

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

### Section 24, Pages 691 - 720

This collection consists of correspondence between individuals and committee members to the state chair of the Woman's Committee of the Kansas Council of National Defense. The Council of National Defense was established at the federal level in 1916 as an emergency agency under the Army Appropriation Act and abolished in 1921. It was created in reaction to World War I to coordinate resources and industries for national defense and improve civilian morale. The Woman's Committee of the Kansas Council of National Defense performed the same functions at the state and local levels, coordinating women's activities for national defense. The materials are organized alphabetically by county. The digitization of this collection was paid for through the Margot R. Swovelan Endowment Fund.

Date: 1918

Callnumber: History Coll., Council of National Defense Woman's Committee

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 305559

Item Identifier: 305559

[www.kansasmemory.org/item/305559](http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/305559)

KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Dear Mrs. Mulvane, -  
Since sending in my first  
application papers I have learned  
there is no army training school at  
Denver Colorado. I stated I preferred  
being sent there. What should I do  
about it? Camp Dodge in Iowa is my  
preference since learning there is  
none in Colorado. I read your letter  
this morning saying my first papers  
had been sent in and I am very glad to  
hear it. Sincerely Edna M.iskey.

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence





## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

September 23, 1918.

Miss Edna Hiskey,  
Onaga, Kansas.

Dear Miss Hiskey:-

I have your card of recent date indicating your preference for Camp Dodge, Iowa, since there is no training school in Colorado and I have written to Washington to-day asking them to consider this with your papers which were sent several days ago. I hope this will reach the Committee on Assignment in time to secure for you the appointment which you desire.

So many of the girls have signed the enrollment cards but have lacked interest later in filling out and returning the papers promptly that I feel sure when you take the trouble to duplicate a complete set of papers in such a short time and send them to me you are really in earnest and I appreciate your spirit and wish you the best of success. I am still very sorry you were bothered even for a few days by the thought that your papers had been overlooked.

Very sincerely,

V.

State Chairman.

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Pottawatomie

September 24, 1918.

Mrs. J.W. Dunn,  
County Chairman,  
Onaga, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Dunn:-

Pursuant to your request I am enclosing to Mrs. Kersey and Mrs. Bartley the blanks needed. I think the applications you have sent in show clearly on their face that you are securing the best and in this as in so many other things quality counts for more than quantity. I think you are to be congratulated upon the applicants you have secured so far.

We are advised by headquarters to continue recruiting as only one state in the union has filled its quota and the applicants secured were not sufficient to fill the fall classes. I hope, therefore, that you will continue to enroll applicants in a quiet way and let the young women of your county understand that we are still looking to them to help us fill Kansas' quota and convince the government that our girls as well as our boys are patriotic and willing to do not only their bit but their best.

Very sincerely,

V.

State Chairman.



## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Quaga, Kan. 7/23, 18.

My Dear Mrs Mulvane -

Will you please send Application  
Blanks, High School and College  
blanks, two each, to the following  
Recruiting Officer -  
(U. S. Student Nurse Reserve Blanks)

To  
Mrs Ross Kersey,  
Hastmoreland, Kan.

Mrs John T. Bartley,  
Fostoria, Kans.

It seems as though the girls are tak-  
ing time to consider this matter of  
enrolling, and I think those who  
are registering from Pottowatomie  
are among our best girls -  
Thank you for your approval of the  
letters of recommendation which I  
gave our Quaga girls.

Sincerely Yours  
Mrs J. W. Dunn.

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

July 20, 1918.

Miss Ella Magers,

Mayetta, Kansas.

My Dear Miss Magers:-

In answer to your letter of the 16th. inst. permit me to say that under the direction of the Surgeon General of the United States the Woman's Committee is to begin the registration of student nurses from the 29th of this month to the 11th of August. Your local papers will have full instructions concerning the time and place of this registration and your county chairman will no doubt be able to give you all the information you desire. The need for nurses is very great at this time and while applicants with high school or college training are preferred, your lack of this training would not bar you from enrollment if you could pass the other qualifications, physical, etc.

Short courses are given in many cities, including Topeka and Kansas City, for nurses' aid, elementary hygiene and home nursing.

Very truly yours,

V.

State Chairman Woman's Committee  
Headquarters Council of National Defense  
Memorial Bldg.



## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Mayetta Kans.  
July 16 1918.  
Mrs. Mulvane,  
Topeka, Kansas.  
Dear Madam.  
I am writing to you to  
find if I could become  
a red cross nurse I am  
twenty one years old. I  
have never attended  
high school but have  
a good grammar school  
education. if you dont  
think I could become  
a trained nurse would  
I be a nurses aid, I  
wish you would write



## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

and explain the matter  
fully to me as I am  
very anxious to help my  
country in some way.  
It seems like I am doing  
so little when they need  
help so bad.

hoping to hear from  
you soon I remain

Ella Mayers.

Mayetta

Kans.

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

August 13, 1918.

Miss Delmah Evans,  
Emmett, Kansas.

Dear Miss Evans:-

Pursuant to your request for enrollment blanks I am enclosing you a full set of the army blanks and will ask you to fill them out and return them as quickly as possible. Please date the application August 10th. You were told when you were here that it would be necessary for you to sign both the civilian and army sets of blanks as you are eligible to both branches of service. However, a shortage of civilian blanks has made it necessary to dispense with the signing of this set of blanks. We are notified from Washington that these blanks may be sent later direct to the applicants where it is necessary to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Enc.

V.

State Chairman.





## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Pitt

September 24, 1918.

Mrs. Ross Kersey,

Westmoreland, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Kersey:-

At the request of your county chairman, Mrs. J.W. Dunn, I am enclosing you herewith two application blanks and two high school and college certificates for the U.S. Student Nurse Reserve. Your assistance in this matter is appreciated and if you can interest any other young women in the work I will be glad to send you additional blanks. We are advised by headquarters at Washington that only one state in the union has succeeded in filling its quota.

Very sincerely,

Enc.

State Chairman.

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

August 16, 1918.

Miss Mayme Wells,  
Westmoreland, Kansas.

My Dear Miss Wells:-

Answering your inquiry concerning the nurses' training course, I am enclosing you a bulletin and a careful reading of this will give you all the information you desire. If after reading this you desire to enter your name for assignment, kindly cut out and sign and return to me the enrollment blank at the top of page four of this bulletin. The application blanks have been exhausted but if you are accepted at Washington, they will be sent you direct later on.

Sincerely yours,

Enc. 1.

V.

State Chairman.



## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Westmoreland Kane,  
August 15 - 1918.

Mrs. D. W. Malwane,  
Topeka, Kansas.  
Dear Madam:

Will you please give me the information I am seeking in regard to the Red Cross Nurse duty?

I am nineteen years of age, a graduate from Westmoreland High School in 1917, have taught one year of school, and am taking a business course at the Central Kansas Business College.

I always have been very much interested in nurse work, and now that we are at war and nurses are needed, I believe this is my opportunity. Can you tell me where I can go to enlist, what wages are given, and the qualifications required? Thanking you for your trouble

I am Gratefully Yours, Maym Wells,  
Westmoreland Kans.



## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

August 10, 1918.

Mrs. Bartley,  
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Bartley:-

Mrs. Dunn has written to me concerning your letter about Miss Stella Hart and her desire to be enrolled for foreign service. I am sorry to be obliged to tell you that while we have overlooked a slight variance in age from the prescribed requirements where the qualifications have been exceptionally fine, upon inquiry I find that no hospital will accept a nurse at the age of seventeen. Perhaps a year from now Miss Hart might be admitted. But in any event she cannot be accepted for overseas service on account of her brothers' army service.

Mrs. Dunn asked me to send you some army blanks but owing to a scarcity of material sent me I cannot do this unless more is sent me from Washington and I am not sure what they can do for me, perhaps nothing at all as their supply was exhausted immediately. If you have applicants who can qualify for army service and wish to enlist and will send me the number you require, I will do the best I can to furnish them to you later.

Cordially yours,

V.

State Chairman.



## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Fortoria, Ia. 8-7-1918  
 Mrs. J. H. Dunn.  
 Onawa, Ia.  
 My Dear Mrs. Dunn:-  
 I am writing you a  
 few lines in regard to  
 Miss Stella Ford. She is  
 very desirous of being  
 a Red Cross Nurse &  
 but she is not quite  
 old enough. She is  
 exceptionally bright & has  
 3 yrs of high schooling  
 and is wondering if  
 there is any way for her  
 to enter the service. She  
 is 17 yrs old. she said  
 she would go at any

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

time or any where. If she  
can not be a nurse she  
is willing to do Gauden  
work for any thing so  
she is in the service and  
can go over there. Her  
Brothers are going and she  
is anxious to go with  
them. Now Mrs. Dunn  
will you please write her  
or I will write  
Mrs. Mulvane in  
her behalf she will get  
through and I am sure  
she will make good  
where ever she is sent.  
I am a friend of Miss  
Stella is rejected. We will



## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

3

not be able to find any  
one from here who will  
go. Stella is so womanly  
and a perfect little lady  
she is far above the  
average for she is not  
furious at all.

Hoping this will find  
you well and that you  
will do all you can for  
Stella I am with best  
wishes. Your friend  
Mrs Barth

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

*Pottawatomie*

September 24, 1918.

Mrs. John T. Bartley,  
Pottawatomie, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Bartley:-

At the request of your county chairman, Mrs. J.W. Dunn, I am enclosing you herewith two application blanks and two high school and college certificates for the U.S. Student Nurse Reserve. Your assistance in this matter is appreciated and if you can interest any other young women in the work I will be glad to send you additional blanks. We are advised by headquarters at Washington that only one state in the union has succeeded in filling its quota.

Very sincerely,

Enc.

V.

State Chairman.



## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

August 27, 1918.

Mrs. Robert Arnold,  
County Chairman,  
Wamego, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Arnold:-

We have received your typewritten application cards and have forwarded them to Washington. You are not the only chairman who has done this. Mrs. Henry Allen of Wichita had eighty-six enrollment cards typewritten and sent to me and I was glad to send yours and hers to Washington to show them the initiative of our Kansas women who undeterred by a shortage of material made their own blanks.

I doubt very much if the seventeen year old applicant can be accepted anywhere in war service. I know she could not secure admission to a hospital.

If you will write to Mrs. Kurt Bredel, 316 Taylor St., Topeka, Kansas, she will give you the complete information concerning Nurses' Aid. She has had charge of a hospital and is a Red Cross nurse and is conducting classes at this time such as you inquire about. We refer all the first aid questions to her. She was one of my recruiting officers during the campaign here.

Very cordially yours,

V.

State Chairman.

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Aug. 25-18

My dear Mrs. Mulvane,

We took the liberty of having application blanks type written, hoping they may be accepted.

Am enclosing two applications, another will follow. The applicant is out of the Co. and it will be sent her. Another left the Co. without signing therefore Wamego township is sending but four applications. I am hoping for later decisions.

The fourth applicant, signed in Topeka, with you. you remember. Miss Pruckett.

There is a girl here, only seventeen but quite as mature as one of twenty. I think, who asked me to find if there is an opening for her in some work, for the service - as you are more in touch with the various depts. am asking you - she is quite mature, a "likely" appearing young lady. but that is all I know of her. those of whom inquired tell me she has a good character.



## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Another matter, I have had inquiries about the Nurses' Aid work and haven't sufficient information to satisfy. Do you have any printed matter upon the special subject? I shall try to get it elsewhere if you do not. Can you tell me where. Perhaps that dept of Red Cross in Topeka or Manhattan?

Sincerely,

Mrs. Robt Arnold,  
Wamego, Kans.

Miss Helen Rowles one of the applicants for the Army and Navy has been accepted by wire. She had made application before Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> and is to go to Ft. Riley hospital Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mrs. Arnold -

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Toatt Kansas  
July 24<sup>th</sup> 1918.

Mrs. Helen M. Mulhane,  
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Mrs. Mulhane:

I am trying to get ready for  
the nurse campaign, but so far  
have received no material  
for work. Do you have cards  
for registration on hand  
that you can send me,  
or will I have to wait  
until it is sent from Washington?



## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

I am sure we will try to do our best. But you remember Pratt County is not a thickly populated county, and most of our girls begin teaching as soon as they graduate from High School.

And that so many of our boys have been called to the service of this country, our girls are working in the Banks and stores. We will do our best for the Nurse Campaign.

Have you sent to the County Chairman Stationery with Officers and Chairman of Department's names and addresses? If you have, I should be glad to have you send me the Official Stationery for use, as I think in writing it will have more influence if those

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

to whom I write, asking their help, have  
an opportunity of reading the names of Officers,  
and the Departments from which the  
Council of Defense is working.

I am kindly

Lucy Bradley Scott  
Carey Woman, Waras Comitee  
for Pratt County, Kansas.

421 S. Jackson Street,  
Pratt  
Kansas.



## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Watt, Kansas,  
August 15<sup>th</sup> 1916.

My dear Mrs Mulhane:

I am sending you with this, two applications for Nurses. I have no blanks for the one, so send the Doctor's statement in writing. Miss French is a lovely little girl and I am sure will make a good nurse.

I only received six sets of blanks. The other five are out: I am hoping that they will be completed so I can send

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

there is.

We have a peculiar condition in our town: at least twelve of our girls would volunteer for Nurses, all High School Graduates, but all are under eighteen. I hope the war will soon close, but not until our boys give the Germans all that they are intalled to get.

I am still hoping for more thanks.

I am sure that Kansas will be over the top with our Nurses; and if there should still be a need for other Nurses, I am sure some of our girls who are teaching, working and going to school will volunteer.

I am sincerely,

Lucy Bradley Pratt

421 E. Jackson,  
Pratt  
Kansas.



## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

August 19, 1918.

Mrs. Lucy Bradley Scott,  
421 S. Jackson,  
Pratt, Kansas.

My Dear Mrs. Scott:-

I acknowledge with thanks your letter enclosing two sets of application blanks and the same have been sent on to Washington. I am sorry not to be able to furnish you with more blanks but the supply was exhausted almost before the drive began and we are told now to have enrollment cards filled out and I will send those to Washington and the blanks when reprinted will be mailed direct to the applicants. This is the best we can do. If you need more enrollment cards let me know, as a new supply of those is being sent to me. Please send in cards and blanks as rapidly as possible as assignments are being made now in Washington.

Let me call your attention to the importance of community singing. Professor P.W. Dykeman, Chairman of the National Conference of Music Supervisors, has kindly furnished us a list of influential musicians and people interested in community singing who might be of service to our Woman's Committee in organizing liberty choruses and in developing community singing for war purposes. The list is:

Frank A. Beach, Kansas State Normal, Emporia.  
Wm. B. Kinnear, Larned.  
Blanche Rumbley, 21213. Evergreen Ave., Chanute.  
Catherine E. Strouse, Faculty Club, Emporia.  
Minnie Taylor, 515 Walnut St., Leavenworth.

V.

Very cordially yours,

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

August 7, 1918.

Mrs. Lucy Bradley Scott,  
County Chairman Woman's Committee  
Pratt, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Scott:-

I have advised the writer of the enclosed letter to communicate with you. Although I have not heard from you I presume you have opened a recruiting station. If you have you are experiencing the same trouble as we are here in this county and in the other counties of the state none of which have received an adequate supply of blanks on which to enroll applicants. All we can do is to have patience and wait for the supply which I am assured at Washington will be sent as soon as printed. We must just take names and addresses and wait for the material.

Very cordially yours,

Enc.l.  
V.

State Chairman  
Memorial Bldg.



## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

August 7, 1918.

Miss Fannie Birke,  
Coats, Kansas.

Dear Miss Birke:-

I am referring your letter to Mrs. Lucy Bradley Scott at Pratt as she is our county chairman for your county and is expected to have a recruiting station there. I have not heard from her in regard to this but feel sure she is ready for this work. Will you please communicate with her as all applicants should enroll at their nearest recruiting stations if there is one in the county. If you find that Mrs. Scott has not provided this station and you will write to me again after reading the enclosed circular I will know what kind of a blank to send you.

Sincerely yours,

Enc.1.

V.

State Chairman  
Memorial Bldg.

## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Sanger Kans  
Sept 21, 1918

Helen M. Mulrane

Dear madam,

your letter of the 18 received.  
I never got any applicant blanks  
alto I filled out questioners from  
the Wichita Hospital - at Wichita  
and will start to train the 308  
Sept. but I wrote to the Hospital  
for the blanks I wanted to get  
into to service and thought it  
would be so long until I heard  
from you, that I would just get  
into training and I would be that  
far ahead with my training  
I would like to hear from you  
again.

Yours  
Truly

Bessie Kumberg  
Sanger Kans.





## Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

*Brett*

September 23, 1918.

Miss Bessie Kumberg,

Sawyer, Kansas,

Dear Miss Kumberg:-

I note in your letter of September 21st. you say you hope to hear from me again but since you have already made your arrangements for training independently of the U.S. Student Nurse Reserve I do not see what I can do for you now or that you can be enrolled in the Reserve as a recruit answering this government call. Only those who are placed by the government through the Reserve can be counted as a part of the Kansas quota.

If at any time later you should care to be enrolled in the Reserve or do not finish your course at the Wichita Hospital, you might write to me again but I see no advantage to either yourself or to the Reserve to send you application blanks to fill out at this time.

Very sincerely,

V.

State Chairman.