

# Kansas Memory



## James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

### Section 7, Pages 181 - 210

Around 1919, the Kansas State Historical Society and the American Legion solicited biographical information from returning veterans (primarily members of the 35th and 89th infantry divisions) and the families of those who died in service, notably from the Gold Star Mothers. Each veteran or family member was asked to provide letters, photographs, a biography, and military records. This file contains letters and their transcriptions from James Emerald Northrup, Company F, 110th Ammunition Train, 35th Division.

Creator: Northrup, James Emerald

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# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

letter from all you folks  
sure was glad to hear from  
home again. Now every body  
back home we said she was  
Katie. I havent had any mail  
from her for over two months  
tell Mrs H. Allen I send them my  
best regards you see she always  
was a friend of mine my  
but this sure is a pretty  
place in the mts they  
use the old scythes  
yet to make and some cut  
many acres

Well I must close  
with love and best wishes  
to you all I am your son  
and James Northrup  
Co 7110 th Am Train

A. E. F. France

certified by [initials]  
10th Am. Inf.

# Kansas Memory



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HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

Ogallala Sept 8 1918  
My dear Mother & all  
will  
drop you line tonight  
I am well hope this  
finds you folks the  
I got 6 letters last  
night and one today  
so I have some  
writing to do for a  
few days as we  
can keep no lights  
I just have to catch  
time between off duty  
to write during the  
day and lots of the  
time I work day  
& night I got letters

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James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

last night from  
Aunt. Ellen Ruby, Lucy  
Watie, Cura. N. and  
Alice Lee & today one from  
Miss Benjamin today and  
say they sure were  
all big newsy letters  
sure cheers a fellow  
up a great as I sure  
have a hard time at  
times, the last letter  
I got was dated Aug 10 th  
all the boys from Kott Co  
are fine & will close  
for this time  
I am as ever your son  
Pvt James Northrup  
Co F 10. A.M Train  
A.E.F.

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HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

Come where we have  
Oct 23 1918  
my dear mother & all  
will drop  
your love today as I now  
have time to write and  
well hope this finds you  
folk the same, well this  
is a nice day to day  
the sun shining and  
warm as you might say  
good & bright day of  
sunshine we are shall you  
many times before  
winter comes, the  
last week we have been  
rainy, we went to the  
out of town and had  
a good time.

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James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

Each of you a letter every  
day and a day or two at a time.  
you know a soldier living  
with a full face as it have.  
will have some terrible days  
but home is going to be weeks  
later, but I suppose you are  
true full of work during time  
of war. how times you  
would enjoy paper some  
times you are patient times  
and times you are just  
the same with the you  
would do just well probably  
I had a pass yesterday  
afternoon to a small town  
there is an old friend and  
we met a boy of sixteen  
the you see this is cost  
of address & 50 cents in funds

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HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

which is \$1.20 every thing  
soldier buys goes here  
I think but you know any  
thing here is hard to get  
I am could buy in this  
town was some such as  
Canned ham with baked beans  
cucumbers & dried grapes for with  
biscuits and a few bullet antebelles  
Mother would just have to  
make this all yourself  
also to short of corn flour  
White with it will have  
the same taste more  
but I think its a good  
thing which I could eat them  
I think some also wish they  
could see some of novels  
But now go to your  
house with it when

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HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

would like to share them  
as few things a real soldier  
gets to can do  
which I could tell you of  
since the very close calls  
& experiences I have had  
in the 3 sectors of the front  
I can't count how many  
times in the war I have  
done what I could, make the people think  
what home has been  
and especially Japan and  
especially what I saw upon  
the battle field and memory  
I shall never forget but  
especially I saw not half  
can't fully be told have  
you heard of the battle of  
Ancrene where I often wonder  
where he is and how

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James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

Frost trees  
The is getting along I  
suppose they still have I I  
at Bluff creek and wish I  
was where I could go to  
church but since I came  
to the front have no  
chance the truth of it is  
you never know the  
day of the month or week  
until pay day for being  
day is just the same  
I just got new clothes  
my the sun fit good  
with I could of had this  
good when I was home  
also have good winter  
weather wear. Wish I had  
my heavy sweater but you  
cannot send it to me

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

so I guess I'll get along  
all right have you heard  
from Keville folks I hear  
from them quite often  
all the traps from But County  
with me are all ok. I'll  
bet the country is sure  
dull back home in Chicago  
they want let them run  
cars upon Sun Tanning  
gasoline well, now tell you  
some thing of James  
there is enough hilly country  
here also rolling & smooth  
prairie with good grass  
plenty of water but they  
keep no stock hardly no  
hogs at all. They raise stock  
beets Cabbage & such crops. No  
corn tho wheat oats & barley

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James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

arge and tame hay come  
place you see a little of  
field of alfalfa they have  
some M. & C. Cornish Builders  
5 ft. while frame ice cold  
they have their house of  
pam all built together  
keep the stock in one end  
and hay above. they raise  
lots of Irish potatoes  
lots of the country is  
covered with good timber  
Birch Spruce & such lots  
of Saw Mills also lots of  
Mint & Berries grow wild  
you never see a house  
in the country all the  
farmers live in the  
small towns saw them  
trashiring with a nail

# Kansas Memory



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HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

S-tread pawly with love  
Well I must close  
With love to you all  
I remain your loving  
son  
Put James Northrup  
Co F 110th am. Zc A. 6.7

Answered by

~~Sgt. P. W. Smidt~~  
Co F 110th am Zc

# Kansas Memory



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James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

Sept 24 1918

My dear mother

You & Ruby's registered letter at the  
Aug 2 rec'd today I was  
sure glad to hear from  
you again and learn  
your all well thank you  
for the handkerchief I am  
well sure does rain most  
of the time here yes  
your idea of what I'm  
doing correct for I sure  
have seen some hard  
times & hot places  
already for I have been  
upon the front for a month  
I write you folks as  
often as I possibly can

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James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

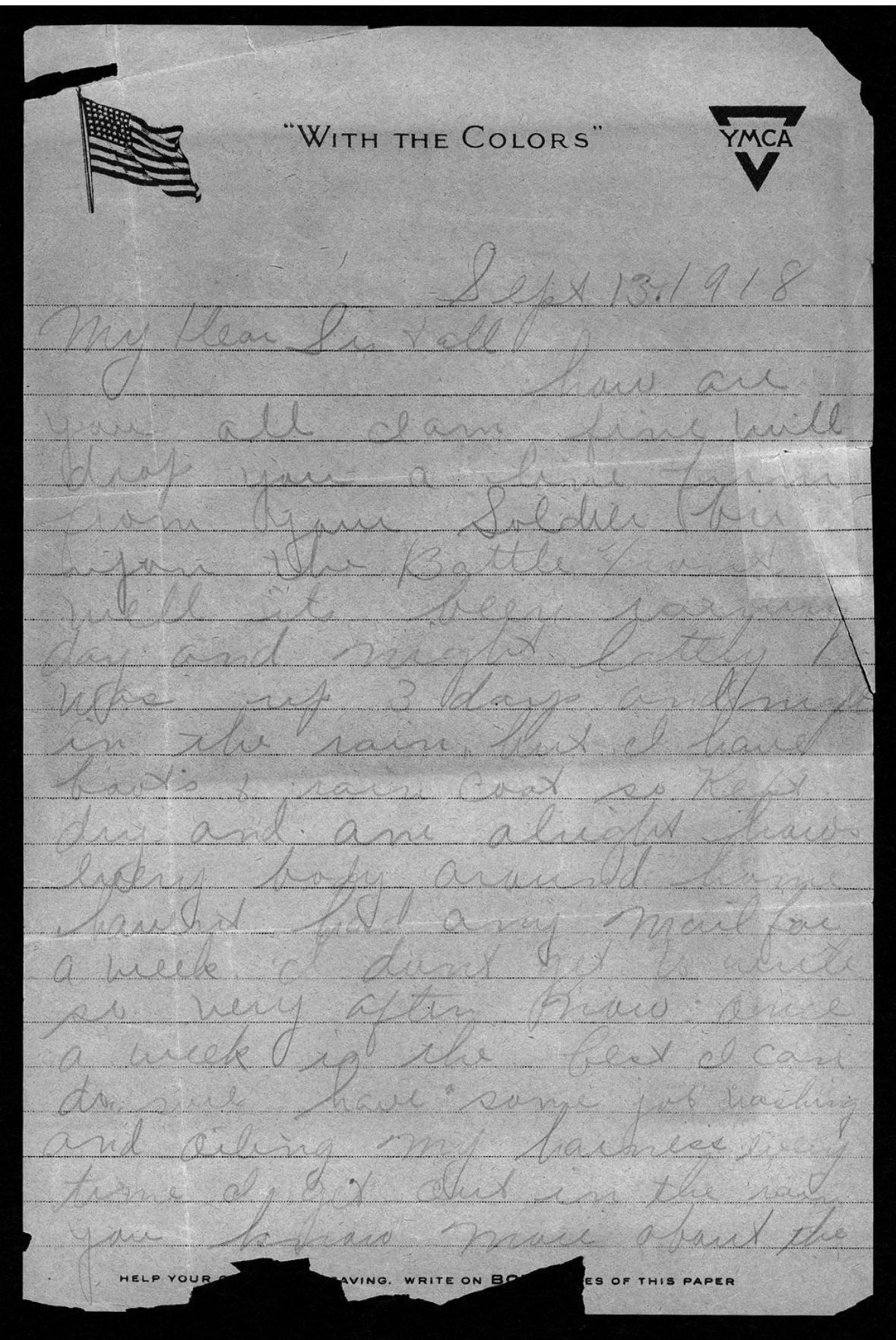
and I want you to feel  
that way you don't know  
there is many days I have  
time for nothing why is  
it Katie's letters are always  
2 to 3 weeks sooner getting  
here than yours yes I  
have wrote Pearl and Frank  
Mae and all of my relatives  
but if they don't get it I  
can help that you know  
for I must win this  
war as do my part  
Well I must close  
with lots of love to you  
all I am your darling son  
but I am Northrup  
Co 7 110 th am Gr

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James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier



# Kansas Memory



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HISTORICAL  
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James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

Dear John & the fine old home  
Mother very much what will  
I get and you know  
what not which has d  
dint even get the Reindeer  
very more I have a little  
from those a few days ago  
which I am sending to you  
to keep you one and I like  
the first I answered it and then  
you take answer about pretty  
want to well not I like out  
back I'll have plenty of friends  
I hope and since I'd receive  
a good long rest  
well I will close with love  
to you all I am your Soldier  
brother  
John James Northrup  
McGill 10th am Jr A.C.T.  
1st U.S. Army Cooks  
you know I don't know in the  
last town I was which means  
the best I don't here

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

Over here same where  
Oct 28th 1918

My dear Mother

Yours very  
welcome letter of Oct  
3rd rec'd fast night  
also 4 days letters of the  
3rd. Was very glad to  
hear from home again  
and know your folks  
are all well. While  
found you son the  
same. Some while in  
France will having a lot  
sun lately of sunshine  
but rain nearly all the  
time. The nights are  
cool. not so sticky as  
would wish the French  
let you have fire

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SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

and wood is abundant  
here, yes I'd guess it keeps  
you busy at home if the  
girls are there for there  
folcways lots to be done.  
Glad to hear you getting  
my letters for Mother &  
do my best to write you  
at every possible chance  
Many friends I write you  
twice a week and then  
maybe I'll be too busy  
to write for two weeks  
But I am always thinking  
of you and my old home  
even if the shell are falling  
think I fast.. I do not  
remember the Gentleman  
you speak of. But if you  
folks know what your

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

3

doing so go ahead I'm a-  
long way from there and  
I know if she can put  
up with him I can but  
of course I like to see  
her do well. don't look for  
me home too soon as you  
spoke of far the war is not  
to an end yet. will it too  
bad I hope I'll bring a  
good home and a kind  
mother. all with her I  
want to see the old home  
as near like it was when  
I left or I don't care to  
return only to see your  
folks have always helped  
you folks all I could and  
I during my first year of  
war at least like I have

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James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

H  
sent home in figures \$3.00  
haven't d. and will continue  
to do so. it have to know that  
I can help you folks some  
and also give my life as best  
part of it to my country  
Yes I have heard of the  
Spanish influenza. its very  
terrible am glad you told  
me of Greece again. we'll  
dant be surprised to hear  
any thing for since have  
been in some bad place.  
the real danger comes back  
a very short time. say  
only four days in a month  
March is real danger time  
of the time its fairly safe  
you never can tell  
what will happen

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
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SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

5

yes d have plans all made  
if army think should  
happen to me to notify  
you at once as we get  
no papers as d was hurt  
in the battle you spoke  
of d was in what called  
the war of the same  
time ago d think you  
try things farther and  
then you are about Katie  
d have a girl in mind  
another d know you'll  
like for she's quite a  
princess and this not as  
far from you but you  
don't know her. so don't  
worry about the are you  
mentioned for d had no

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

6  
intentions of a wife there is  
lots of good girls in  
the U.S. But don't cross  
the Bridge before it get to  
it. for I am not blame  
with this war yet. and may  
be a long time before we  
finished

I must close with  
love to you all from  
your love

pm James Northrup  
Co 715th Am Tr A C +

crossed by

Capt. C. M. Smith

Co 65 110th Am Tr

Co 24 110th Am Tr

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

Cuu here some where  
~ Sunday Nov 3. 1918

Dear father Just a line  
this Sunday morn  
to let you know I'm  
well and hope the  
friends you folks the  
same & we're having  
some nice fall  
weather. It looks  
like the states almost  
is a little smoky  
with good frosts  
well mother don't  
sort of backhanded  
as I am away  
from my company  
for a few days  
working in another

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

place I was thinking  
of my home and  
the your folks. This  
morning ab what  
would all give to be  
with you to go to  
Sunday school once  
more. There is no  
church privilege here  
so close to the  
firing line. My  
home is a dugout  
which makes a good  
place to sleep but  
no room hardly but  
it safe from  
those big shells  
that serve our  
each day.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

Could be here just  
a little while some  
time and here the  
roar & shake the  
ground. I have been  
in and saw that  
city you read so much  
of in the papers & the  
men living close to  
the French. They are  
all good fellows &  
confid to us as they  
call us. How are your  
folks. Making it now  
there is not almost  
any & Ellen & our babies  
falling till all the  
folks I send them  
my best regards

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

My time since  
is a busy its  
not long until  
christmas now;  
I will close for  
this time with love  
to you all I am  
Your loving Soldier Bro  
Pvt James Northrup  
Co F. 110th Am Inf  
A.C.F.

censored by

Censored

J.W. Murray  
Capt., U.S.A.

~~Co F~~, 110th Am Inf

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

France +  
Nov. 24. 1918

my dear Father

as today  
is Father's day and all  
the boys & were requested  
to write their father  
I write you I am  
well & hope this finds  
you the same this is  
~~place~~ to Thanksgiving  
I wish to thank you  
for the prayers you  
folks have given for  
us boys for I have  
a thousand things to  
be thankful for  
Can hardly wait until  
the days come when  
we start for home

# Kansas Memory



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HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

hard work always  
the weather at home  
its quite cold here  
mostly and we have  
with a time to sleep  
warm as well as a  
winter quarters about  
know if I will  
get home in time  
or not ~~face~~ to guns  
as you know they  
lots of red tape before  
you get out bound  
and many thousand  
miles away. I have  
been in U.S.A. many  
times have a few small  
souvenirs I am going  
to try & bring home  
if they let us loose

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KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

I am not doing any  
thing much supply  
brought & last letter  
is the 7th in the  
States, we got a bunch  
of mail ~~the~~ yesterday  
I got 6 letters but three  
from home one  
from John Gummung  
he wrote that he  
expected to be over  
before long well we  
got to catch at last  
too bad thought it  
I am as happy since  
the war as furnished day  
I have much work  
but the Army you  
know soldiers have much

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

in the last I  
would stop and visit  
Wells folks a few days  
well Father and Cheyenne  
nothing to write all close  
wishing you all a  
Merry Xmas & happy New  
year with Best regards  
to you all always  
Yours having Soldier fan  
post camp - Fort Riley  
Co F 110th Artillery

Censored by

Edmund P. Bering  
post 28

Co F 110th Am 46

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James Emerald Northrup, World War I soldier

