Ralph R. Chambers, World War I soldier

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 information on Ralph R. Chambers, 2nd Development Company, 164th Depot Brigade. Ralph died from pneumonia while at Camp Funston on October 12, 1918.

Date: 1919

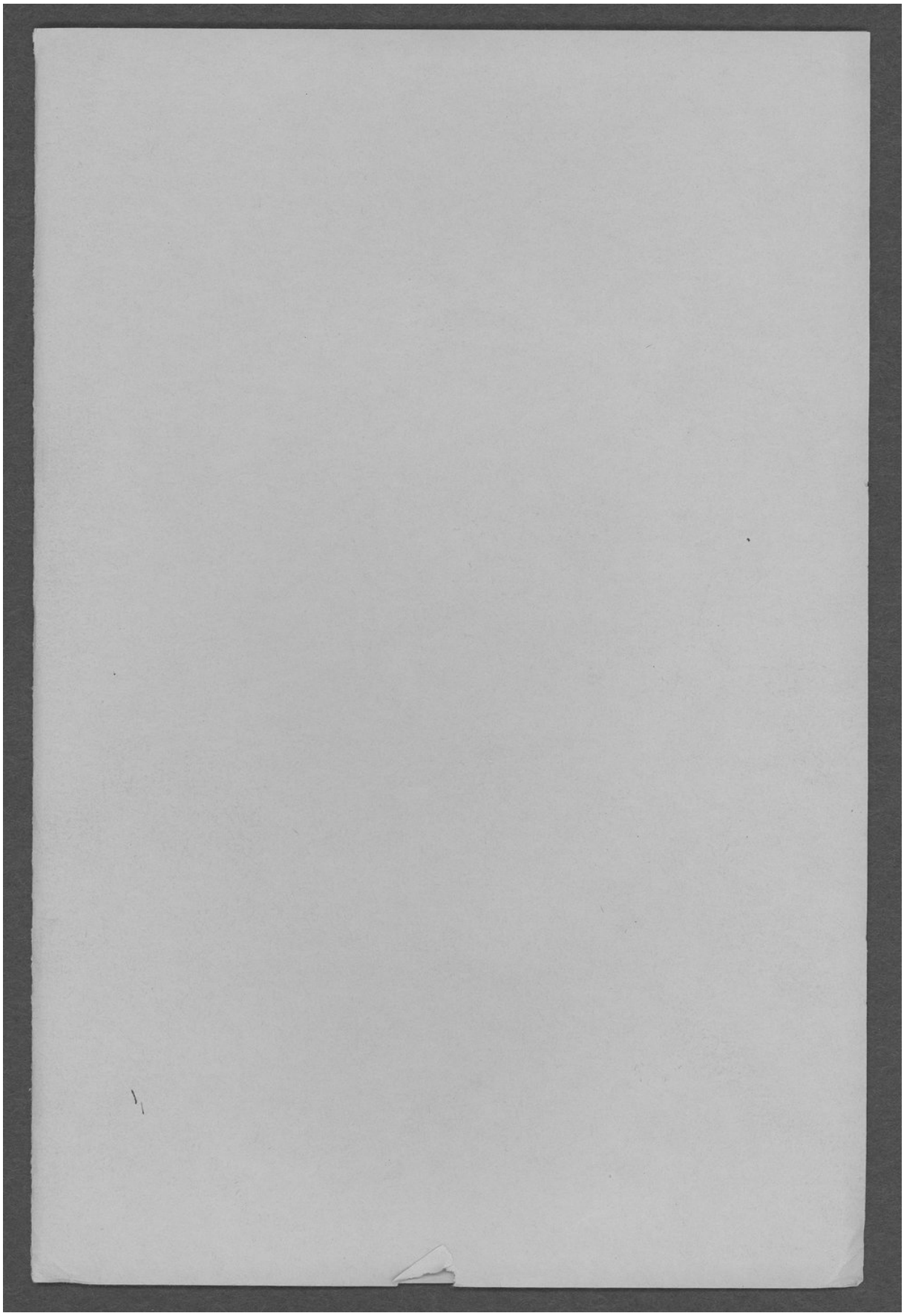
Callnumber: World War I Coll. #49, Box 8 Kansas Soldiers

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 224228

Item Identifier: 224228

www.kansasmemory.org/item/224228

Ralph R. Chambers, World War I soldier



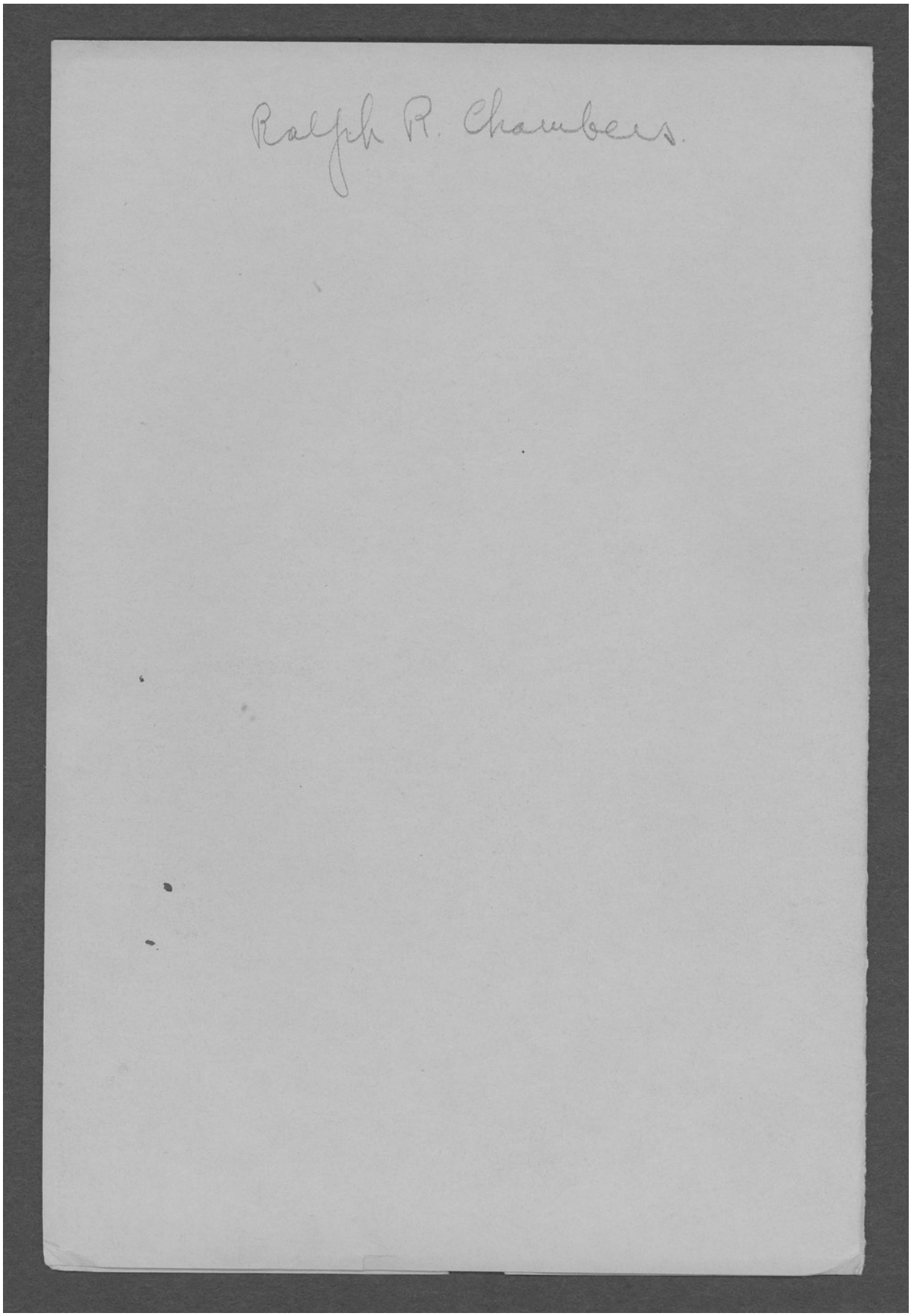
Ralph R. Chambers, World War I soldier



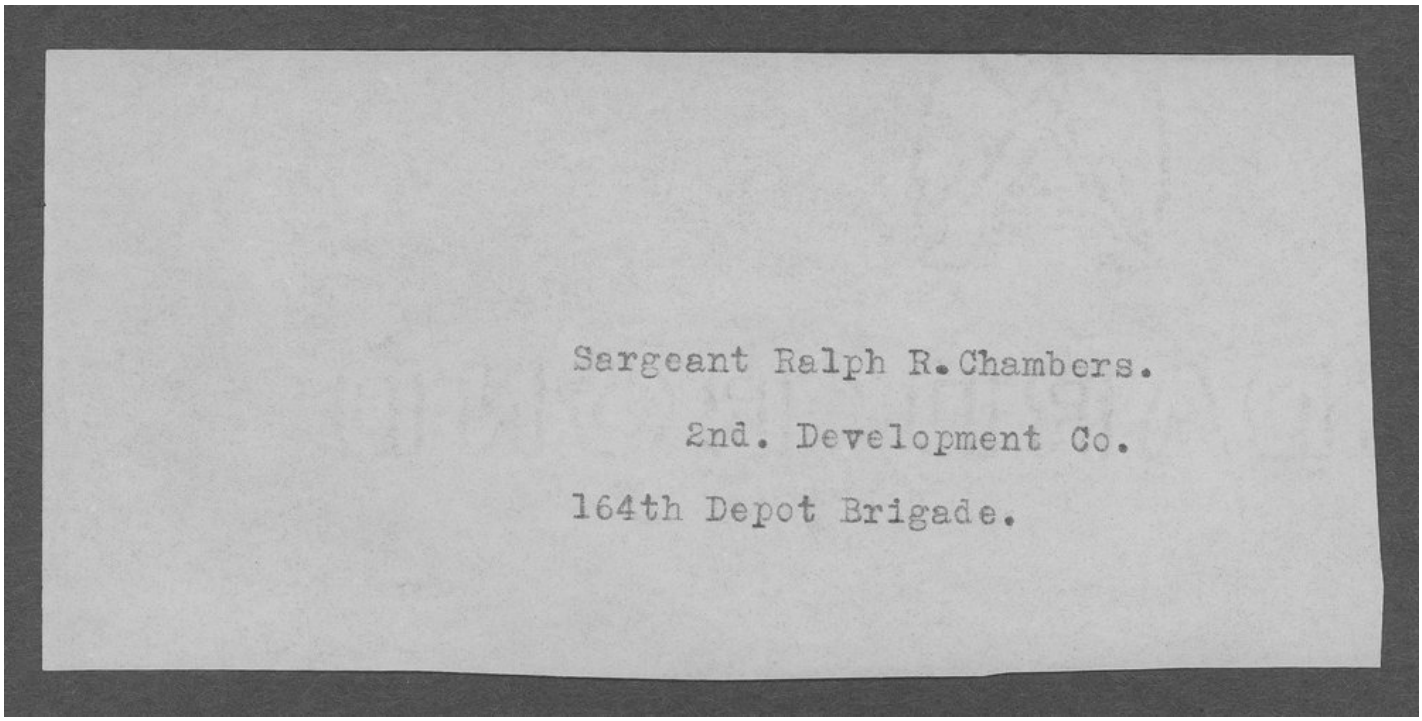
Ralph R. Chambers, World War I soldier



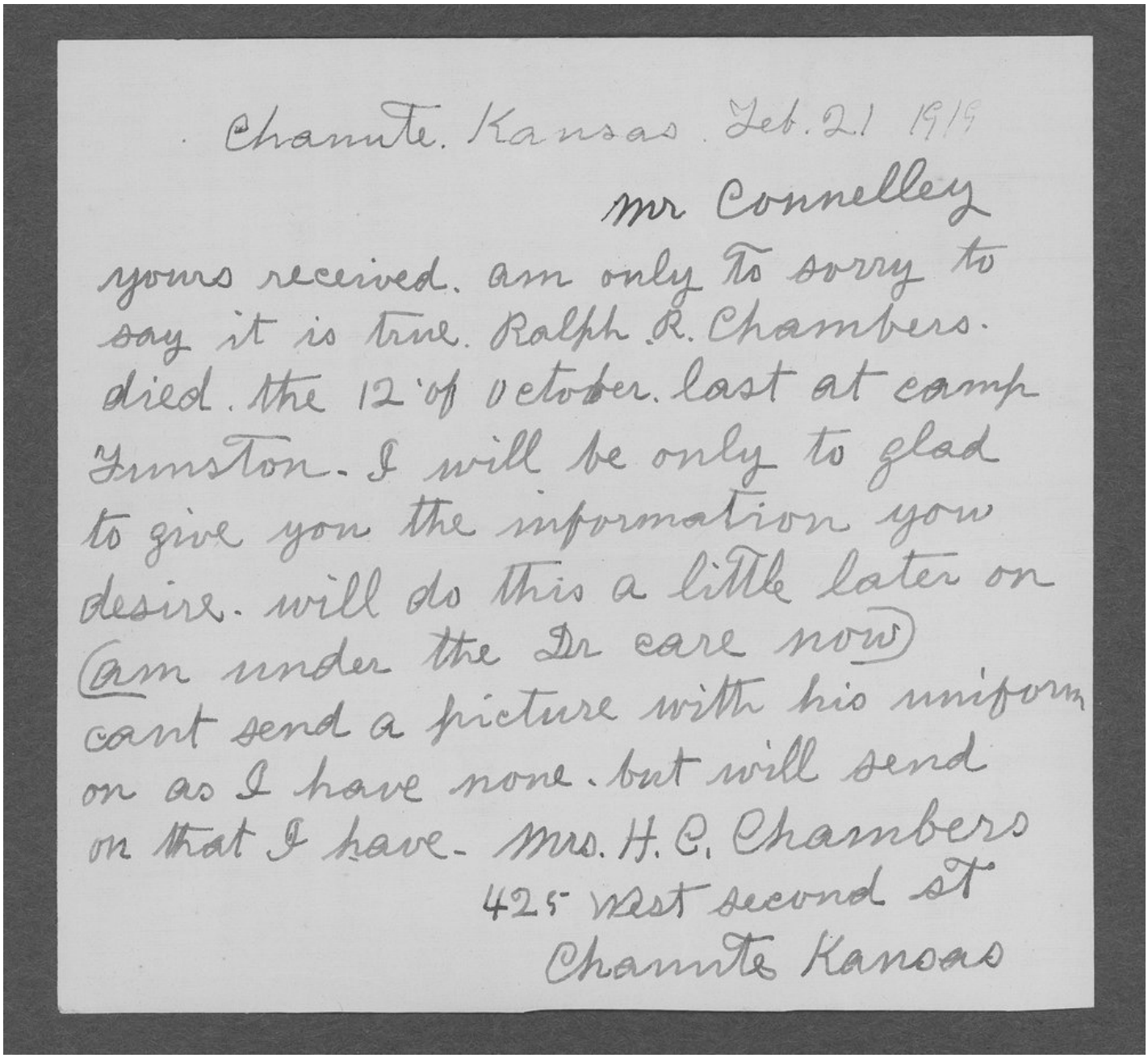
Ralph R. Chambers, World War I soldier



Ralph R. Chambers, World War I soldier



Ralph R. Chambers, World War I soldier



Chanute. Kansas. Feb. 21 1919

mr Connelley

yours received. am only To sorry to say it is true. Ralph R. Chambers. died. the 12 of October. last at camp Funston. I will be only to glad to give you the information you desire. will do this a little later on (am under the Dr care now) cant send a picture with his uniform on as I have none. but will send on that I have. Mrs. H. C. Chambers

425 West second st

Chanute Kansas

Chanute Kansas.

March 24th,'19.

Mr. William E. Connelley.

Sec. Kansas State Historical Society.

Topeka Kans.

My Dear Sir:- Replying to your communication of Feb. 18th, I am inclosing a short sketch of the life of my late son. Also his photograph under seperate cover.

Feeling his loss very much, yet I am thankful and proud that his name and memory will be perpetuated in the years to come.

Thanking you very much for your kindness to me, I am;

Yours very truly,

Mrs. H. C. Chambers.

425 West 2nd,
Chanute Kansas.

Ralph R. Chambers, World War I soldier

Sargeant Ralph R Chambers.

2nd, Dev. Co. 164th, Depot Brigade.

He was born on a farm near Vilas Kansas,Wilson County, February 25th, 1889; being the youngest son of Rev. J.R. and Mrs. H.C.Chambers.

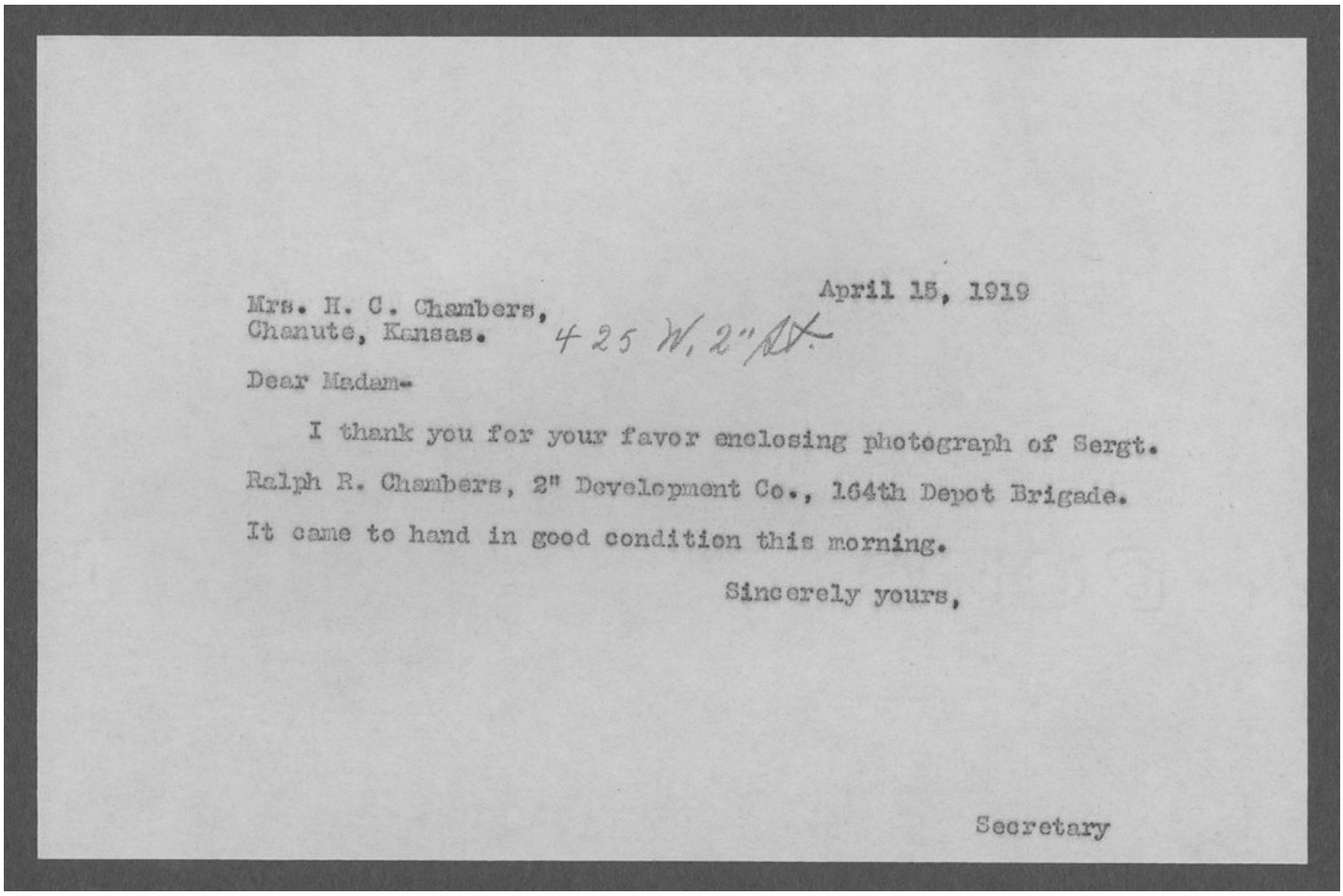
He recieved his education in the common schools of Creeley, Yates Center and Earleton Kansas,spending the summers on a farm and at the age of sixteen learned the barber trade which he followed successfully for four years. He then took a position with the Hanlon supply Co. of Newton Kan. with whom he stayed for six years or until the death of his father in 1916.

He then became the sole support of his Mother who resided in Chanute Kansas and he engaged in various lines of work there,principally with the Chanute Wholesale Grocery Co.as book keeper.

At the breaking out of the war he tried twice to enlist but was unsuccessful owing to his extreme weight. However he was called in the draft and responded on the 28th, of May 1918. Going to Camp Funston he was eventually assigned to the Company and Brigade mentioned above.

On on about the first of October he was taken with influenza whiwh quickly developed into double pneumonia and he lay down his life on the evening of October 12th 1918. He was always loyal to his Country and his Flag and made the supreme sacrifice willingly and without a murmur.

Ralph R. Chambers, World War I soldier



April 15, 1919

Mrs. H. C. Chambers,
Chanute, Kansas. 425 N. 2" St.

Dear Madam-

I thank you for your favor enclosing photograph of Sergt. Ralph R. Chambers, 2" Development Co., 164th Depot Brigade. It came to hand in good condition this morning.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary