

ANNUAL REPORT OF BRAND INSPECTOR

Twenty-first Annual Convention of Nebraska Stock Growers Association, June 16, 1915, by C. L. Talbot, Chief Brand Inspector

Explanation

The following explanation is made in order that all will clearly understand the annual report of the Brand Inspector: The Wyoming Stock Growers Association has brand inspectors employed to operate at the following open markets, namely, South Omaha, Chicago, Kansas City, Sioux City, St. Joseph and Denver, and at Indian agencies where cattle are sold to contractors. The work of the brand inspectors at the open markets is continuous throughout the year; at the Indian agencies only at certain times, probably two or three times a year.

The Nebraska Stock Growers Association pays to the Wyoming Stock Growers Association a stated amount (\$4,000.00 per year) to secure the inspection of Nebraska cattle by the inspectors employed by the Wyoming S. G. A. By so doing, the Nebraska S. G. A. secures a practically perfect service at an expense considerably less than it would cost to employ brand inspectors independent of the other association.

The South Omaha Stock Growers Association secures brand inspection on the same plan, hence it appears in the report of the brand inspector.

When branded cattle, owned by members of the association, are found in shipments where they do not belong, either thru having been stolen or being strays, they are cut out and sold separate, the proceeds being sent direct to the rightful owner by the commission men handling the shipment or else sent to the secretary of the association and by him delivered to the owner. In case of dispute or doubt, the money is held by the chief brand inspector until the question of ownership has been definitely settled.

This system of brand inspection has greatly reduced the amount of "rustling" in Nebraska, and if all stockmen were members of the association would, in connection with the enforcement of laws pertaining to county inspectors, etc., practically wipe out cattle stealing in this state. Even without any stealing, the system of brand inspection is worth many times its cost in returning to members of the association the proceeds of cattle called "strays." Right here we wish to call particular attention to the recommendations by Chief Brand Inspector C. L. Talbot, following the statistical report.

We wish to state further by way of explanation that the fiscal year of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association is from April 1st to March 31st.

Membership in Association

A great deal can be truthfully said regarding the benefits of membership in the Nebraska Stock Growers Association and reasons why ranchmen of the central and western parts of the state should join, but there is one thing in particular of which we wish to speak, and that is brand inspection. Every cattleman of Nebraska who has reason for using a brand should be a member of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association, and if he rightly understood the proposition he would join, unless already a member.

Not only does the money returned annually to members of the association thru brand inspection amount to many times as much as the total of the annual dues of all members, but this system of brand inspection has reduced the amount of cattle stealing to a very small fraction of what it would be if the N. S. G. A. did not exist. Furthermore, if all cattlemen of the ranch country would adopt brands, have them recorded in the office of the secretary of state, as provided by law, and then join the Nebraska Stock Growers Association, cattle stealing in the ranch country could be eradicated.

There is another source of great loss to ranchmen without the protection that comes thru membership in the association, and that is by "strays", as they are called, cattle that get into the shipments of men to whom they do not belong. During the fiscal year ending March 31, 1915, the amount returned to members thru the inspection provided for by membership in the association was \$67,300.88. The annual report of the secretary-treasurer was made at the convention held in June, and shows the amount received from membership fees and dues for one year to be \$4,502.96. Thus for every dollar paid into the association on fees and dues the members received, on an average, fourteen dollars from strays that they would have otherwise lost. Taking the last five or six years together, the amount returned from strays has averaged in proportion to the amount paid in even larger than for the last year. During the fiscal year ending March 31, 1913, the amount returned to members from strays averaged about fifty dollars for every dollar paid on membership fees and dues.

Chief Brand Inspector's Report

South Omaha, Nebraska, June 15, 1915. Mr. President, Members of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is with pleasure that I appear before you to read my annual report of the work done at South Omaha, and have the opportunity to make a few remarks on the value of the work that this Association is doing for its members and the stock growers of Nebraska.

Month	Nebraska	Wyoming	So. Dakota	Total
April (1914)	5942	408	619	7369
May	5888	480	380	6848
June	5639	276	556	6471
July	10096	3419	1768	15283
August	28018	19631	5810	53459
September	69389	29686	7492	96567
October	41908	30660	7252	79820
November	19484	12843	4944	37271
December	8579	7822	3082	18483
Jan. (1915)	5413	1741	1141	8295
February	4256	1877	216	6349
March	8269	811	1124	11204
TOTAL	305791	106484	34385	446660

Month	Nebr.	Wyo.	So. Dak.	Total
April (1914)	38	13	4	55
May	5	5	0	10
June	2	2	0	4
July	77	96	111	284
August	200	2158	84	2442
September	280	2545	216	3041
October	286	2249	154	2689
November	112	1180	31	1323
December	27	622	30	679
January (1915)	4	18	3	25
February	4	30	2	36
March	6	40	8	54
TOTAL	1106	8957	627	10690

Month	Calves	Steers	Cows	Total	Value
Returns to Sec. 1	8	187	46	192	\$11,645.45
Returns to Com. Men	49	54	466	347	55,556.40
TOTAL	57	231	512	799	\$67,201.85

The Sioux City Stock Yards

"Home Market of the Great Northwest"

Our Feeder Market for Nebraska Ranch Cattle Will be Exceptionally Strong this Year

There will be a greater demand for Feeder Cattle and Sheep at the SIOUX CITY Market than ever before because many eastern buyers will refuse to buy their Stock at the Markets where there have been outbreaks of Foot and Mouth disease, and will instead go to the Missouri River markets for their Supplies. This demand with the demand from Feeders in territory tributary to SIOUX CITY will afford a splendid outlet for all feeders that come here. Packers will want more Fat Stock than ever because of the increased capacity of their plants. It will pay you to ship to SIOUX CITY, a market that has been kept clean

Sioux City Stock Yards

M. J. FELT, Manager and Cattle Salesman
 BOOGE COE, Hog Salesman
 MATT FAHEY, Cattle and Sheep Salesman
 HARRY R. LIGHTENBERG, Office

Rosenbaum Bros. & Co.

(Incorporated)

Live Stock Commission Merchants

ROOM 209 EXCHANGE BUILDING, SIOUX CITY, IOWA

E. B. BABCOCK, Cattle Salesman
 W. H. TIMMEL, Sheep and Hog Salesman
 S. E. BABCOCK, Cattle Salesman

Babcock & Son Live Stock Commission Merchants Sioux City, Iowa

Room 217 Exchange Building, Sioux City Stock Yards

E. B. Babcock has been selling cattle for the past twenty-five years on the Sioux City market, and respectfully refers to the following Cherry county men: Z. T. Davis, Shadbolt & Fleishman, Metzger Bros., L. B. Lessert, and many others in Northwestern Nebraska.

REFERENCE:

Live Stock National Bank, Sioux City, Iowa

Be Absolutely Safe

Ship your western cattle to a live market and deposit the proceeds with us to be credited to your home banker for your use, and the money will be awaiting you when you reach home.

Ask Your Banker

The Live Stock National Bank

Located at Stock Yards SIOUX CITY, IOWA

GEO. S. PARKER, President
 F. L. EATON, Vice President
 C. D. VAN DYKE, Cashier
 A. W. SMITH, Asst. Cashier

We are now in our new quarters and want you to call and see a banking room that Sioux City is proud of.

Today - Tomorrow Every Day

Consignments to Us Have the Personal Attention of a Member of the Firm and

Your Business is Solicited

With the Working Theory on Our Part That When We Do Our Best for You We Are Doing the Best Thing We Could Possibly Do for Ourselves

DEP A POSTAL TODAY FOR OUR MARKET LETTERS.

WIRE FOR QUICK ADVICE

Frank E. Scott Commission Company

STOCK YARDS, SIOUX CITY, IOWA

FRANK E. SCOTT, Manager—Hog Salesman
 H. WARD JONES, Cattle Salesman
 ROY C. McCULLOUGH, Sheep Salesman

Year	Returns to Sec. 1	Com. Men	Total
1889-1900	442.09	1907-1908	320.91
1900-1901	27.09	1908-1909	36.40
1901-1902	26.70	1909-1910	37.91
1902-1903	29.50	1910-1911	47.42
1903-1904	33.40	1911-1912	40.52
1904-1905	27.68	1912-1913	53.58
1905-1906	28.61	1913-1914	68.75
1906-1907	30.65	1914-1915	60.65

What Is Brand Inspection?

The question is often asked, What is inspection? How done? And what benefits are derived from it? Inspection is a careful examination of all branded cattle received at the various stock yards to ascertain if the brands are owned by the shipper, and in case they are not, to require bills of sale or other authority for all cattle owned by members of this or other associations. This work is carried on by the different associations and State Boards of Live Stock Commissions through inspectors located at the market points during the entire year.

The work is so divided among the inspectors at the stock yards as to give the best service with the least delay to the weighing of the cattle. When estrays are found the shipper if present and in his absence the commission firm selling the cattle is notified as soon as possible. A tally for all estrays claimed is put into the hands of the commission firm as soon as it can be done after the work is finished in the yards.

The object in notifying the shipper or his commission firm is that the animal or animals may be seen that are claimed by the inspector. It has been the experience of all inspectors that, when the shipper can be shown the animal claimed, the ownership can be adjusted without trouble and in most cases to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. Under the rules of the various associations, inspectors are required to collect the proceeds for all stray cattle owned by members of the associations, and send them to the secretary of the association of which the owner is a member. Any member can have his proceeds sent direct to him or placed in any bank or with any commission firm by filing a written order with the inspector at any market point. My experience in the yards leads me to advise that all stray money should go through the hands of the secretary of the Association. This gives a check on all who are handling your cattle. When shippers claim to have bought cattle and are without bills of sale the commission firms are allowed to hold the proceeds for a reasonable time to allow the shipper to produce his authority. Allow me at this time to say a word to the shipper. If you have bills of sale or other authority give or send them to your commission firm or the inspector. If present do not fail to hand to your authority to your commission firm or to the inspector as soon as you arrive in the yards. By so doing you will save the inspector's work and at the same time put money into your own pocket, then you will have no complaint to make that your cattle are being unnecessarily disturbed or detained. If you sell cattle vent them or give bills of sale, thus avoid having proceeds held until authority is produced. We take up the bills of sale so you are in no danger of having them used again.

Benefits

What benefits have the stock growers, as

well as the commission firms, derived from inspection at South Omaha and other markets?

For the year ending March 31, 1915, there was sent to the secretary of this Association \$11,645.48 for 192 estrays and during the same time the proceeds for 916 were sent direct by the commission firms to the owners valued at \$55,556.40, or a total of 1108 head, worth \$67,201.88.

Totals for Sixteen and Twenty Years

Year	No. Inspected	No. Strays	Proceeds
Wyoming	2,454,026	163,363	\$6,832,964.74
So. Dakota	1,682,949	58,790	2,251,415.00
Nebraska	2,898,979	25,237	1,965,510.16
TOTAL	7,035,954	247,390	\$10,118,992.90

In addition to the above, 920,567 head were inspected for Colorado, and 451,381 head for Montana, making a grand total for the five states of 8,387,902.

This statement is correct as can be shown by the tabulated reports on file with the secretary.

No one can say what part of this would have been paid to the owners had there been no inspection, but we can say without fear of successful contradiction, that the work of inspectors, with the aid of a pair of clippers, has proven the ownership of hundreds of cattle that would not have been paid to the owners.

Mistakes can be made by the most careful shipper, who when estrays are shown to them they are willing to pay for them, even if the owner is not a member of this Association.

Many have the impression that the recording of a brand with the Secretary of State at Lincoln carries with it inspection. This is not true. The only way to have inspection at the market points is by becoming a member

of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association.

Nebraska Brand Laws
 I desire at this time to call your attention to the brand laws as published in your official paper, The Alliance Herald, under date of May 27, 1915.

You who do not assist this Association by your money and moral support can not reasonably expect those who do to render you any assistance in the recovery of your strayed or stolen cattle at the market points. These statements should appeal to every thinking man in the stock business in Nebraska, and especially to those who are not members of this Association.

I trust I have been able to show that inspection is not only valuable, but necessary to the successful carrying on the live stock business in the great state of Nebraska.

I thank you.

C. L. TALBOT.

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NOT ENOUGH CHILDREN

ever receive the proper balance of food to sufficiently nourish both body and brain during the growing period when nature's demands are greater than in mature life. This is shown in so many pale faces, lean bodies, frequent colds, and lack of ambition.

For all such children we say with unmistakable earnestness: They need Scott's Emulsion, and need it now. It possesses in concentrated form the very food elements to enrich their blood. It changes weakness to strength; it makes them sturdy and strong. No alcohol.

Scott & Bowne, Bloomfield, N. J.