

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Section 29, Pages 841 - 870

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.

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KANSAS
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Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

August 27, 1918.

Mrs. C.W. Roberts,

Winfield, Kansas.

My Dear Mrs. Roberts:-

You certainly are entitled to be congratulated upon the fine showing you are making in your county. Your cards have gone in to Washington to-day and I will take pleasure in sending the others when they are received.

Returns are coming in rather slowly but the quotas are piling up in a very satisfactory way. If we had had sufficient blanks at the beginning of the campaign there is no doubt but what the entire state would have doubled its quota. As it is some of the counties are doing it anyway.

With best personal regards, I am,

Very cordially yours,

V.

State Chairman.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

THE AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS
COWLEY COUNTY CHAPTER
WINFIELD, KANSAS

Aug. 23, 1918.

My dear Mrs Paulsue:-

I am in receipt of the blank enrollment cards, and Army School applications and thank you very much for them. I am enclosing the cards from the southern-half of the county and a few more from this half. Mrs Hunt must have worked very hard to accomplish so much in so short a time. We shall undoubtedly have more enrollments later and are hoping to send at least forty recruits from this county.

Very Sincerely Yours
(Mrs W). Mabel & Roberts.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

September 17, 1918.

Miss Stella Lee Christian,

Belle Plaine, Kansas.

Dear Miss Christian:-

Your recruiting officer for the U.S.
Student Nurse Reserve sent me your enrollment card and I have
held it until now awaiting the receipt of a new supply of blanks
from Washington. The blanks have now arrived and I am enclos-
ing you the two necessary blanks for you to fill out and return
to me to be sent to Washington. Study the instructions care-
fully and I think you will have no difficulty whatever. Fill
this out as quickly as you can and return to me.

Sincerely yours,

Enc.

V.

State Chairman.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

August 17, 1910.

Mrs. Roy Robinson,
126 N. 5th St.,
Arkansas City, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Robinson:-

Your enrollment card is received, for which
accept thanks. It will be sent to Washington immediately. I am
sorry that I am not advised at this time as to where other training
schools are located besides Kansas City but I do not have the informa-
tion. It is true you would not be accepted in a regular army
hospital but can enter for civilian training if accepted.

Yours truly,

V.

State Chairman.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

126 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas
Aug. 14, 1918.

Mrs. D. W. Mulloane,
Topeka Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Mulloane:

I received your letter today and was very pleased to find that I could enroll at a training school. Is Kansas City, the only place where colored girls are trained? If there are other places, could I go to one of them, or not. I have been told that I would not be accepted on account of being married and my husband in the service, I am glad to learn that this was a mistaken idea. I am enclosing my enrollment card.

Yours respectfully

(Mrs Roy) Helen Marie Robinson

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

August 12, 1916.

Miss Mary Kucher,
Caldwell, Kansas.

Dear Miss Kucher:-

The U.S. Student Nurses Reserve covers both army and civilian training of from two to three years according to the course prescribed in the particular hospital. Those who enroll in the army school for training must be from 21 to 35 years of age, white, unmarried or a widow, and have a high school education or its equivalent. Those who desire to enroll for civilian service must be between 19 and 35 and a high school education is preferred, but not absolutely necessary, particularly when the other qualifications are satisfactory. There are two forms of enrollment: preferred and deferred. In the former the student offers to go wherever an assignment is offered her but in the deferred class she selects the hospital at which she prefers to be enrolled. The hospital furnishes room, board and laundry and a small allowance to cover the cost of uniforms and text books.

If you are interested and would care to enlist, please send me your name and address and your qualifications.

Sincerely yours,

V.

State Chairman.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Caldwell, Kans.
Aug 7, 1918
Miss D. W. Mulvane.
Topeka, Kans.
Dear Madam:
I am interested
and willing to enroll for
the work of the Army Nursing
School, but am not a
high school graduate, do
you accept girls that
are not graduates?
I would like an early
answer and please explain
fully about the work.
Yours truly,
Miss Mary Kuchaw

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Salby Kansas
Aug. 13 - 1918

Mrs. W.W. Mulvane
Topeka Kansas.
Dear Mrs. Mulvane -

Would you
kindly send information
in regard to requirements
for applicants to Students
Nurse Reserve.

I am past nineteen. Have
had two years high school
work. I can give excellent
recommendations as to
character. My only special
talent is my drawing. I
think I am fairly intelligent.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

I should prefer to go to a western hospital.

Does the government pay wages and transportation?

No not consider this an application. I merely desire information.

I am especially interested because so many friends are doing Red Cross Nursing. I have too during war times I want to do something that would benefit my country as well as my self. I want to go where one of my ability would best fit.

I have yet to obtain my fathers approval. but if the requirements are all right I think I can get father to consent. I know hard work is expected. and I am ready for that. So many girls come back. But when I go I intend to "stick".
I await an early reply.
Respectfully
Leta Vande Griend



Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

August 16, 1918.

Miss Leta V. Reid,
Colby, Kansas.

Dear Miss Reid:-

Pursuant to your request I am enclosing you bulletin which will give you the information which you require concerning the U.S. Student Nurse Reserve. After reading these enclosures if you care to enlist, kindly let me know at once and I will send you an enrollment card. Our application blanks are exhausted but we are instructed now to send in enrollment cards and the blanks will be sent later from Washington to the applicants direct.

Sincerely yours,

Enc.

V.

State Chairman.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

August 14, 1918.

Miss Leah Grover,

Menlo, Kansas.

Dear Miss Grover:-

One who enrolls in the U.S. Student Nurse Reserve and is accepted gets a full hospital training of from two to three years according to the school which she enters. She furnishes her own shoes, underwear and street clothes and the hospital makes an allowance to cover the cost of her uniforms and text books and furnishes board, room and laundry. At the end of the term of training she has acquired a valuable profession and one which will always enable her to make a good salary. And this is in addition to the satisfaction of knowing that one is doing a very fine thing in helping to care for the sick and in answering the country's call for such service at this time.

If you are interested and would care to have your name enrolled, kindly sign and return the enclosed card and your name will be sent to Washington and later when the present supply of names is exhausted blanks will be sent direct to these later applicants to sign.

Cordially yours,

Enc.

V.

State Chairman.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Menlo, Kansas.

Aug. 12, 1918.

Dear Mrs. Mulvane: -

In regard to the "Enrollment of
Student Nurses' Reserve," Does a girl
get anything more than her service
for her country in the work?

Is the school training free and does
she receive any salary in the work?

Will you please explain it fully.

Awaiting your reply, I am

Yours truly,

Miss Leah Grover.

Menlo, Kansas.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Mrs. W. A. JOHNSTON, Topeka
Honorary Chairman

Mrs. C. H. BROOKS, Wichita
2d Vice Chairman

Mrs. C. W. SMITH, Topeka
Recording Secretary

Mrs. E. G. WICKWIRE, Larned
Treasurer

Mrs. W. J. BAILEY, Atchison
Auditor

Mrs. D. W. MULVANE, Topeka
Chairman

Woman's Committee
Council of National Defense
KANSAS DIVISION
TOPEKA

DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

Home Economics

MARY P. VAN ZILE, Manhattan

Women in Industry

MISS LINNA BRESSETTE, Topeka

Child Welfare

DR. LYDIA ALLEN DE VILLIIS, Topeka

Maintaining Social Existing Agencies

Mrs. C. B. THOMAS, Topeka

Sanitation

DR. IDA H. HYDE, Lawrence

Health and Recreation

Mrs. PAUL E. WALKER, Topeka

Wa-Keeney, Kansas, Aug, 12th. 1918.

Mrs. D. W. Mulvane,
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Mrs. Mulvane,

I fear you will think me careless but in passing the sheet telling of the compensation and expenses to the Student nurses it has become misplaced and I should be pleased to have another immediately as I fear I have forgotten some of the terms: so please let me know the allowance when they may begin and salary as before also they ask about the transportation do they pay full fare to the hospital or training school?

I have one efficient competent applicant for the Army Nurses school could she get in this fall do you think? add anything else you feel I need and oblige.

Yours respectfully.

Mollie E. Clemmensen

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

August 14, 1918.

Mrs. A.J. Ellermeyer,
County Chairman,
WaKeeney, Kansas.

My Dear Mrs. Ellermeyer:-

I enclose the instructions which you wish. The students must pay their own transportation to the training schools.

Any blanks which are filled should be sent in immediately as they are beginning their assignments in Washington now. We cannot promise any candidate when she will be called for service but the early applications will stand the best chance of course.

With the best of wishes, I am,

Very cordially yours,

Enc.

V.

State Chairman.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

July 23, 1918.

Mrs. A.J. Ellenmeyer,
WaKeeney, Kansas.

My Dear Mrs. Ellenmeyer:-

Mrs. Givler has written that you have kindly consented to assume her duties as county chairman of the Woman's Committee in Trego county and that she will take your work as county secretary for the Woman's Council of Defense. I am very glad to know you will do this because Mrs. Givler gives me the assurance that you have very fine executive ability and we want women of this sort for our work.

If your county organization is not complete at this time, it will not interfere with the success of the students recruiting campaign now about to begin as this is a very simple matter. The first thing needed is the necessary publicity through the newspapers and other channels and the next the securing of some competent people for the recruiting, nurses, if available, and the arrangement for some central place for the enrollment of the young women who apply. Mrs. Givler was sent material and will hand it over to you for your guidance. I will be glad to answer any questions which arise but think you will find them all answered in the material already sent and in the application blanks and cards which will follow later.

Hoping to hear from you confirming my understanding of your arrangement and with best wishes for the success of the registration in Trego county and for the new chairman personally, I am,

Very cordially yours,

V.

State Chairman Woman's Committee
Memorial Bldg.



Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

July 31, 1918.

Mrs. A.J. Ellermeyer,
Wakeeney, Kansas.

My Dear Mrs. Ellermeyer:-

Thank you for your prompt response.

I am sure that you will do all in your power to further the Government's war program in your county.

For the first time I am now able to send county chairmen some stationery and a limited amount of postage. I will send you a list of the training schools in Kansas in a day or two and later after this campaign is over will explain to you fully the work of the Woman's Committee, National Council of Defense. You will not need that for this campaign. Remember to send all application blanks when filled by candidates to me. If you can enroll six student nurses in your county you will have reached your quota in this campaign but if it goes beyond that we will be glad to have them. Your county will not be expected to do as much as some of the larger ones but we do want if possible to have you reach your quota. I will be glad to answer any questions you care to ask.

Very cordially yours,

Enc.
V.

State Chairman
Memorial Bldg.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Wa-Keeney, Kansas, July 29th, 1918.

Mrs Helen M. Mulvane,
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Mrs. Mulvane:

I received your letter regarding the Council of National Defense Chairmanship and will try to do the work but must understand it more fully. First, Are we allowed stationery to save the immense postage.

Second. What Nurses training schools are nearest here and any other such information I may need.

We may not be able to do much in this sparsely settled County but will try our best.

Respectfully yours.

Mrs. A. J. Ellermeyer

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Copy for Mrs. Mulvane

June 25, 1918.

Mrs. H.S. Givler,
We-Keeney, Kansas.

My dear Mrs. Givler:-

I am very sorry that you are ill and feel that you can not do justice to the work of the Women's Committee. I am referring your letter to Mrs. Mulvane, State Chairman of the Women's Committee.

It is not intended that the County Chairman of the Women's Committee undertake all the work that is sent her. It is intended that they appoint a County Chairman of Child Welfare and Chairman for the other various departments. They will take the work off the County Chairman's hands.

I don't believe that it would be practicable for us to write to Mrs. Fritts, Mrs. G.G. Jones and Mrs. J.H. Heckman and ask one of them to accept the position of Child Welfare Chairman as we do not know any of them. We want a woman who is tremendously interested in Child Welfare and willing to make this her own particular piece of war work.

I am going to ask you to make another effort to find us such a woman in your County and I would suggest that you confer with the Red Cross, County Superintendent of Schools or some other prominent people who are in a position to know the woman interested in this work.

We realize that it is a lot of work to do but here in Topeka, we have learned that when the Government asks us to do some piece of work, we must put our heels together, salute and go do it.

I hope that finding some woman to do this work of Child Welfare is not going to be too much of a task. Won't you please interview these women and report to us the one which will be the most competent and willing to undertake this work.

Cordially yours,

LDe/LL.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

July 23, 1918.

Mrs. H.S. Givler,
WaKeeney, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Givler:-

I have your letter of July 21 and while I regret very much that you are forced to give up the work of the Women's Committee in your county, I think the arrangement you have made with Mrs. Ellenmeyer will solve the problem of taking care of both lines of work in Trego county. And I trust that very soon you will be restored to good health through medical treatment. I am writing to Mrs. Ellenmeyer to-day as you suggest and will appreciate anything you can do to help her in this work and trust that the student nurses' campaign can be taken care of in your county. Will you please turn over to Mrs. Ellenmeyer all the material sent you? All that is needed is the necessary publicity through the newspapers and other channels and the securing of a central place for the registration and competent women to look after the enrollment. I think you will find the young women eager to serve if they are given an opportunity.

I will speak to Dr. DeVillbis about the change, as you suggest.

With best wishes, I am,

Very cordially yours,

V.

State Chairman Woman's Committee
Memorial Bldg.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Kansas Division
Council of National Defense
Woman's Committee

September 24, 1918.

Mrs. A. J. Ellermeyer,
County Chairman,
WaKeeney, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Ellermeyer:-

Your letter enclosing card of Miss Mabel Burns of Collyer is received and I am writing to her by this mail and sending her the proper application blanks to fill out and return to me here.

I note you have no civilian blanks and am enclosing you a few for future use. We have just received word from Washington that the applications received so far have not been sufficient to fill the fall classes and that only one state in the union has filled its quota so far. We are asked to continue the recruiting of nurses here and while I do not think it advisable to have recruiting offices kept open all the time, I hope the county chairmen will continue in a quiet way to interest the young women and to let them understand that their applications will be very welcome at any time.

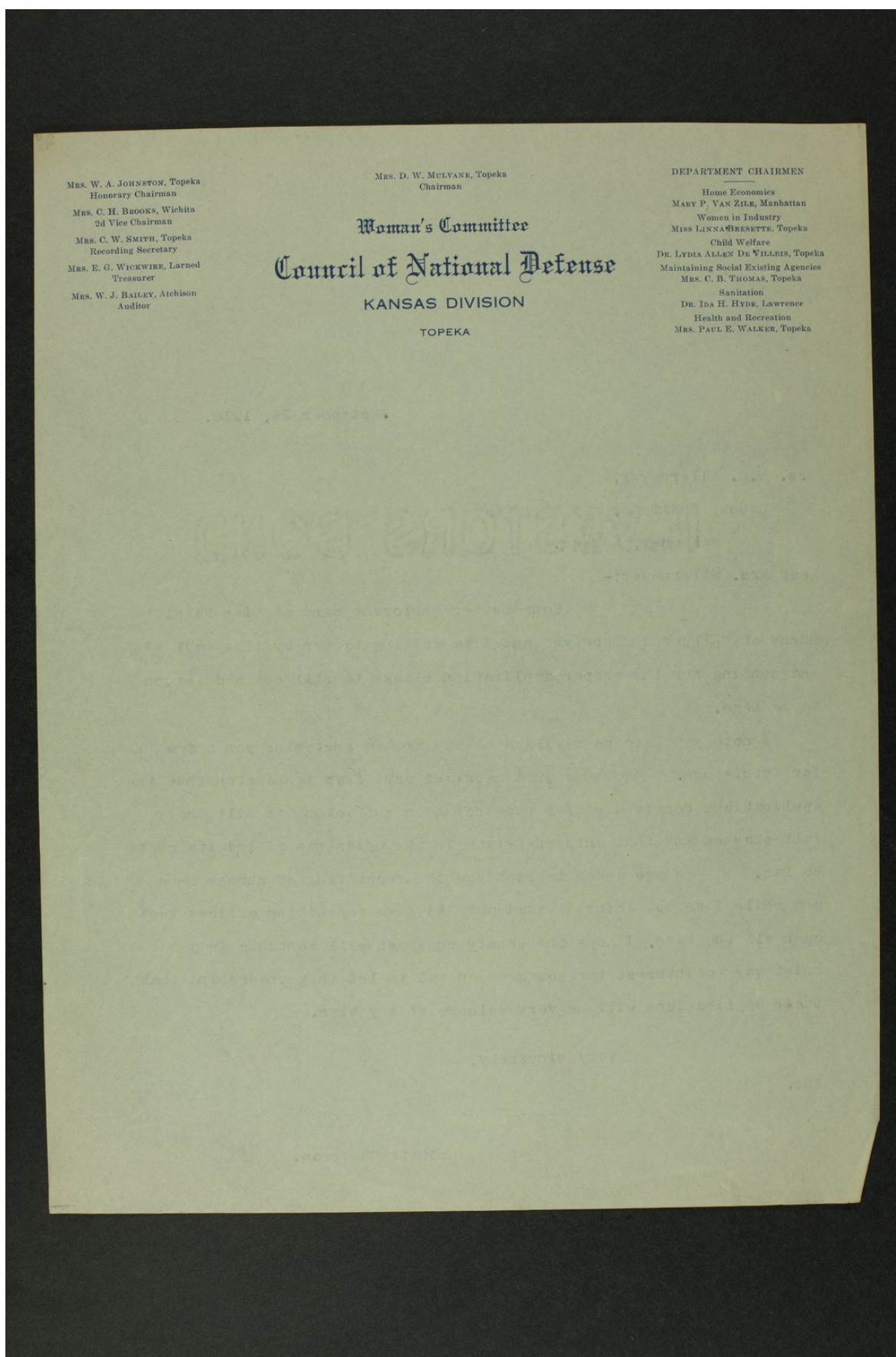
Very sincerely,

Enc.

V.

State Chairman.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence





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Mrs. C. B. THOMAS, Topeka

Sanitation
DR. IDA H. HYDE, Lawrence

Health and Recreation
Mrs. PAUL E. WALKER, Topeka

Wa-Keeney, Kansas. Sept, 22nd. 1918.

Mrs. D. W. Mulvane,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Mulvane,

I am enclosing an application card with this and as I have no blanks that I thought suited to her application will send you this and then would be pleased to know what to do in such a case hereafter the young lady is a good type for a nurse and does nursing with the physicians here but has only had one years of High School thoughtbright and very much interested.

She would like to go to work soon and wants to know the requirements as to preparation.

Will be pleased to have a prompt reply.

Sincerely yours.

Mrs. J. E. Ellerman

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Tracy

September 24, 1918.

Miss Label Burnes,
Collyer, Kansas.

Dear Miss Burns:-

Mrs. Ellermeyer, your county chairman, has sent me the enrollment card signed by you for the U.S. Student Nurse Reserve and I am enclosing you herewith an application blank and a high school certificate. I notice that you have had but one year's work in high school and you can use your own pleasure about having that filled out. Please return the application blank to me as soon as you have had it filled and I will forward it at once to Washington and you will not be kept waiting long before knowing whether you are accepted or rejected as the Committee on Assignment acts very quickly.

Very sincerely,

Enc.

V.

State Chairman.


Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

Form 1201

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION



TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

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VERMILLION KS 1115A AUG 4 1918

MRS D L MULVANE

TOPEKA KAS

MAIL ME MATERIAL ASKED FOR IN LUCY WOODMANS LETTER

OLIVE SUNDERLAND

1147AM

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

September 23, 1918.

Miss Hannah Patterson,
1814 N. St., N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Miss Patterson:-

In my mail this morning I have a letter from Edna M. Hiskey of Onaga, Kansas, in which she says:

"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."

Miss Hiskey seems an enthusiastic and desirable applicant and if this information is not too late, I hope you can oblige her in this preference as to location. She is very much in earnest about the work and having gotten the impression, incorrectly, that her first set of papers had been mis sent, she prepared and sent an entire duplicate set to make assurance doubly sure that she had not been omitted from consideration.

Your circular letter concerning the continuation of the nurses' campaign is received, also additional application blanks. If the arrangement suggested in the letter concerning the affiliation of army and civilian training and the possibility of a transfer of senior students to the army school work either here or in France is perfected, we will be very glad to be advised at

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

(H.P.-2)

once as this will insure our securing a number of fine applicatte
who were anxious to see service in army training schools but were
a little too young at this time. This would prove a great at-
traction to many fine young women.

Very sincerely,

V.

State Chairman.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

September 21, 1918.

Miss Hannah J. Patterson,
1814 N. St., N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Miss Patterson:-

I enclose herewith the application blanks of Miss Marguerite Thrapp, who is a high school graduate and has had three years of college work but is willing to give up her fourth year in order to respond to this patriotic call for nurses and because she honestly believes she is fitted for the work and knows that the army school requirements shut out a number of applicants who are willing to take the training. I consider her one of the very finest candidates we have had and sincerely hope she may be offered an early assignment. She has not indicated her preference as to location but she desires to be sent somewhere outside the state of Kansas.

I have received the additional supply of blanks which was delayed in delivery here. Thank you. We have pending now applications in all parts of the state and I hope soon to send the completed blanks but a good many things happen along the way--doctors refuse to give certificate, or something of the sort which prevents the blanks being returned to us. However, we still expect to have a large number of applications to send to you from time to time.

Very sincerely,

Enc.
V.

State Chairman.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

September 23, 1918.

Miss Hannah Patterson,
1814 N. St., N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Miss Patterson:-

I have been working with Mrs. Mulvane during the summer as a volunteer and have enjoyed the opportunity to serve, particularly as I have always hoped some time to take a secretary's course and do permanently this kind of work. I have had a long training in legal work, a number of years in the Supreme Court, and have a desire to perfect myself in this branch of service, especially as I understand the government is giving training to women in certain lines as it does to men. We have had this same question asked us by a number of others desiring the same information, so I am taking the liberty of asking you for them as well as for myself if such a course is open to women with an inclination for a secretary's training, and if so, under what conditions.

Thanking you in advance for this information for the others as well as for myself, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

July 27, 1918.

Miss Hannah Patterson,

1814 N. St., N.W.,

Washington, D.C.

My Dear Miss Patterson:-

Your letter just received in which you say you will send application blanks and cards direct to the county chairmen as I have sent you our revised list. Now in order to be perfectly sure that we do not miss any county chairmen I want to call your attention to a few changes in names and addresses. In spite of the letter I wrote recently to all county chairmen to leave some one in charge of the work if they took a vacation, I find that several chairmen have not done this and I am more than busy these days with the long distance telephone and telegraph to fill their places so that the young women in each county may have an opportunity to enroll. Therefore I am taking this extra precaution that you have the last word in regard to the changes made necessary by these summer vacations and at the same time ask you to mail me a number of extra application blanks and cards so that I may be able to meet any emergency that arises over the state. The necessary changes are:

CHEROKEE COUNTY: Mrs. A.H. Skidmore, Columbus,
instead of Mrs. Clifford Wilson.

MARSHALL COUNTY: Miss Edna Butler Marysville,
instead of Miss Edith Folz.

NEMAHA COUNTY: Mrs. Dock, Centralia,
instead of Mrs. L.A. Corwin, Goff.

TRECO COUNTY: Mrs. A.J. Ellenmeyer, WaKeeney
instead of Mrs. H.S. Givler.

The responses from a great many county chairmen and letters of inquiry from possible candidates are very encouraging and promise a successful campaign. We are doing all we can to make more than our quota for Kansas.

Upon the receipt of your telegram yesterday in regard to the delay in mailing application blanks and cards and instructions concerning applicants, I began to communicate with the county chairmen and by noon had the message out to all of them.

Very cordially yours,

V.

Council of National Defense Woman's Committee correspondence

July 25, 1918.

Miss Hannah Patterson,
1814 N. St., N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

My Dear Miss Patterson:-

I am sorry that I must trouble you at this time because I know of the extra work in your office made necessary by this nurses' campaign. But not having received as yet the questions and answers referred to in one of your letters, I am unable to answer some of the questions asked in letters from all over the state. The two questions which I have been asked and which are not covered in any of the literature received so far are:

First; will those who register in the preferred class be allowed expenses for transportation, etc., if called to some distant part of the country for training?

Second: does the same rule about service overseas for nurses who have relatives in the army apply to these candidates?

We have everything moving nicely and are only awaiting the receipt of application blanks and cards.

Very sincerely yours,

V.

State Chairman Woman's Committee
Memorial Bldg.