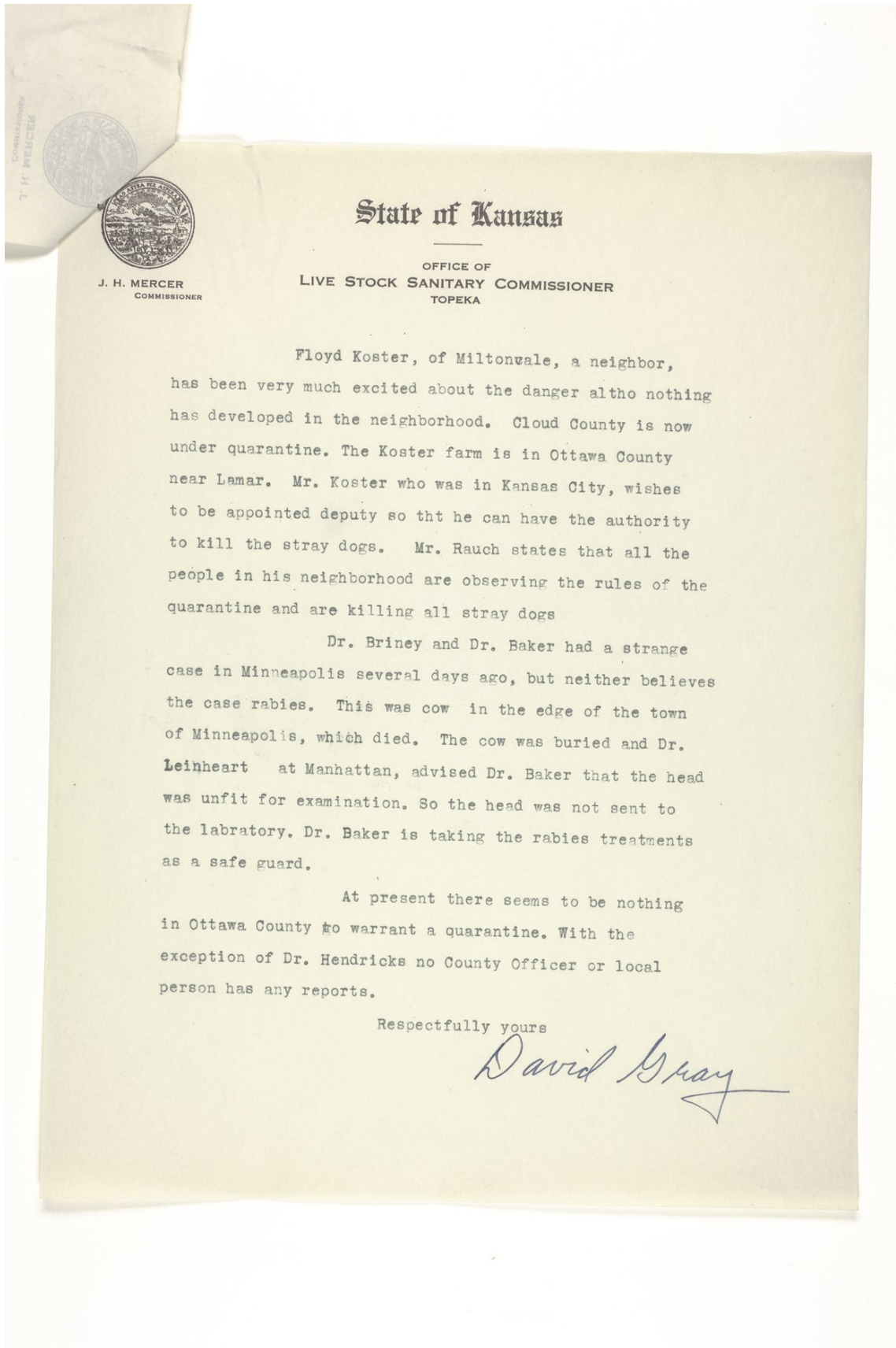
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## Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929



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

July 16, 1929.

Dr. R. R. Dykstra,  
State Agricultural College,  
Manhattan, Kansas.

Dear Dr. Dykstra:

I have your letter of the 13th instant and have read same over carefully.

I talked with Mr. Floyd over the telephone yesterday and advised him to go ahead and change the location of the experimental cattle. I presume it will be done this week.

I have also asked Dr. Fyle to give me an estimate of the cost of changing the location and also of securing the supplies indicated in your letter.

I might add that I believe it would be better to secure the experimental animals at some country point than to buy them at the public market. It is not always possible to tell where cattle from the public market originated and furthermore, cattle that go to the public market are more or less exposed to various cattle diseases. It seems to me that we would know more about experimental animals if we purchased them from most any place up this way than if we got them off the public market.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM:A



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

KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE  
MANHATTAN, KANSAS  
DIVISION OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

July 13, 1929.

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

Dear Mr. Mercer:

In accordance with the conversation that we had yesterday and for the good of the project in Sedan, Kansas, I would like to suggest the following:

Dr. Pyle informs me that the shed in which the experimental cattle at Sedan are now kept is very undesirable during this hot weather. He states that it is insanitary, that the cattle are crowded and uneasy and that the stable man does not give the animals good care.

In order to overcome the above conditions Doctor Pyle suggests that the experimental cattle be moved to the farm of Mr. C. W. Floyd. On Mr. Floyd's farm there is a shed that could be properly fixed up to house the experimental cattle at an expense of less than \$100, so Doctor Pyle informs me. I believe that this would be an excellent move and I trust that you will suggest this to Mr. Floyd so that it may be carried out immediately.

If the cattle are moved to Mr. Floyd's farm, Mr. Floyd's help will take care of the cattle, that is, such as feeding, cleaning out the stalls, etc.

One point in particular that I believe is very important is that in fixing up the shed on Mr. Floyd's farm, at least one stall should be arranged for isolating some cattle as follows:

One known infected animal and one or preferably two susceptible animals should be placed in this isolation stall. In this isolation stall there should also be placed one of the numerous species of insects that may be carriers of anaplasmosis. If this phase of the project is carried out it seems to me that they may definitely determine what insect is the carrier.

While I have suggested only one isolation stall, you can readily understand that much quicker headway will be made in the project if two, three, or even four such stalls are provided, each of these stalls to provide space for one diseased and two susceptible animals, and each of the stalls to have placed in it a different species of fly or insect. I hope that you will decide to go as far as



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financially possible in authorizing the building of these isolation stalls.

Now, in regard to the animals that should be purchased for the phase of the experiment to be carried out in the isolation stalls there are in my opinion several important considerations as follows:

I. All three of the cattle placed in each of the isolation stalls should be thoroughly domesticated and gentle so that it will not be necessary to rope them and fight them every time they are examined and a sample of blood is to be taken.

II. All three of the experimental cattle suggested for each isolation stall should be at least one year of age and preferably older.

III. Because it is so difficult to obtain cattle of known and definite susceptibility in the vicinity of Sedan or in southeastern Kansas, for that matter, it is highly important that the two susceptible cattle to be placed in each isolation stall be purchased from an area where there is no anaplasmosis. For example, such cattle could be bought on the Kansas City market - cattle that had been shipped into the Kansas City market from some northern state - and then trucked to Sedan, and we would have the right kind of cattle.

I am also quite well convinced that one of the experimental animals that is now in the project in Sedan, known as animal #165, may be discarded. Possibly Doctor Stiles of the Bureau of Animal Industry should be consulted about this, because it happens to be the animal that was inoculated at the suggestion of Doctor Stiles of the Bureau of Animal Industry with ground lice. This animal has never shown a reaction of any kind and as it is now far beyond the usual incubation period, I believe it may as well be gotten rid of.

I hope that you will authorize Mr. Floyd and Doctor Pyle to carry out these suggestions as quickly as possible, because I believe that every day of delay is hindering the research value of the project.

Very truly yours,

R. R. Dykstra,  
Dean of Division.

RRD:PEP  
CC: President Farrell  
Dean Call  
Doctor Pyle



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

July 16, 1929.

Mr. C. T. Champ,  
Junction City, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I talked over the telephone with Mr. Powers today and it was his opinion that we should continue the present rabies quarantine which is effective in Geary County until the first of August. I hardly think it necessary to issue a new quarantine order but if you think it is advisable to have some new notices filled out to show that the order has been extended to August first, 'phone us on receipt of this letter and advise us of the number of cards you need and we will fill them out and send them to you. This quarantine order is to be continued under the same arrangements that were made by Mr. Gray with you and the Board of County Commissioners when the quarantine was first installed.

Mr. Powers advised me that there are quite a number of dogs that are supposed to be muzzled but that the muzzles used do not amount to anything. Of course, the quarantine order states that dogs must be tied up or "properly" muzzled and if you find dogs in the quarantined area that are not "properly" muzzled you have a perfect right to kill them. You should tell the owner of any such dog that the muzzle used on his dog is not of any consequence and if he does not get the right kind of a muzzle or tie the dog up that you will have to kill it.

Of course, we cannot prescribe the use of any certain kind of muzzle because some dogs need large muzzles and some need small ones and the owner is the one to secure muzzles for his own dogs but if owners do not comply with the order all you can do is to kill their dogs.

Do not fail to send us your weekly report in line with former instructions.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM.A

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

July 16, 1929.

Mr. C. R. Bratton, Manager,  
Mid-Western Poultry Farms and Hatchery,  
Burlingame, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Bratton:

Answering your letter of the 6th instant wish to say there would be no way to correct the matter you refer to with respect to the sale of chicks by hatcheries advertising them to be from B. W. D. tested flocks etc. other than for this department to issue an order preventing any hatchery in the state from selling baby chicks that do not come from eggs produced by B. W. D. tested flocks. To enforce such an order would require a large amount of funds. Of course, I believe that it will not be long until such an order will be issued but at this time I am of the opinion that the way we are doing is better than to issue an order which we could not enforce.

I might say, however, that any hatchery that advertises B. W. D. tested chicks for sale and does not furnish such chicks violates the law because this would be falsely advertising their business. The good, substantial hatcheries over the state should band themselves together and compel these unscrupulous hatcheries to obey the law. The Attorney General of the State and the various County Attorneys can handle matters of this kind.

I might add that if at any time you bring to our attention a hatchery that is disobeying the law by falsely advertising their business we will see that the matter is corrected. As stated above, however, we cannot issue an order at this time because we would not have funds to enforce it.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM:A





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

LIFE MEMBER--American Poultry Association  
Kansas State Poultry Breeders Association  
Burlingame Poultry Association  
International Baby Chick Association

### *Mid-Western Poultry Farms and Hatchery*

C. R. BRATTON, Proprietor

Licensed A. P. A. Judge

*Baby Chicks from Stock Tested Three Consecutive Years  
for Bacillary White Diarrhea*

*Exhibition Quality Combined with Heavy Egg Production*

BURLINGAME, KANSAS

July 6, 1929

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

Dear Mr. Mercer:

We note with regret during the last season that many hatcheries advertised chicks from tested flocks and on investigation had only one or two flocks tested. We are sincere in trying to make our flocks clean and hope you may see your way clear to force regulations on these hatcheries. It is immaterial to us what test is used or both as we are willing to conform to any regulations you require but we do think that all hatcheries within the state should strictly conform to your regulations.

The past season, we have had few complaints and are firm believers in testing for B.W.D. We hope that you may find the time to make regulations before the next season and notify each hatchery advertising chicks from tested flocks.

With best wishes, we are

Yours very truly,

Mid-Western Poultry Farms & Hatchery

*C. R. Bratton*  
Mgr.

BLOODTESTED PARENT STOCK IS BABY CHICK INSURANCE



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

July 19, 1929.

Dr. C. H. Menger,  
County Health Officer,  
Abilene, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I have a report from Mr. W. W. Downey, a representative of this department who made an investigation of the rabies outbreaks in Dickinson County, and he advises that he conferred with you and other officials in the county and that it did not seem necessary to install a quarantine at this time.

Advise me if there are any further outbreaks in the county and in case the situation grows worse and it is thought advisable we will establish a quarantine.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM:A

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



J. H. MERCER  
COMMISSIONER

### State of Kansas

OFFICE OF  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER  
TOPEKA

Abilene, Kansas,  
July 17, 1929.

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

Dear Mr. Mercer:

I came to Abilene yesterday to make an investigation of the rabies outbreak reported by Dr. C. H. Munger, County Health Officer of Dickinson County.

Dr. Munger advises me that the only outbreak in the county that he knows anything about was in the city of Chapman and that the city council had a meeting and passed a city ordinance compelling all dogs to be tied up or muzzled. They have selected a man by the name of J. J. Cushing to enforce the ordinance.

I did not take the matter up with the county commissioners as I did not think it necessary after Dr. Munger and I visited Chapman today and conferred with City Mayor, J. M. Clifford, Dr. Meyers, veterinarian, J. J. Cushing, Marshal, Mr. J. W. Frazier and Mr. G. E. Warnick, as they thought they were getting cooperation from the citizens of the town. They advise that there are only about twenty dogs left in the city.

Mr. Cushing is putting in all of his time looking after the situation. They are having warning notices printed in the form of handbills. Notices are also being published in the local papers. Up to date they have killed twenty-six dogs, two of which showed positive for rabies at the Manhattan laboratory. There were two others which they thought were infected but the heads of these two were not sent in for analysis.

The first dog that was killed and reported as being positive belonged to Park Blackwelder, Chapman. This dog was killed about two weeks ago. Mr. Blackwelder saw the dog the evening before it was killed and never thought but what it was all right. That evening it strayed away and the next morning Pay McGormey, who lives just west of the city limits, found the dog in his corral where he had four mules, a cow and a calf. The dog acted queer and he killed it and sent the head to Manhattan. Mr. Blackwelder does not know whether the dog bit any of his stock or not but took the precaution of having them vaccinated for rabies.



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The second dog killed belonged to Mr. Milt Boyd, Chapman. They did not send the head of this dog in for analysis and do not know of any harm he did.

The third one was a stray and no one knew where it came from. There was no analysis made of it and they don't know of any harm it may have done.

The fourth was also a stray. Sunday it ran into J. W. Frazier's yard acting playful. It jumped up on Mrs. Frazier and licked her hand. Mr. Frazier had two young dogs tied up in his back yard. The stray dog saw them and ran back and commenced to fight with them. It then left Frazier's place. The next morning Mr. Frazier was told they had killed another dog they thought had rabies. That put Frazier to thinking. He investigated and found it was the dog that had been to his place. He severed the stray dog's head and took it to Manhattan where it showed positive.

It was mutual with all present not to put on a state quarantine at this time. They stated that they would keep our department advised as to the situation and if it is thought necessary later to establish a quarantine I told them we would be at their service. I advised them that I would report to you and that you would write them.

Mayor J. M. Clifford, Chapman  
Dr. C. H. Munger, Abilene  
Marshal J. J. Cushing, Chapman  
J. W. Frazier, Chapman  
Pat McGormey, Chapman  
Milt Boyd, Chapman  
Park Blackwelder, Chapman

I did not see Mr. McGormey, Milt Boyd or Park Blackwelder but Mr. Frazier, Mayor Clifford and Dr. Meyers knew the exact circumstances.

I am enclosing one of the warning notices they had struck.

Very truly yours,



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

July 20, 1929.

Mr. Walter Thompson,  
Osage City, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Someone called me from Osage City yesterday, Dr. Davis I think, advising that you have a herd of cattle that are bothered with sore feet and he wanted someone from this office to make an investigation.

Our veterinarian is in the southeastern part of the state at this time and will not return to the office until some time next week. However, I do not think he would be of any material help to you for the reason that I know just about what the trouble is and can tell you what to do.

The wet season has caused low places in pastures and feed lots to stay muddy and as a result we have had quite a number of cattle over the state that have been infected with sore feet. The only thing that can be done is to treat the cattle and the best way to treat them is to build a wooden trough that will hold fifty to seventy gallons of a solution which you can drive the cattle through. A copper sulphate solution should be used in the trough and should be mixed in proportions of four pounds of copper sulphate to twelve gallons of water. The cattle should be driven through this trough at least once a day.

If there are still muddy places where your cattle stand you should fence them away from the places if you can possibly do so. If some of the cattle have extremely sore feet their feet should be thoroughly washed and cleaned before driving them through the copper sulphate solution. It is not necessary, however, to wash their feet unless they are very sore. The whole herd should be driven through this solution.

You no doubt can get copper sulphate at your drug store. If your drug store does not have it you can order it by 'phone from the Jensen Salsbery Laboratories at Kansas City and they will send it to you.



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Mr. Walter Thompson,  
Osage City, Kansas.

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You might let me know the first of the week how your cattle are doing and if Dr. Christenson is in the office then I will send him down to look your herd over in case it seems advisable.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM.A

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

July 22, 1929.

Mr. Fred Baxter,  
Kerwin, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

It has been reported to this office by Dr. J. Pugh that you have lost several head of horses with rabies. Dr. Pugh does not advise anything about the origin of the disease. More than likely, however, there has been a mad dog that has traveled through your community and your horses were bitten. Of course, rabies can also originate from a skunk or cat bite but it is more likely that it originated from the bite of a dog.

You should be extremely careful in every way and not expose yourself in any way. Rabies is a very serious disease and is fatal to man as well as beast. The animals that have died should be thoroughly burned or buried three or four feet under ground. If they were in stables and fed in troughs you should disinfect these places. I might suggest that a good disinfectant is common lye. A solution of one pound of lye to fifteen gallons of water should be used to scrub the stalls and troughs.

If you have any dogs on your place you should keep them muzzled or tied up for twenty or thirty days from the time rabies broke out among your horses. All tramp and stray dogs in the community should be killed.

In case there is any further outbreak in your community we will have an investigation made.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM.A



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



J. H. MERCER  
COMMISSIONER

### State of Kansas

OFFICE OF  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER  
TOPEKA

July 22, 29.

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

Dear Mr. Mercer:

Referring to our recent conversation relative to the vaccination of cattle at this yards. I have given considerable thought to conditions that exist at this market but as yet I have not reached a definite conclusion as to what would remedy or remove some of the objectionable features. I believe that Bidwell-Johnson vaccinate more calves destined to Kansas points than we do. At least the records this office furnishes you on the experimental vaccination of cattle show them to be in the lead on the number of cattle vaccinated going to our state and it reasonable to presume that this is true in the vaccination of cattle going to other states.

I do not hesitate to say that in my judgement the results obtained are no better on cattle vaccinated in the chutes than in the open pens but I have found it impossible to make a good many of the purchasers and some of the commission merchants see it in that way.

This alone as a talking point gives Bidwell-Johnson the advantage and discredits our method of doing this work in the minds of a good many people. In addition to this on July the 12th, 1929, Mr. R. L. Cuff showed moving pictures in the hall of the exchange here, sponsored by Mr. Brown of the Franklin Blackleg Serum Co. showing among various other things a picture demonstrating the proper method of vaccinating ~~of~~ cattle as recommended by the Franklin Blackleg Serum Co.

This picture showed the cattle placed in a chute being vaccinated in the neck and since that I have had several people ask me why it was that the Franklin Blackleg Serum Co. would advocate that method of vaccination and at the same time practice the method of vaccinating in the open pens here at the yards. I might add to that Mr. Lee Brown visited each office in the building and invited the commission firms to attend his show and see these pictures which a great many did as well as some others who are not connected with the exchange.

There are two principal reasons why vaccinating cattle in open pens is a disadvantage, first, in wild cattle it is hazardous.

Second, there is the matter of yarding. As an example of this we receive an order to vaccinate a hundred head in the shipping division for producers account of John Doe, then we have to go to the scales to get the yarding, and when we get there they have been moved or taken to the branding chutes. Ofcourse we cannot vaccinate them over there. In the meantime we have other rush orders and yardings to look up. This makes it necessary for us to keep going back untill the cattle are finally located. This consumes a lot of unnecessarily wasted time.

If some sort of arrangements could be made with the yard company to furnish chutes it would eliminate a lot of grief and the unjust criticism of the method now employed.

in case

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



J. H. MERCER  
COMMISSIONER

### State of Kansas

OFFICE OF  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER  
TOPEKA

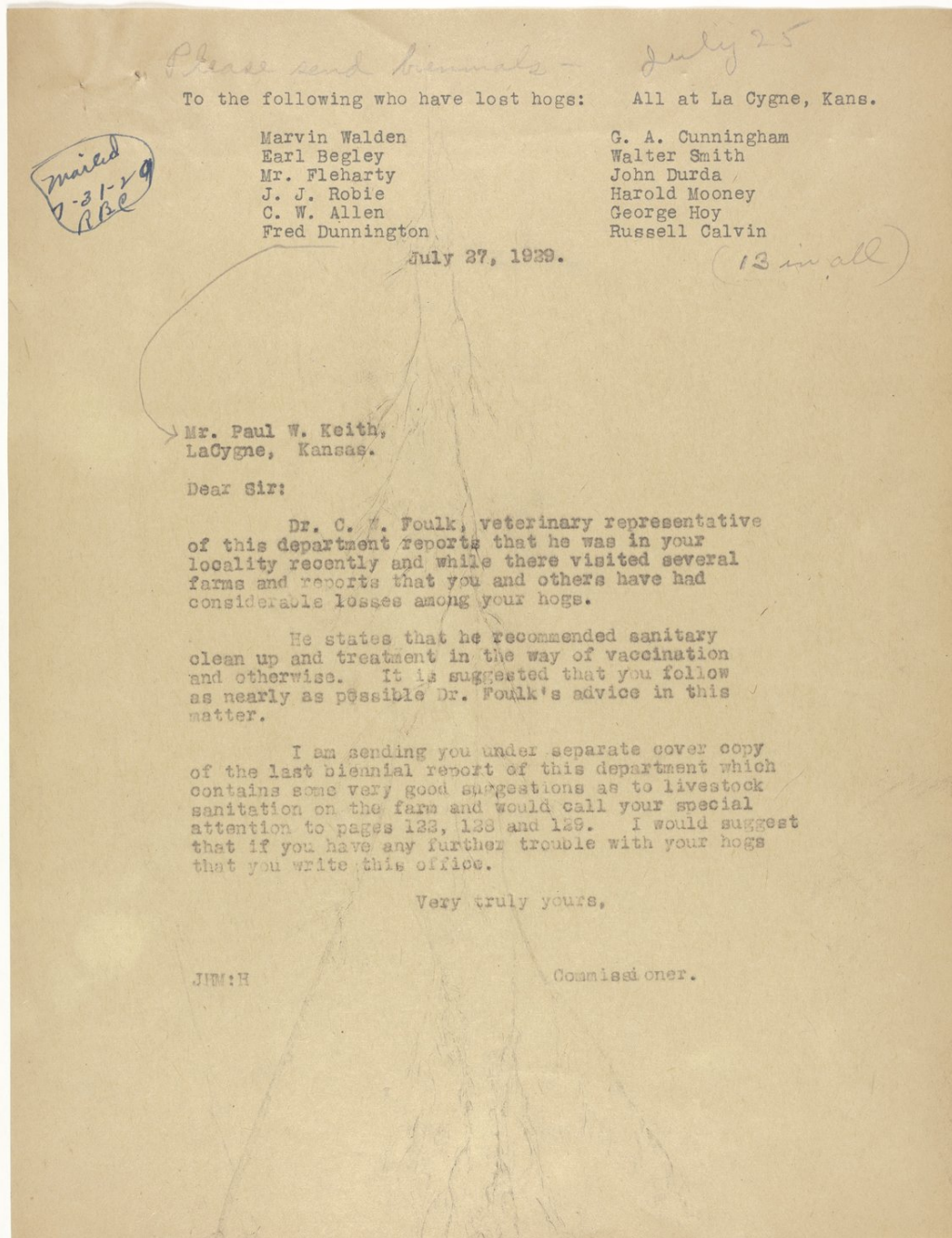
These are a few ideas that I wish to submit to you.

Yours truly,

*J. A. Fowler*



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



J. H. MERCER  
COMMISSIONER

### State of Kansas

OFFICE OF  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER  
TOPEKA

Kansas City, Mo.  
July 25, 1929

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

Dear Sir:-

I investigated the situation at LaCygne, Kansas as per instructions, and find that the neighborhood has been very hard hit with a variety of swine diseases which has resulted in severe losses that are quite general over the entire vicinity. The peak of the scourge seemingly is over, but there exists enough trouble there to warrant any investigation you might wish to extend as my following report will show. I was unable to visit all of the farms that I would like to have in the amount of time I spent.

I worked as long as I could Friday night and only made a start on what should have been done. I returned home Friday night to return Dr. Fowler's car which I had driven and returned to LaCygne Saturday to continue investigations.

The cases that Mr. Kieth called to your attention with regard to the unsanitary handling of sick and dead hogs was mostly hearsay information and of course was hard to get any definite information on since the hogs on these places had all died, and had been disposed of in some fashion. When you talk to the owner of course they were destroyed by fire or buried and when talking to the ones wishing to make a complaint they most generally quote someone else as telling them what took place as to how the sick hogs were permitted to run over the neighborhood, and then permitted to lie around after death. However, I think there has been a lot of carelessness practiced in the disposition of diseased hogs which is at least partially responsible for such a general outbreak. A great many people in this neighborhood are uninformed on the subject of sanitation and the law on the disposition and handling of diseased hogs and there seemingly are others who do <sup>not</sup> care. I might add that to me conditions there are more serious than one would expect.

✓ Paul W. Kieth has ten hogs at his home and an interest in a herd at his father's farm. The herd at Paul Kieth's farm is the only one affected. They had been vaccinated by Paul with hog cholera serum and Hemorrhagic Septicemia aggressin. I posted one hog that was sick and found it to be affected with Necrotic Enteritis, Pulmonary Oedema and Swine Plague. The diagnosis was confirmed by the Kinsley Laboratories.



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



J. H. MERCER  
COMMISSIONER

### State of Kansas

OFFICE OF  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER  
TOPEKA

Mercer -2-

Paul Kieth asked me to furnish material for him to vaccinate his hogs with which I did - enough for ten head, and advised the use of lye in the slop and a general disinfection, and clean up. He destroys his hogs by fire.

✓ Mervin Walden had twenty-six hogs and has lost ten head. They had been vaccinated with hog cholera serum, virus and hemorrhagic septicemia aggressin. I posted one of his hogs and found it to have Necrotic Enteritis. I advised him to have Dr. Murray vaccinate the rest of his hogs with Jungerman's product, disinfect, cleanup, and to continue to burn up any hogs that die which he has been doing, and to feed lye in the usual way in the feed (soaked oats etc.) one pound to fifty gallons of water.

C. O. Morgan has had trouble with his hogs recently, but vaccinated for cholera and now seems to be all right.

✓ Earl Begley had sixty-three hogs, thirty-one of which has died up to date. I posted one that had been sick for about a week or ten days, and found it to be affected with cholera. I was unable to distinguish any other complications. I believe his hogs will make it all right now since they are vaccinated for cholera. He has burned thoroughly all hogs that died. I advised him how to disinfect and cleanup.

✓ Mr. Fleharty had three sows and a litter of pigs, all of which were sick, but one sow. The temperatures ranged in the sick ones from 106 degrees to better than 108 degrees. I posted a pig and found it to have lesions of Cholera and Necrotic Enteritis. I advised him to have his veterinarian vaccinate this healthy sow immediately if he wished to save her and that I could not promise him anything for the rest of them. I further advised him on sanitation disinfection, and the disposition of any hogs that died.

✓ I talked with J. J. Robie, who lost twenty-four out of twenty-six hogs. He says his veterinarian diagnosed his trouble as ~~cholera~~ <sup>poisoning</sup>, and did not try to do anything for them. Of course I did not get Dr. Murray's side of it. This man burned all of his hogs as they died.

✓ C. W. Allen had 160 hogs and has lost about thirty head. The Peters Serum Co. had been to this man's place and pronounced his trouble as Cholera and vaccinated, but he continued to have losses. I posted a hog or two for this man and find that in addition to Cholera he also has Necrotic Enteritis. This man would not use Dr. Murray, located at LaCygne, and wanted me to supply him with Jungerman's product, so when I came home I called Dr. Jungerman for him and he sent it to him to use himself. I advised him to soak oats or bran

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



J. H. MERCER  
COMMISSIONER

### State of Kansas

OFFICE OF  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER  
TOPEKA

Mercer -3-

and shorts in lye water mixed in the proportion, one pound of lye to fifty gallons of water, and to continue burning the dead hogs as he had been doing in the past, and to disinfect and cleanup as usual.

✓ I called on Mr. Fred Dunnington, who was reported as having had trouble with his hogs in the past, and who has been careless about the disposition of dead hogs. While he would not commit himself as being careless yet he promises to be more careful about the disposition of any hogs that die in the future. He was very gentlemanly, and seemed to appreciate my calling on him, and asks for help on his hogs as he has never been able to find a veterinarian, who could help him out in his hog trouble. From his description of the trouble I would judge that he has been bothered with Necrotic Enteritis. I advised him on the handling and feeding of his hogs as well as a general cleanup to be used as a precautionary measure.

✓ G. A. Cunningham had nine hogs, two of which died. All of the rest were sick. I posted one of these hogs, and found lesions of Cholera and Necrotic Enteritis. I advised him that in as much as all were sick it was not likely that anything could be done that would do him any good. I further advised a general cleanup and disinfection and that he continue to burn all hogs that died.

✓ Harold Mooney called me when he found there was some one from your department there, and wanted a diagnosis on some trouble he had been having. His troubles were confined to the small pigs. It did not kill them, but gave lots of trouble. The eye lids were congested and swollen with some ulceration. This trouble I think came from the infected unsanitary pens, the floor of which was made from silty deposits on land that overflowed. I advised fifteen percent Argyrol solution for the eyes of the few pigs affected and general cleanup with good clean clay in this hog pens instead of this black silt, and also advised that he spray the pens with a mixture of Crude oil and Crude Carbolic Acid.

✓ Walter Smith and John Durda were reported as having sick hogs and permitting them to run loose, and lie around after death. I called on these two men but was unable to catch them at home or find any hogs on either place. The hog pen at Walter Smith's place was open with all the hogs out at large or dead I do not know which.

✓ George Hoy was reported to me by Art Hamilton, who states that while out hunting last winter he went on to the Hoy farm and there found a pile of eight or ten dead hogs that were in a pretty bad state of decomposition. He states that he called the sheriff and the County Attorney to get them to take some action on the matter, and that he was unable to get anything done. I advised him that if he would call you in such cases, he would get some action.



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



J. H. MERCER  
COMMISSIONER

### State of Kansas

OFFICE OF  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER  
TOPEKA

Mercer -4-

✓ Russell Calvin was reported to me as having lost all his hogs with some disease, and that he had burned them in which case I did not feel it necessary to investigate his case since I had other places to work where they were in trouble at the present time. On Saturday night it was reported to me that instead of really burning his hogs that he had only partially burned them.

This is the greater part of the parties I made investigation of and is only a small part of what could be done there. The address of all parties mentioned is LaCygne, Kansas.

Very truly yours,

*Chas. C. Fouck*

CCF:C



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

July 26, 1929.

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

Dear Doctor Fowler:

I have your letter with respect to the Arnold Dairy Calf Company.

I do not want you to permit any of these little calves handled by this company to come into Kansas unless the purchaser or some one you know representing the purchaser comes to you and makes the request and fully understands the chances he is taking in buying these little weak calves. So, don't let any more calves off the market on a ny statement signed like the one you sent me furnished you by the seller.

I wish you would also find out more about this business. I would like to know whether or not this outfit has a license from the stockyards people to conduct a business of this kind on the Kansas City stockyards. Also, talk to Biggerstaff or the president of the Live Stock Exchange about it. I am asking for all this information for the reason that it seems to me that these people are conducting false advertising program, however, you need not mention this to any one until we find out all about it. It would not hurt if you would talk to the stockyards company about it or to Mr Weeks. Get all the information you can about it and write me.

I think you had best plan to start your vacation as soon as Williams returns. I want to arrange to leave Foulk at the office at Kansas City while you are away and I have some work I want to start him in on about the 15th of August or soon thereafter. I am writing him today about the matter, however.

Very truly yours,

JHM:H

Commissioner.



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

July 26, 1929.

Mr. Ralph Bowling,  
Arcola, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Bowling:

I have a report from Dr. Fowler who recently made an investigation of trouble among your hogs. He states that you sent one or two shoats to the Kinsley laboratory for examination. He also advises that he recommended certain treatment etc.

In case the trouble continues I wish you would advise me. I am making this suggestion for the reason that we have had quite a number of losses among hogs where the veterinarians have not been entirely satisfied as to just what the trouble might be and a Doctor Jungerman of Hiawatha, Kansas, has treated them with a serum he has been using quite successfully.

If your hogs continue to die let me know and I will send Dr. Jungerman to make an investigation.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM.A

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



J. H. MERCER  
COMMISSIONER

### State of Kansas

OFFICE OF  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER  
TOPEKA

Kansas City, Mo.  
July 22, 1929

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

Dear Sir:-

Following your instructions of July 17th. I caught the one A.M. train Thursday to Arcola, Kansas, and there met Mr. Ralph Bowling, who carried me in his car to his other ranch ten miles south where he had approximately 300 pigs ranging from three to six weeks old. The following is the history obtained regarding his trouble.

The pigs in question were farrowed in some old sheds located adjacent to his feed lots which had been used for that purpose for several years, and I found the sanitary conditions in and around the farrowing pens very undesirable for that purpose. Eighty of the 300 head, soon after birth, were moved with their mothers over across the river to another place, and there were turned out in the alfalfa pasture. They were not permitted to run in and out of the old sheds or feed lots. Careful examination showed that the eighty head were thrifty and not infected with any contagious or infectious disease so far as I could ascertain. But the ones that were left at the old farrowing pens, which was approximately 220 head, were diseased- infact had lost several.

Careful Post Mortem examination was made on several of the pigs and revealed Enteritis, Measles, and Erysipelas, and no symptoms or lesions found that would indicate hog Cholera. After the examinations and post mortems were finished I instructed Mr. Bowling to load all the pigs and mothers in a truck and move them to another place in an alfalfa pasture where they would be away from the old infected premises.

While I was there we vaccinated all the pigs with the Kinsley mixed bacterin and at the same time they were dipped in a creosote preparation put up the Columbia Hog Powder concern, and I advised Mr. Bowling to dip all of the infected pigs every day for one week and after that twice per week until the desirable results were obtained. Along with the dipping I advised Mr. Bowling to use one pound of lye to fifty gallons of shorts slop which is generally used for that trouble known as Necrotic Enteritis, and in my opinion is about the best thing to use for that trouble.



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



J. H. MERCER  
COMMISSIONER

### State of Kansas

OFFICE OF  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER  
TOPEKA

Mercer-2-

Mr. Bowling also has one hundred gilts that are due to farrow within the next two or three weeks, and I advised him to move them away from the old premises to clean quarters and dip them twice-three days apart, for the purpose of killing infection that might be carried with them, for the purpose of protecting his next pig crop.

I might say that Mr. Bowling is sending two or three pigs to Dr. Kinsley for laboratory analysis, and when I get the report will mail same to you.

Very truly yours,

*J. A. Fowler*

TAF:C

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

July 26, 1929.

Mr. Clayton Clinkenbeard,  
Wetmore, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Answering your letter of the 25th wish to say that if you have properly dipped your sheep there is no danger of the mange developing again when cold weather comes. However, I would suggest that you look the sheep over very carefully and if you see any signs of scab that you treat them again.

If you clean up the feed lot where these scabby sheep were held by hauling out the manure, burning all trash and disinfecting the feed bunks and places like posts etc. where the sheep have rubbed it will be safe for you to put sheep back in the lot. A good disinfectant to use is common lye. Take a pound of lye and mix it with fourteen gallons of water and, if you have a spray, spray the posts etc. with the solution. If you do not have a spray take a stiff broom and scrub the places. By following out these suggestions I think it will be safe to put sheep back in your lots.

Under separate cover I am sending you a copy of the last biennial report of this department which contains some good suggestions regarding farm sanitation. Also formula for the dipping of sheep. You will find this information beginning on page 113.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM.A

P.S. You might give me the name of the veterinarian who examined your sheep.

J.H.M.



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

*Summ*

July 26, 1929.

H. Umberger, Dean and Director,  
Division of Extension,  
Kansas State Agricultural College,  
Manhattan, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Umberger:

I have received copy of form letter which you sent to County Agricultural Agents. I am quite certain there will be no more misunderstanding with respect to the tuberculosis work if the County Agents carry out your instructions.

For your information I might say that petitions for area testing have been filed from the following counties: McPherson, Cloud, Cowley, Edwards, Barton, Sumner and Linn. Work in these counties will begin this fall. The work in Cherokee and Crawford Counties is now well under way. These two counties, however, did not file petitions for the work but we have gone ahead with the testing this summer as very few of the cattle in these counties are away on pasture.

I have written R. S. Trumbull, County Agent of Ford County and L. B. Harden, County Agent of Labette County advising them that it will be all right for them to circulate petitions in their counties if they so desire.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHM.A

*See Farrell correspondence in avaplaensis file*



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

COPY FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

MANHATTAN, KANSAS

DIVISION OF EXTENSION  
OFFICE OF DEAN AND DIRECTOR

*Mr. Mercer*

July 13, 1929

To County Agricultural Agents:

I am sending to you the following memorandum which has resulted from a conference at this institution between Secretary Mercer of the State Live Stock Sanitary Commission and President Farrell, Dean Call, and myself of this institution covering among other things extension work in relation to tuberculosis eradication:

"Extension work in relation to tuberculosis eradication.  
After a thorough discussion it was agreed that hereafter no request of a county agent or a county farm bureau for an educational project involving or looking toward tuberculosis eradication activities (for which the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner is solely responsible) will be approved unless the person or organization making the request files with Dean Umberger a written statement from the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner containing the Commissioner's consent to the starting of the project; in other words, indicating that, from the standpoint of the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner, the time is propitious for the beginning of a project looking toward tuberculosis eradication in the county concerned.

"Any request for educational work looking toward tuberculosis eradication that is received by the extension veterinarian from a county having no county farm bureau is to be referred immediately to the State Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner and the organization making the request is to be so informed by the extension veterinarian.

"Each county agent is to be instructed by Dean Umberger to inform him immediately whenever the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner informs the county agent that tuberculosis testing is to begin in his county, so that, in so far as possible, conflicts in the schedules of extension specialists and of the county agent may be avoided."

This comes as a result of the representation by Mr. Mercer that applications are made to him by county agents when there are not funds available to put such work across consequently delaying action and causing disappointment.





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

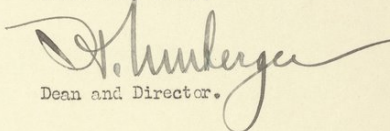
To County Agricultural Agents, page 2

Tuberculosis eradication will not be approved for the coming year as a project in any county at the coming Extension Conference:

1. Unless the county agent presents a written statement from the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner giving consent to the starting of the project in the county during that year.
2. In order that the situation may not be complicated by the necessity of conducting tuberculosis eradication work at a particular time when your extension program requires your very specific attention, the tuberculosis eradication project will not be undertaken by yourself or your farm bureau unless it has been made a part of your regular project work and under the conditions I have named under (1).

If this procedure is carefully followed it will avoid misunderstanding for all parties concerned. In any instances of a change of schedules by the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner this office should be immediately notified.

Yours very truly,

  
Dean and Director.

HU:H



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

June 14, 1927

Mr. J. W. Lamb,  
Division of Extension,  
Agricultural College,  
Manhattan, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 4th instant at hand with enclosure and contents carefully noted.

I do not believe the memoranda you have prepared to send the county agents will do any good. Neither do I think it will do much harm although it might be a little confusing to the county agents in some instances.

I presume you understand that the tuberculosis eradication control work is vested entirely in the Live Stock Commissioner's department under the law - that the county agent enters into the co-operation in the project as a voluntary act. It is not a part of his official service, neither has the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner any control over the county agent's work, unless as stated that he desires to take part as a co-operator in any of the Live Stock Commissioners projects. Therefore, we do not feel that the extension department of the college should direct the county agents in any manner with respect to the tuberculosis area work.

In most all cases the county agents have been most helpful in the tuberculosis and other animal disease control work, and we get along with them fine. In fact we believe that the less the college tells the county agents what to do in connection with matters pertaining to the work of this department, the better the service we can render and the better the co-operation of the county agents will be.

The plan for the county tuberculosis area work in Kansas is a fixed plan and since we use the local veterinarian in this work whenever he wishes to take part, it makes it necessary that we send a representative from this department or Dr. Townsend's department, to spend at least a week or ten days in each county in planning and starting the work and allowing territory to the local veterinarians. In doing this he also is instructed to get in touch with the county agent or the agency circulating the petition and go over these plans with the county agent and the county commissioners so that when the general work starts that each will fully understand the part he is to take. Under this procedure and plan, we have been getting along fine and with but very little misunderstanding or friction of any kind. Therefore, we would not want anything done that would interfere with the progress of the work as it is now carried on.

Very truly yours,

JHM/M

Commissioner.



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

KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE  
MANHATTAN, KANSAS  
DIVISION OF EXTENSION  
DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTES AND EXTENSION SCHOOLS

June 4, 1927

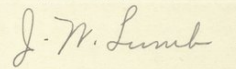
Hon. J. H. Mercer  
State House  
Topeka, Kansas

Dear Mr. Mercer:

Enclosed you will find an outline entitled, "Preparation for Modified Accredited Area Test." From time to time, new agents are going into county agent work in counties where the petitions have already been signed, and these boys do not have any very definite knowledge as to what preparations have to be made before the test can be put into operation. We have, therefore, drawn up this form incorporating in it a good many of the steps as outlined in your report which we hope will give them the necessary information to assist them materially in conducting the test. You will also note that we have incorporated briefly the steps to be taken in securing premiums on hogs from accredited counties. We believe that this is general enough to cover the requirement of the Kansas Live Stock Markets, as well as those within the Kansas State territories.

If you have any comments or suggestions to make in regard to this outline, we would be pleased to receive them.

Very truly yours,



J. W. Lumb  
Ext. Veterinarian

ENC  
JWL:ABB