

Charles Dee Seward, 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 Charles Dee Seward. Charles died in France from an airplane crash on April 6, 1918. He was the first man from Neodesha to lose his life in WW I and reportedly the first Kansan to die in the war. The Seward-Ayars Post of the American Legion in Neodesha was named in his honor.

Date: 1922

Callnumber: World War I Coll. #49, Box 40 Kansas Soldiers

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 224364

Item Identifier: 224364

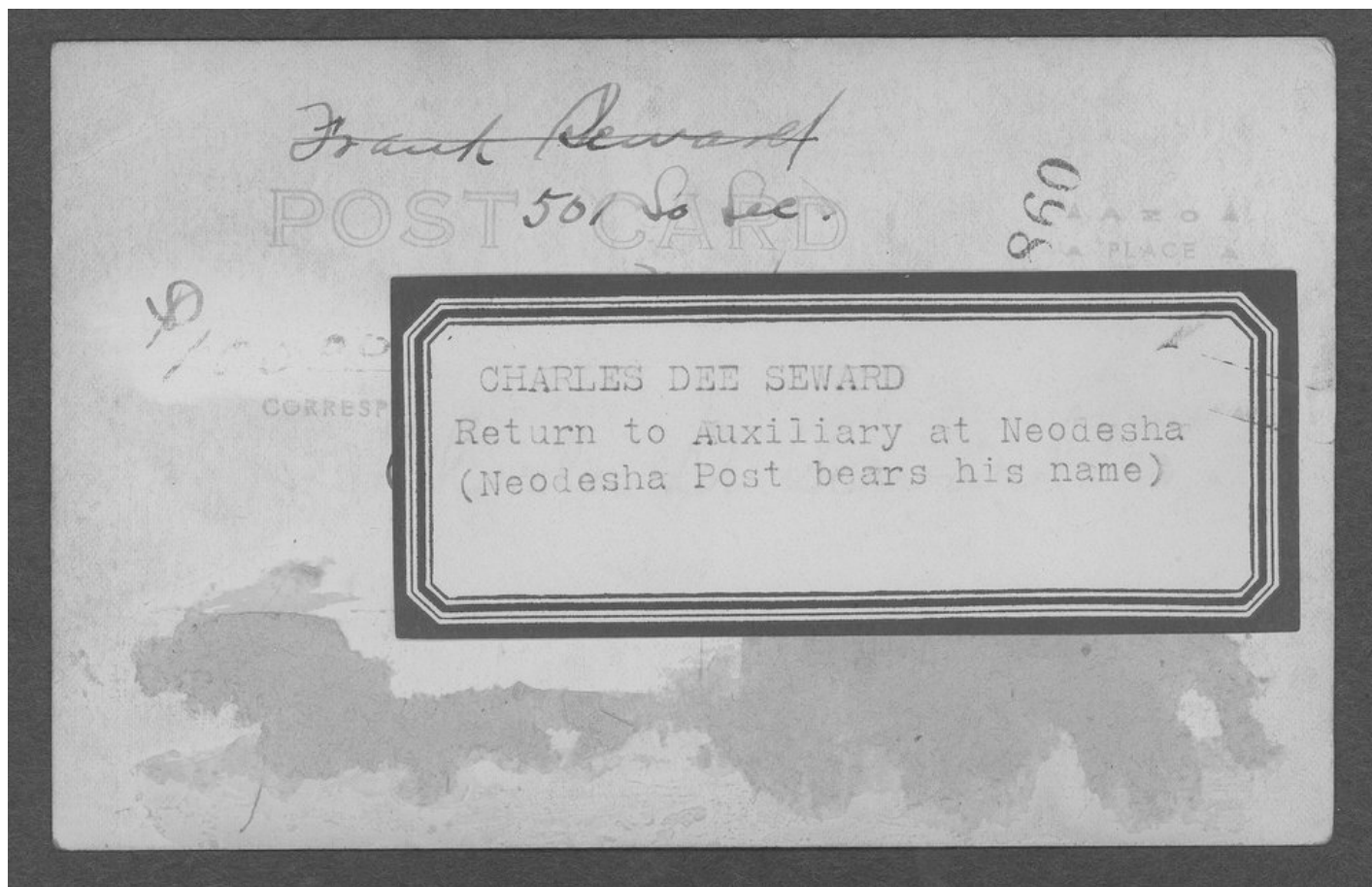
www.kansasmemory.org/item/224364



Charles Dee Seward, World War I soldier



Charles Dee Seward, World War I soldier



Charles Dee Seward, World War I soldier

CHARLES DEE SEWARD, the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Seward, was born in Wentworth, Mo. Aug. 29, 1894. He came to Neodesha, Kansas in 1905 where he attended the public schools and graduated from the High School. He was a Junior in the University of Kansas when this country went into the war and he left school to enter the First Officers Training Camp at Ft. Riley, Kansas. He was commissioned a Lieutenant in the Aviation corps and was sent to Toronto, Canada for instruction with the Royal Flying Corps.

Lt. Seward lost his life in an areoplane accident in France on April 6, 1918. His machine crashed to the ground after a tail spin and Lt. Seward was instantly killed. He was the first man from Neodesha to lose his life in the world war and the first Kansan to die in France. His body was returned from France to Neodesha, Jan. 30, 1922. The funeral service was conducted by the American Legion. The Seward-Ayars Post of the American Legion of Neodesha, is named in his honor. The body was brought to Neodesha, Kansas for burial.