

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116 PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

BEING THE

REPORTS

OF THE VARIOUS

PUBLIC OFFICERS AND  
DEPARTMENTS

FOR THE YEAR 1917

# REPORT

OF THE

# Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner

OF THE

## State of Maine

ON

# Contagious Diseases of Animals

1917



BOYDEN BEARCE, Commissioner



WATERVILLE

SENTINEL PUBLISHING COMPANY

1917



LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

*To His Excellency, Carl E. Milliken, Governor of the State of Maine:*

In accordance with the provisions of the Revised Statutes Chapter 35, Sect. 20, I herewith submit my annual report as Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner for the year 1917.

BOYDEN BEARCE,

*Commissioner.*

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 1917

### RECEIPTS

Appropriation ..... \$40,000 00

### EXPENDITURES

Animals condemned, including disinfection of stables .....	\$28,866 61	
Salary—Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner ....	1,500 00	
Salary—Clerk .....	500 00	
Salary—Dr. C. W. Purcell, Co-operative In- spector from August 10th to Dec. 31st, 1917	591 20	
Dr. C. W. Purcell's traveling expenses .....	212 36	
Commissioner's traveling expenses .....	439 14	
Veterinary services and traveling expenses ....	1,047 52	
Hog cholera serum .....	297 75	
Miscellaneous—printing, telephone, express, post- age, office supplies .....	1,577 66	35,032 24
Amount unexpended .....		\$4,967 76

### STATISTICS OF CONDEMNED ANIMALS, 1917

	No.	Amount	Average per head
Pure blooded cattle condemned for tuberculosis	68	\$4,605 00	\$67 42
Grade cattle condemned for tuberculosis ....	372	21,986 72	59 10
Animals condemned at Brighton for tubercu- losis .....	32	1,258 89	39 34
Horses condemned for glanders .....	22	1,016 00	46 18
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	494	\$28,866 61	
Imported cattle condemned for tuberculosis without appraisal .....	22		
Imported horses condemned for glanders without appraisal .....	2		

Amount paid State Treasurer for hides and carcasses..... \$8,946 75

## ANNUAL REPORT

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In accordance with the provisions of Revised Statutes, Chapter 35, Section 20, which act is entitled "The Prevention of Contagious Diseases Among Animals," I have the honor to present to the Governor of Maine the sixth annual report of the work accomplished and the financial standing of this department for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1917.

While dark clouds are hovering over almost all conditions of towns, cities, states, nations and the whole world we see a glimmer of light and bright prospects ahead in controlling the contagious diseases of horses, cattle, sheep and swine in the State of Maine. While we have tuberculosis, glanders, hog cholera and contagious abortion with us all the time, the work of the past year shows a slight abatement over previous years, and gives encouragement that permanent control, and perhaps eradication, may be reached in the future.

No cases of foot-and-mouth disease, anthrax or rabies have been reported in the State the past year.

We note with much pleasure the increased interest shown by the live stock owners in having their herds healthy and free from any contagious or infectious disease. Owners who are anxiously seeking knowledge are becoming better acquainted with the tuberculin and ophthalmic tests and their application. Many are beginning to look with favor upon the laws and rules of this department and regard them as their friend and protector rather than their enemy and prosecutor. Owners of all breeds of registered cattle are finding it a hard task to interest a would be purchaser unless their herds have been tuberculin tested within one year, and the would be purchaser is continually reaching out for more and better evidence of the healthfulness and cleanliness of the herd from which he is to purchase his foundation stock.

City consumers of milk and butter are becoming more and more alive to the situation and many times we hear the question, "Is this milk from a tuberculin tested herd?"

All agree that to win the war we all must pull together, a long pull and a short pull but all together. Each man, woman and child must do his mite and success and victory is sure to come. So the eradication of contagious diseases among our animals and also in the human family must be brought about by war. War against tuberculosis and the white plague; war against farcy and glanders; war against hog cholera; war against contagious and infectious abortion. Everyone must be a fighter and everyone means YOU. We cannot depend upon our physicians and veterinarians to eradicate the diseases, for the colleges are sending out new doctors and veterinarians every day and they must have something to do. The old saying that "What is everybody's is nobody's business" does not work in this case, for it is everybody's business to help get the contagious diseases of our animals under control.

## Glanders

Glanders is a contagious and usually chronic disease of horses and mules. It is characterized by the development of nodules that have a tendency to break down or degenerate, and by ulcers form the latter process. These changes occur in the tissues of the mucus membranes and the internal organs and are the direct effect of the bacillus mallei. It is one of the most important diseases of the horse and mule and when transmitted to man is one of the most fatal diseases. Glanders of the skin is known as farcy.

It is possible in many cases to recognize the disease by the clinical lesions shown, but since the introduction of the ophthalmic mallein test for glanders our work in eradicating the disease has been greatly simplified and we have been able to test a great many more horses than ever before.

Public drinking fountains and public watering troughs are a constant source of danger to horses as regards the spread of the disease. Many of the larger cities have closed such fountains and troughs and horse owners or drivers must use individual watering pails for their animals.



All suspicious cases of glanders reported to this office by the local boards of health, the agents for the prevention of cruelty to animals and by the inspectors for this department have been promptly investigated. Thirty-one cases have been reported and investigated by this department during the past year and nine of them were diagnosed as glanders and the horses were appraised and killed. In the remaining twenty-one cases the horses were suffering from catarrh, nasal gleet or diseased teeth all of which show some symptoms of glanders. We invite the reporting of all suspicious cases from any source.

The past year gives much encouragement towards controlling the disease in Maine.

In the year 1913 there were 67 horses condemned and killed for glanders; 68 in 1914; 54 in 1915; 54 in 1916, and only 24 in 1917. This number was found in the following cities and towns:—Bowdoinham 1, Damariscotta 1, Denmark 2, Gorham 2, Guilford 1, Hallowell 1, Kezar Falls 1, Kent's Hill 1, Kittery 1, Newfield 1, North Waterford 1, North Whitefield 1, Oakland 1, Pittsfield 1, Rockland 1, Saco 1, Sebago Lake 1, Waterville 1, West Parsonsfield 1, Westbrook 2, Winn 1.

## **Bovine Tuberculosis**

The success of any campaign against bovine tuberculosis depends upon the tuberculin test. It is the only means of detecting the disease in its different stages. A physical examination alone cannot be depended upon and is being used less and less by all progressive states and countries in their tuberculin control work.

The degree of success obtained in any systematic work against tuberculosis is going to depend entirely upon which of the various methods of testing recommended by different investigations is depended upon.

In the State of Maine we have adopted and are placing our reliance upon the old Koch subcutaneous method of testing, the only method recognized by the government at the present time. Other methods have their believers. The ophthalmic, or eye test, is advocated by some principally because it can be administered and results shown so quickly, but no one dares to depend upon it. The intradermal test is made by injecting the

tuberculin in the skin of the lower eyelid, or the subcandal fold of the tail. This method has its believers and in some states it is practiced to some extent. In both the ophthalmic and intradermal tests no temperatures are taken which very much lessens the time in making the test and also the expense.

We are told that much investigating and experimenting is being done with the intradermal test which in time may bring it to a more reliable test, but the best sources of information give the subcutaneous tuberculin test as the most reliable at the present time. By post mortem reports 98 reactors out of every 100 show lesions of tuberculosis. The accuracy of the test depends in a great measure upon the number of temperatures taken and the care and honesty of the person applying the test.

We believe and are free to assert that the tuberculin testing in the State of Maine has been carried on in the year 1917 with a greater degree of care and honesty than ever before in the history of the work. This may have been brought about by the introduction of the free cooperative test which I am to speak of later.

With the eighty inspectors in the State there seems to be a greater determination to conform to the laws, rules and regulations of this department than ever before in my administration, and the results are less blunders, more testing with a smaller percentage of reactors which by post mortem show no lesions of tuberculosis. I draw no line of distinction between graduates and non-graduates, but the veterinarian who uses good judgment and is careful and honest in his work is the one that the farmers and breeders wish to employ, and the one whose work meets with the approval of this department. Through this report I extend to all inspectors my sincere thanks for services rendered and for so willingly complying with my many requests. The prospects for 1918 look bright and some few changes are under contemplation.

The State Assessors report gives the number of cattle in the State of Maine April 1, 1917 one year old and over as 256,670 and of this number 26,620 have received the tuberculin test the past year, or only ten and one-third per cent of the whole number of cattle in the State. Comparing the number tested and the number which reacted and were condemned with the

whole number of cattle in the State we have at present approximately 3,000 tuberculous cattle in Maine.

The following table shows the number of cattle tested and condemned by the State Inspectors in the different counties during 1917:

Name of County	No. tested	No. condemned
Androscoggin .....	7,573	18
Aroostook .....	676	6
Cumberland .....	2,759	63
Franklin .....	1,275	35
Hancock .....	75	2
Kennebec .....	1,767	54
Knox .....	130	1
Lincoln .....	229	4
Oxford .....	6,374	46
Penobscot .....	1,201	30
Piscataquis .....	151	9
Sagadahoc .....	224	3
Somerset .....	1,174	21
Waldo .....	307	22
Washington .....	45	2
York .....	1,575	64
Total .....	25,335	380

### Free or Cooperative Test

Early in July of 1917 proposals were received from the Bureau of Animal Industry at Washington, D. C., offering to cooperate with the State of Maine in the eradication of bovine tuberculosis. The following articles of agreement were drawn up and signed by J. R. Mohler, Acting Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, Boyden Bearce, Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner, and approved by Carl E. Milliken, Governor of Maine.

July 11, 1917.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
REGARDING ERADICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS  
IN THE STATE OF MAINE BY CO-  
OPERATION BETWEEN THE  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER,  
STATE OF MAINE  
AND THE  
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED  
STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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- I. The Bureau of Animal Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture agrees:
1. To detail a competent veterinary inspector to be known as the Inspector in Charge of Tuberculosis Eradication work.
  2. To detail additional veterinary inspectors to the extent of the means at hand and in proportion to the funds expended by the State for the employment of veterinary inspectors who will devote their entire time to tuberculosis eradication work in the State of Maine.
  3. To pay the salary of Bureau Inspector and such traveling expenses as are incurred under Bureau instructions and authorized by the fiscal regulations of the United States Department of Agriculture.
  4. To furnish tuberculin and all necessary blank forms, except the state quarantine blanks adopted as official by the State.
- II. The Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner agrees:
1. To employ and detail one veterinary inspector to tuberculosis eradication work for every veterinary inspector detailed by the Bureau of Animal Industry to the same work.

2. The State Inspector will work under the supervision of the Inspector in Charge detailed by the Bureau.
  3. To enforce state laws and regulations governing the handling and disposition of cattle which react to the tuberculin test.
  4. To furnish the required local quarantine and blanks, also copies of the state regulations for use in tuberculosis eradication work.
- III. The Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner and the Bureau of Animal Industry agree:
1. That the work of tuberculosis eradication shall be cooperative.
  2. That the Inspector in Charge of the work for the Bureau of Animal Industry shall confer with the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner at least once every two months and welcome any suggestions offered with a view of improving methods in the work, but any deviation or departure from the established practice of the Bureau of Animal Industry must have the approval of the Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry before being adopted.
  3. All charts and other reports shall be sent to the Inspector in Charge. The Inspector in Charge shall render the monthly report required by the Bureau of Animal Industry and shall furnish a copy to the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner.

(Signed) J. R. MOHLER,

*Acting Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry,  
U. S. Department of Agriculture.*

(Signed) BOYDEN BEARCE,

*Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner of the State of Maine.*

Approved, CARL E. MILLIKEN,

*Governor.*

To carry out this agreement Dr. Harry C. Kutz was detailed from the Bureau of Animal Industry and commenced work in the vicinity of Portland. Dr. C. W. Purcell of Biddeford, Maine, was hired to work for the State of Maine. Dr. W. G. Benner, who has charge of the eradication work in the New England States with office at Springfield, Mass., is Inspector in Charge.

All tuberculin testing is done by the subcutaneous method with three preliminary temperatures taken at 3, 5 and 7 P. M., the tuberculin injected at 8 P. M. The post injection temperatures are taken beginning at the eighth hour after injection and continuing every two hours until the twentieth hour. This test is recognized by the Bureau of Animal Industry as the standard tuberculin test and has been adopted by many of the States.

On July 30th an invitation was extended by letter to all of the State inspectors, and through the press to all breeders and others interested in the work, to meet in conference at the State House on August 9th. About sixty assembled in the House of Representatives and the cooperative test and the method of applying same was explained by Dr. W. G. Benner in a very concise and pleasant manner. Almost every person in the assembly expressed their opinion pro and con, and on the whole the meeting was conducive of much good and the effects have been noticed upon almost every test chart received at this office since. Much to my pleasure a great many of the State inspectors have adopted the long method of testing which shows care and forethought and may the old time "sleight-of-hand performances" be forever eliminated from the work.

There is at present a movement on foot to make a uniform test to be used in all the New England States that cattle may be shipped interstate and the approved test chart accepted. This would be looked upon with great caution by the Commissioner of Maine for we believe that the present law "that all cattle coming into Maine must be tuberculin tested within thirty days of their arrival regardless of any other test made" has kept out many spreaders of bovine tuberculosis.

Dr. Harry C. Kutz, the inspector for the Bureau of Animal Industry, resigned October 31st and Dr. F. L. Stevens was appointed.

The following table shows by counties the number of cattle tested and the number condemned under the cooperative free test:

Name of County	No. tested	No. condemned
Cumberland .....	483	32
Kennebec .....	112	10
Oxford .....	195	2
Penobscot .....	242	11
Sagadahoc .....	89	1
Somerset .....	17	2
Washington .....	146	1
York .....	1	1
Total .....	1,285	60

All persons desiring to obtain information concerning the free test are requested to write to this department when full information and agreement blanks will be forwarded to them.

### Contagious Abortion of Cattle

This department has received very few complaints or reports of contagious or infectious abortion of cattle for the past year, yet we are aware that it exists to quite an alarming extent in the State. It is a disease which seldom causes the death of an animal and we think that perhaps it is this reason why the owner of an infected herd rarely tells his neighbor that his herd is infected.

We quote a few lines from Farmers' Bulletin No. 790, United States Department of Agriculture, and advise all who read this report to write for this bulletin.

"The owner whose herd has escaped this disease is fortunate. If he is wise he will want to know how to prevent its introduction and will take all necessary precautions. On the other hand, the man into whose herd abortion has already come because he was not aware of the danger will ask for a cure and a means to prevent its dissemination throughout the herd. In the past drugs have been resorted to, and at various times carbolic acid, methylene blue, and other substances have been hailed as specifics, but all have been discarded as ineffective. It may be said with safety

that at present NO RELIABLE CURE FOR ABORTION IS KNOWN. The standard antiseptics are more reliable and cheaper than proprietary remedies.

Abortion can to a large degree be prevented and controlled by intelligent and thorough treatment, but a study of the recommendations will show that it is not a lazy man's job, and that one's best efforts will be required. Moreover eternal vigilance is the price of success.

In combating abortion where such thorough going methods are required, material, time and energy should not be wasted on animals of doubtful value. Butcher the "boarders" and concentrate on the profitable cows. The added attention bestowed upon the good animals will be more than repaid by the results."

### Hog Cholera

We have nothing new to report. It is the same story, no hog cholera reported in Maine except where city swill or garbage is being fed, and as far as we can learn there has been no great improvements in the methods of feeding this garbage.

In a small way we have introduced the simultaneous or serum and virus treatment for the disease with very good results. This treatment is said to immune the hog for life. At Portland City Farm and at Poland Spring Farm they are using this treatment on all pigs weighing over forty pounds and report very favorable results. Several small herds have also been treated with very good results. We are guarding this treatment with care as hog cholera virus is dangerous in the hands of an inexperienced veterinarian. The following order governing the sale, distribution and use of hog cholera virus in the State of Maine was issued.



## RULE NO. I.

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER

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AUGUSTA, MAINE, January 24, 1917.

*To all persons whom it may concern:—*

Whereas the disease known as hog cholera, which is a contagious disease, prevails to some extent in the State of Maine, I deem it necessary to adopt some measure for the prevention of the spread of said disease.

Now therefore, acting under the authority conferred on the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner by Chapter 35, Section 4 of the Revised Statutes of 1916, I do hereby make the following rule and regulation:

No person, firm or corporation shall distribute, sell or use in the State of Maine, or have in possession with the intent to have distributed, sold or used any virulent blood known as hog cholera virus without a written permission from the Live Stock Commissioner. Such permission to be granted when satisfactory arrangements can be made to prevent the dissemination of the disease, and the treatment to be administered by an especially designated agent from this Department.

This regulation shall be published by sending a copy to each inspector or veterinarian working under the direction of the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner, by distribution to known breeders of swine, and to commercial houses dealing in the aforesaid product.

This regulation shall take effect when approved by the Governor.

Approved January 30, 1917.

BOYDEN BEARCE,  
*Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner.*

CARL E. MILLIKEN,  
*Governor.*

Early in the season a demonstration of the simultaneous treatment was held at Poland Spring Farm under the direction of Dr. C. E. Swail of New Hampshire. Five Maine veterinarians were present and the result has been very profitable to this State.

## **Accredited Tuberculosis-Free Herds of Pure Bred Cattle**

Under the cooperative free test the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry is about to publish a blue book of accredited tuberculosis-free herds of pure bred cattle in the United States giving the name and address of all owners. We believe that this is something worth striving for and every pure bred breeder in Maine should aim to have his name recorded as a breeder of tuberculosis-free cattle.

We print below the requirements which will enable any breeder to register his herd as an accredited tuberculosis-free herd.

### UNIFORM METHODS AND RULES FOR TUBERCULOSIS-FREE ACCREDITED HERDS OF PURE-BRED CATTLE

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE UNITED STATES LIVE STOCK  
SANITARY ASSOCIATION AND BY REPRESENTATIVES OF  
PURE-BRED CATTLE BREEDERS' ASSOCIATIONS,  
AND APPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES  
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 23, 1917.

The following methods and rules with regard to tuberculosis-free accredited herds of pure-bred cattle, having been unanimously adopted by the United States Live Stock Sanitary Association and by representatives of pure-bred cattle breeders'

association, are hereby approved on behalf of the Bureau of Animal Industry for governing its cooperative work with the States in applying the tuberculin test to pure-bred cattle.

J. R. MOHLER,  
*Chief of Bureau.*

1. An accredited tuberculin-tested, pure-bred herd is one which has been tuberculin tested by the subcutaneous method, or any other test approved by the Bureau of Animal Industry, under the supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry, or a regularly employed veterinary inspector of the State in which cooperative tuberculosis eradication work is being conducted jointly by the United States Department of Agriculture and the State. Further, it shall be a herd in which no animal affected with tuberculosis has been found upon two annual or three semi-annual tuberculin tests, as above described, and by physical examination.

2. The entire herd, or any cattle in the herd, shall be tuberculin tested or retested at such time as is considered necessary by the Federal and State authorities.

3. No cattle shall be presented for the tuberculin test which have been injected with tuberculin within sixty days immediately preceding, or which have at any time reacted to a tuberculin test.

4. No herd shall be classed as an accredited herd in which tuberculosis has been found by the application of the test as referred to in paragraph 1, until such herd has been successfully subjected to two consecutive tests with tuberculin, applied at intervals of not less than six months, the first interval dating from the time of removal of the tuberculous animal from the herd.

5. Prior to each tuberculin test satisfactory evidence of the identity of the registered animal shall be presented to the inspector. Any grade cattle maintained in the herd, or associated with animals of the herd, shall be identified by a tag, or other marking, satisfactory to the State and Federal officials.

6. All removals of registered cattle from the herd, either by sale, death, or slaughter, shall be reported promptly to the said State or Federal officials, giving the identification of the animal, and, if sold, the name and address of the person to

whom transferred. If the transfer is made from the accredited herd to another accredited herd, the shipment shall be made only in properly cleaned and disinfected cars. No cattle shall be allowed to associate with the herd which have not passed a tuberculin test approved by the State and Federal officials.

7. All milk and other dairy products fed to calves shall be that produced by an accredited herd, or if from outside or unknown sources, it shall be pasteurized by heating to not less than 150 degrees F. for not less than twenty minutes.

8. All reasonable sanitary measures and other recommendations by the State and Federal authorities for the control of tuberculosis shall be complied with.

9. Cattle from an accredited herd may be shipped interstate, by certificate obtained from the office of the State live-stock sanitary officials of the State in which the herd is located, or from the office of the Bureau of Animal Industry, without further tuberculin test, for a period of one year, subject to the rules and regulations of the State of destination.

10. Strict compliance with these methods and rules shall entitle the owners of tuberculosis-free herds to a certificate, "TUBERCULOSIS-FREE ACCREDITED HERD," to be issued by the Bureau of Animal Industry and the State live-stock sanitary authority, said certificate shall be good for one year from date of test, unless revoked at an earlier date.

11. Failure on the part of owners to comply with the letter or spirit of these methods and rules shall be considered sufficient cause for immediate cancellation of cooperation with them by the State and Federal officials.

Committee representing breeders' associations:

Mr. W. A. Weaver, American Shorthorn Breeders' Association.

Mr. A. J. Glover, American Guernsey Cattle Club.

Mr. Charles Escher, Jr., American Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' Association.

Mr. Jacob Deering, American Jersey Cattle Club.

Mr. A. B. Cook, American Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association and range interests.

Committee representing United States Live Stock Sanitary Association :

Dr. J. A. Kiernan, Chief of the Tuberculosis Eradication Division, Bureau of Animal Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Dr. V. A. Moore, Director of the New York State Veterinary College, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

Dr. S. H. Ward, State Veterinarian, St. Paul, Minn.

Dr. W. J. Butler, State Veterinarian, Helena, Montana.

Dr. J. I. Gibson, State Veterinarian, Des Moines, Iowa.

### **Pure Bred Stock**

For some years there has been a delinquency on the part of owners of pure bred stock to comply with the law in regard to having their animals tuberculin tested before selling, and a transfer of the sale made through this department. Consequently the following letter was mailed to all owners of pure bred stock in the State, about one thousand in number, and the results have been very satisfactory.

STATE OF MAINE  
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER  
BOYDEN BEARCE, Commissioner

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AUGUSTA, MAINE, November 21, 1917.

*Dear Sir:*

In a pamphlet entitled "List of Breeders of Pure Bred Stock for 1917" I find your name and post office address. This list of breeders was furnished the Department of Agriculture by the assessors of the different towns and cities. I am taking the liberty of addressing you on a subject which I believe to be very important to yourself, to all owners of cattle and to all consumers of milk, butter and cheese in the United States. That subject is the tuberculin test. Most breeders of pure bred cattle are acquainted with the tuberculin test and its reliability,

but judging from the few, as compared with the many breeders who do not have their herds tested, I believe there are many who do not know that there is a law requiring all persons selling pure bred cattle over six months of age to have such cattle tested with tuberculin and a certificate of health given by the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner.

REVISED STATUTES 1916, CHAPTER 35.

SECTION 17. [P. L. 1917, Chap. 235] That all persons selling pure blood cattle, or cattle represented to be pure blooded, for breeding purposes, shall before delivery, make a report to the live stock sanitary commissioner, upon blanks furnished by him upon application, stating the number of cattle sold, the age and sex and to whom sold, and before delivery thereof, such cattle shall be tested with tuberculin under the direction of, and a certificate of health given by the live stock sanitary commissioner, unless such a test has been carried out under the direction within one year; but this provision shall not apply to calves less than six months old. Such certificate of health shall be delivered to the buyer by the seller. Whoever violates any provisions of this section, shall be punished by a fine not less than twenty-five or more than fifty dollars for each offense.

Only a few breeders of the State comply with this law, but I believe it is a good and just one and for the sake of your own cattle and family, the buyers from your herd for breeding purposes, and for humanity I am asking that you comply with the law and have your cattle tested. I enclose a list of inspectors for this department who will test your cattle when called upon by you to do so, and he will report the test to this department. You will then be equipped to legally sell any animal within one year from the date of the test and a certificate will be issued from this department. Application blanks will be forwarded upon request.

While this law has not been very well observed I believe that after giving this notice it is my duty to see that it is observed and enforced.

All infection in a herd traceable to the purchase of an animal from a pure bred herd that has not complied with this law will be investigated and the owner of the pure bred herd from which the animal came will be held responsible.

Very truly yours,

BOYDEN BEARCE,  
*Commissioner.*

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

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This is to certify that I was called in 1890 to test a herd of cattle belonging to Warner Brothers of St. Albans, Vt. That time I tested fifty-one cows and condemned forty-six which were found badly tuberculous upon examination. At this time cattle were killed on the farm on which they were condemned. Warner Brothers supplied milk for the city and I had taken milk of him for more than three years. My son being very fond of milk consumed a large quantity daily for that period and became tubercular from the said herd, living about eleven years. Eight other children that had taken milk from Warner Brothers' herd died at different periods with bovine tuberculosis. All of the known deaths were young boys and girls of school age and went to school with my children.

Yours very truly,

DR. W. H. COREY,

Newport, Maine, Dec. 1, 1917.

### Disinfection

Nearly all of the condemned cattle have been shipped to the abattoir of E. W. Penley at Auburn, Maine for slaughter as this seemed to be the most central place and where the freight expense was the least. All cars in which diseased cattle were shipped to Auburn were thoroughly disinfected free by the E. W. Penley Company under the direction and acceptance of Dr. L. K. Green, the Federal Inspector in charge.

It is one of the duties of the State Inspectors when they condemn cattle in a herd to instruct the owners concerning the best methods of disinfecting their stables and tieups and the materials to be used, and whenever possible to see that the instructions

are carried out by the owner. The State pays one half the cost of the disinfection. It is the custom of this department to write to parties who have had stock condemned asking them what they have done for disinfection and if the instructions of the Inspector have been carried out. It is almost impossible to disinfect some stables or barns without destroying the whole building and in such cases the work of disinfecting cannot be accomplished satisfactorily.

### **Investigation as to the Existence of Contagious Diseases**

During the years 1915 and 1916 there was no investigation made as to the existence of contagious and infectious diseases only what was obliged to be made owing to the small sum appropriated by the legislature for the work. During the year 1917 with ten thousand dollars added to the appropriation I have been able to investigate and locate 52 different cases. Of the 52 suspected cases, where many times whole herds were involved, there were found 39 tuberculous cattle which were condemned and slaughtered. Some of these cases were reported by the local veterinarians from different parts of the State, others came through the local board of health, and still others were located through the federal meat inspectors at Auburn and Portland. Several herds have been investigated through cattle being shipped to Brighton and reacting to the test there. Nearly all the herds from which the condemned Brighton cattle have come the past year have been investigated and are included in the 52 cases.

### **Importation of Horses**

11,766 horses have entered Maine this year from the States on permits. This shows an increase of 5,166 horses over the year 1916. 1,280 horses have entered Maine from Canada during the year 1917 and were inspected on the border by the United States Inspector. Nearly all the 11,766 horses have been examined on arrival, and two were found glandered and condemned without appraisal.



## Importation of Cattle

During the year 1917 there have been 2,384 cattle imported into Maine from the States which is an increase of 1,546 over the year 1916. 1,991 of this number were grade cattle and a great many were of the Hereford, Durham and Shorthorn breeds. Of the 393 pure bred cattle imported 147 were of the Holstein breed and 100 of the Hereford breed. The year 1917 shows an increase of 89 pure bred cattle coming into Maine over the year 1916. There have been imported from Canada into Maine during the past year 2,508 cattle for slaughter and 1,778 for dairying purposes. This is a decrease of 4,224 cattle for slaughter and an increase of 1,134 for dairying purposes from Canada over the year 1916.

According to Revised Statutes, Chap. 35, Sect. 18, amended P. L. 1917, Chap. 235, Sect. 3, all cattle entering Maine must be tested with tuberculin within thirty days of their arrival unless an approved test chart satisfactory to the Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner accompanies the animals. Nearly all of the 2,384 cattle imported this past year which have been in the State thirty days have been tested, and 22 reacted and were slaughtered without appraisal according to Revised Statutes, Chapter 35, Sect. 3. Of the 22 which reacted 9 were grade and 13 pure bred cattle, and of the 13 pure bred cattle 7 were Holsteins from the State of New York.

There are more complaints over the enforcing of Section 18 of the law governing this department than over any other section, but when a man is about to start a herd of pure bred cattle his first object should be to determine the health of his foundation stock, and the means we have of detecting tuberculosis in an animal is the tuberculin test. What does it profit a breeder if he has purchased a number of high priced animals and in a few years finds that he has been breeding from tuberculous animals? Who would care to purchase his surplus stock? Is it not then from a financial standpoint, if from no other, better for all breeders to ascertain the health of each animal he brings into his herd before his entire herd becomes infected?

Therefore it seems to me that this Section 18 ought to be strictly enforced and when the breeders of Maine realize that

this law is for their protection in buying and starting their pure bred herds then will the complaints against this section of the law cease.

I realize that in some cases where the owner is many miles distant from an inspector that the cost of testing is high, but the inspector will test your whole herd and that of your neighbor's for about the same price as he would the one imported animal, and the cost of the testing would be reduced for both parties. Further let me ask if it is not worth the price of the test to know that the animals just added to the herd are free from disease and cannot infect the remainder of your herd?

The bringing in of cattle from New Hampshire without permits and without being tested on arrival has caused much annoyance to this department for several years. There seemed to be a determination on the part of some parties to evade this law. Complete evidence was obtained and I regret very much that action had to be brought against three persons who were convicted and fined. We hope that people living on the border will have a better understanding of the spirit and purpose of this law.

### **Exportation of Cattle**

Maine has exported approximately 220 cattle during the year 1917 for breeding purposes, and of this number 99 were registered stock. It might be of interest to some to know that one Jersey bull went as far west as Arizona, 6 Ayrshire cattle to Montana and 2 to Maryland, and 20 pure bred and high grade Guernsey cows to California.

The total number of cattle sent to the Boston markets the past year from Maine is 40,938. Of this number 29,882 were calves for slaughter, and 11,056 were cattle for slaughter. The remaining 4,157 were cattle for milch purposes and were tested at Brighton with 32 reacting. These were paid for by the State at a cost of \$1,258.89 or \$39.34 per head. During the year 1916 there were 5,649 milch cows shipped to Brighton and 88 reacted. These figures show that either tuberculous cattle are on the decrease in Maine, or that the drovers are more careful of the class of cattle they are sending to Brighton

on account of the high prices they are required to pay, as the State does not pay the drover the full value for his cattle which are condemned there.

#### CONCLUSION

While this report gives the financial condition of this department and the condition in which we find the animals of the State as regards any contagious disease at the end of the year 1917, it also wishes to impress upon the people of Maine that all have a duty to perform. All owners of live stock should look with interest to the health of their animals and the sanitary conditions which surround them, the water supply, ventilation, exercise, etc. If any man has a tuberculous herd of cattle, or a glandered horse he is to blame, not his neighbor, nor his town, nor his State. The whole blame rests upon the owner. Under the present law the State acts as an Insurance Company. The owner can be insured against the ravages of bovine tuberculosis by paying a small premium in the way of having his herd tuberculin tested yearly. If an animal is found diseased the State will take that animal from his herd and pay him a fair appraisal for her, an appraisal which I think exceeds in proportion what a Fire Insurance Company pays the policy holder when his buildings are destroyed by fire.

With the world war on our hands we are expressly cautioned to conserve food and fuel. The farmer is entreated to make his farm produce every pound of food stuff possible. Potatoes, beans, corn, wheat and oats must be grown in abundance. Even if the farmer owns the acres how can he do all this without labor. The war, munition factories, shipbuilding and many other industries have called his sons and the hired men from the farm. What he does he must do single-handed or with what assistance the children and women folk can give. The farmer is patriotic; he is no slacker; he will do all he possibly can to help win the war but he cannot cultivate many acres single-handed, neither can he care for large herds of stock, especially dairy cattle, but he can see that all his stock is healthy and in a prosperous and growing condition.

The ophthalmic test will pick out the glandered horse. The tuberculin test will pick out the tuberculous cow, heifer, bull or steer. Destroy the tuberculous cow and you will have no tuberculous hogs. Cull out the old and diseased sheep, and better feed and care for the remainder of the flock is the best remedy for nodular disease in sheep. "A word to the wise is sufficient." Take good care of what you have and produce more if within your power.