

## Lee Gray, 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 Lee Gray, Chemical Department, 7th Army Corps Headquarters.

Creator: Gray, Lee

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## Lee Gray, World War I soldier

Lee Gray was born in Levee, Kansas - 1899, where he attended school until he was seventeen years old - finishing the first year in High School. He worked with his father and in the oil fields at Augusta, Kansas as a motor truck driver until he enlisted to help Uncle Sam whip the Boche, on April 3, 1918 - Received his training at Camp Jeffers - Humphrey, Okla. Ft. Riley from there he was sent to Hoboken to embark for France. He served eight months in the 7th army corps up in front lines was gassed severely, but not seriously so when the armistice was signed, took the long hike into Germany with the Army of Occupation, where he served until returned to U. S.

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Lee Gray, son of Alva + Anna Gray was born in Leona Kansas Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 1899 - His parents moved to Atlanta Kansas where he attended school, finishing his Freshman year in High School.

He volunteered for service in the great war April 3-1918 and received his training at Camp Humphrey Va. in the Chemical Dept. He was given the rank of Corporal in Engineering Dept of Chemical warfare Service - going overseas with his division where he served continuously until he marched into Germany with the Army of Occupation. He is a consistent member of Christian Church.



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Corporal Lee Gray, was Born in the year of 1899.

in Leon, Kansas. Comenced going to school, at the age of 5 years, finished the common school, and holds a County Diploma, had 1 year in high school, went to school untill he was 17.

then he helped his father, witeh he was a competent Driver of a truck, was in the oil fields at augusta Kansas, at the time he volenteered for to help uncle Sam, in the year of 1918 left home April 3, 1918 has been over seas 8 monthes, has been in germany since the Amistice was sign.

he inlisted at wichita Kansas <sup>april 3, 1918</sup> was sent to st louis Bernicks then to ~~Camp~~ ft myer, wa. then to Camp Humphrey, wa from there to hoffoken and sailed to france <sup>august</sup> he helped in supplyng gas masks, and explosive for the compays.

one experence he had was at the time of the argonne battle was gassed but not cerious saw his fellow man shot down at his side, also seen the ruins of the great citys such as verdun st. miel & reims, is at this date in wittlich germany, help dedicate the y.m.c.a. at that Place, the first y. built in germany, his Capain is Charles Jolly, a fine man and a jolly fellow.

Lee is in the army of occopation, while in germany.

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Greenwich, Luxembourg  
Monday Dec, 9, 1918.

Dear Mother & all:

Well I have only received one letter from you in two weeks but expect one on the delivery to night as there is lots of mail here to be assorted.

I am feeling fine although this is a dreary day, cloudy and raining.

I have been collecting a few souvenirs here and will try and get some more farther on.

I will now give you a small detail of my travel in France and other countries leaving out some and possibly adding more than necessary.

We landed in Brest France Aug. 11, all well stayed there seven days then they loaded on a train and headed for Choumout which took us seven days to make the trip landing there Aug. 24, all well but stiff.

We shouldered our packs and headed for Ville-aux-bois about 5 kils. or 3 1/2 miles. where we were camped for about two months and received no training.

I was then ordered to the 7th army corps. Leaving on Oct. 15 with one other soldier from our outfit we arrived on the 19th at Remiremont in the state of Voagles. Staying there about six weeks we left for Bussat-Vaux staying there only three days we sailed for Ligny Comb and stayed there about seven days.



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We have moved by motor transportation each time since leaving Beirut-Vaux.

on leaving Dory Court we sailed again for Dune on the Dune mail which was a bad place as it was all shot up. on the way to Dune we passed through the greatest battle field and also through Verdun which is completely destroyed. on way to Beirut-Vaux we came through St. Michel which is also completely destroyed. on leaving Dune we sailed for Uinton Belgium staying there about same day. we sailed for here some eight and travel in a short while. At Uinton Belgium which was not destroyed or only a little battle was fought were one of Germany's first hospitals. there was also a bomber aeroplane there that was shot down by French planes a couple of summers from it.

We are due in Koblenz Germany before long possibly leave here about the 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. \*

Was any of the boys in the state been sent home yet? I hope they are to be mustered out soon.

I hope I get to see President Woodrow while he is here as I expect he will tour France and Belgium while he is over.

Well I am tired of writing so going to  
see you soon I remain ever

Your loving son

Pvt Lee Gray  
C. W. B.

1st Corp 88<sup>th</sup> H. F.

A. P. O. 792 New York.

O.K.  
W. F. Brown  
1st Lt. C. W. B.