

**Stock Slaughtered, Hide of. Hides, of Stock Slaughtered to Be Kept. Livestock, Hides of to Be Exhibited. Butchers, Record to Be Kept by. Report to Be Kept by Butchers. Reports, to Be Made by Butchers.**

Persons slaughtering stock must preserve the hide and make exhibition thereof. Butchers must keep a record of stock slaughtered, and make reports thereof.

Helena, Montana, November 29, 1916

Hon. D. W. Raymond,  
Secretary, Board of Stock Commissioners,  
Helena, Montana.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, relating to exhibition of hides taken from cattle slaughtered, and to the filing of reports by butchers. The provisions of Section 1794, as amended by Chapter 72, Laws of 1909, make it obligatory upon all persons slaughtering cattle to make exhibition of the hide thereof in the manner required by the provision of that section. This applies to butchers as well as to every one else, and the provisions of Section 1795 and of Section 8859, Revised Codes, require butchers to keep records and make reports of cattle slaughtered by them. These provisions of the statute, with reference to the exhibition of the hides, and the making of the reports, are mandatory, and required even though the slaughtered cattle have been inspected by a stock inspector.

Opinions Atty. Gen. '10-12, Vol. 4, p. 435;

Opinions Atty. Gen. '12-14, Vol. 5, p. 399.

Where stock has been taken and slaughtered, or otherwise appropriated, without the consent of the owner, it is very apparent that an offense has been committed, but the question as to who committed the offense is a matter to be determined by investigation and trial.

Yours very truly,

J. B. POINDEXTER,

Attorney General.