

## **Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19**

### **Section 12, Pages 331 - 360**

These folders contain correspondence subject files with Governor Allen. Some subjects included are land for soldiers, rifle practice, requests for assistance, the 35th Division, Fort Dodge Soldier's Home, the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, unemployment, venereal disease, and vocational education.

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## Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

JAMES G. STRONG  
5TH DIST. KANSAS

House of Representatives U. S.  
Washington, D. C.

101  
84

March 6, 1919.

To Mr. Reed

Honorable Henry J. Allen,  
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Governor:

I was very much pleased to receive both House Concurrent Resolution No. 22 and No. 24, for with both I am in hearty accord. Especially would I like to be of assistance in the passage of an act to return to all men who have served in the late war "all their personal uniform, clothing, and equipment now in their possession and issued to them by the government", and I would like to go further and give them a more substantial appreciation than has been provided, but Congress has adjourned without taking action in either matter set forth in the Resolutions of the Legislature of Kansas, and it is understood will not convene in extra session until the President has returned from his second trip to Europe.

Please convey to the Legislature my appreciation of their communication and assure them that I shall be glad to carry out the spirit of their resolutions should proper opportunity be afforded.

I have the honor to be

Your public servant,

J. G. Strong

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Quaint them to have them  
I think it is a sham that  
they can't have them and  
so do you that 35 I wish  
the blood of those boys and  
their mothers would drop  
before the eyes of the men  
that cause this all the rest  
of their days if they take  
those uniforms away from  
our boys it may be a law  
but it didn't take long to  
make a law to take our  
18 year old boys out from  
our homes and spoil all  
the rest of their lives and  
it won't take long to make  
a law that will let them  
keep their uniforms when  
on such a government as  
that it merely cost me my

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<sup>9</sup> life to give up my two boys  
but that made no difference  
they had to go now we  
want them to keep their  
uniforms and they want  
them and lots of them  
will get to keep them  
where there is lots of money  
and you men can see to it  
that they get to keep them  
if you want to.

And why ain't our  
boys brought home now I have  
a boy over there yet why ain't  
they brought home and a  
bowed to keep their uniform  
after they raised this old  
government for such men  
as are in office now please  
do some thing for us Mothers  
you men can if you will  
amen

## Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

Mrs F E Wagoner  
336 East Salina  
Kos  
Mother of Saline boys.

## Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

Salina Kas  
Feb 11. 1919.  
Governor Allen

Dear sir

I am going to write  
to you in regard to the boys  
keeping their uniforms they  
all want to keep them  
and what is the matter  
with this government ab  
ove to ever think of wanting  
those cloes returned to of lay  
and rat our dear boys faught  
and blood and some died in  
them and who has a better  
write to them they are proud  
of them and when the U of  
Kon comes again and they get  
out they all want that  
uniform and the Mothers

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*Give any file*

February 13, 1919.

Mrs. F. E. Wagoner,  
336 South 4th St.,  
Salina, Kans.

Dear Mrs. Wagoner:

Thank you for your letter of February 11th. I look at the matter of permitting the boys to keep their uniforms just as you do and have been doing all I can to that end. A bill permitting discharged soldiers to retain their uniforms has already passed the Senate at Washington and is now pending in House of Representatives. I hope it may become a law soon. As the matter now stands discharged soldiers are permitted to wear their uniforms for three months after they are discharged and must return them within four months after the date of their release from the service. If the ruling is changed ample notice of that fact will be given.

I also feel as you do, that the soldiers abroad should be returned at the very earliest opportunity. I have been bringing all the pressure I can to bear in that direction.

Sincerely yours,

Governor.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF,  
WASHINGTON.

February 13, 1919.

MR. E. D. GEORGE,  
*Secretary of the Senate,*  
State of Kansas,  
Topeka, Kansas.

SIR:

The Secretary of War directs me to acknowledge receipt of a Resolution of the Senate of the State of Kansas, the House of Representatives concurring, urging that the War Department discharge from the military service at the earliest possible date, consistent with the regulations and efficiency of the service, soldiers who have gone from the farms.

The War Department appreciates the necessity of the early return of soldiers to the farms from which they came, and it is the intention to bring this about as rapidly as possible. The War Department is demobilizing her military units just as rapidly as these units can be spared. In all large organizations mustered out there is a proportionate distribution of farmers, merchants, machinists, and factory workers, and all other representative classes of our population.

The War Department has not deemed it for the best interests of the country as a whole to issue orders directing the general discharge of all farmers, because it is not regarded as equitable to excuse any particular class from contributing its quota to the accomplishment of the large amount of work still remaining for the Army to do, but, as the forces in this country are being steadily reduced, more and more farmers will of course be relieved. At all times during demobilization individuals may make application for their discharge under Circular 77, War Department, 1918, which provides for the discharge of individual enlisted men upon their own application, in case they are needed to resume employment or in industrial occupation in which there is urgent need for their services, or where there is sickness or distress in the soldier's family. It is not, however, possible to discharge immediately on his own application every soldier who requests such discharge, even to return to farming or other essential industry. It must be remembered that there is considerable need for military forces for supply, debarkation, hospital and demobilization work, as well as for protecting the Mexican border and garrisoning our insular possessions. There are certain soldiers whose services cannot yet be spared. For them the emergency is not yet over and loyal and self-sacrificing men must serve.

The War Department appreciates the broad and enlightened attitude of the Kansas State Legislature, while urging the discharge of the men from the farms, in recognizing that such discharges must be limited by considerations of efficiency of the service.

Sincerely yours,

HENRY JERVEY,  
Major General, U. S. A.,  
Assistant Chief of Staff,  
Director of Operations.

7-5770

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<p>RESIDENT OFFICERS</p> <p>KANSAS STATE SOLDIERS' HOME FORT DODGE, KAN.</p> <p>S. S. MARTIN, . . . Commandant JOHN W. SIDLOW, . . . Quartermaster PERCY GEORGE, Ass't Quartermaster H. M. ZOON, . . . Chief Clerk J. J. McNAMARA, . . . Surgeon J. S. FISHER, . . . Assistant Surgeon SARAH J. DIXON, . . . Adjutant E. V. MARTIN, . . . Matron J. McHILL, . . . Chaplain H. L. SIMPSON, . . . Chief Engineer</p> <p>MOTHER BICKERDYKE HOME ELLSWORTH, KAN.</p> <p>A. R. KYLE, . . . Superintendent J. W. ANDERSON, . . . Steward C. E. KYLE, . . . Matron HISSEM and O'DONNELL, Surgeons</p>	<p>OFFICE OF PRESIDENT</p> <p>BOARD OF MANAGERS</p> <p>KANSAS STATE SOLDIERS' HOME</p> <p>AND</p> <p>MOTHER BICKERDYKE HOME</p> <p>MEMORIAL BUILDING</p>	<p>BOARD OF MANAGERS</p> <p>J. N. HARRISON, . . . President Topeka, Kan.</p> <p>H. R. WELLS, . . . Treasurer Louisburg, Kan.</p> <p>AGNES MICHAELIS, . . . Secretary Nickerson, Kan.</p>
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Topeka, Kan., January 23rd, 1919.

Governor H. J. Allen,  
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Governor:-

The time has come if it is our wish, desire and intention to care for our old feeble and helpless civil war veterans and their helpless old wives, that we begin now to remodel and re-arrange the State Soldiers Home at Fort Dodge and the Mother Bickerdyke Home at Ellsworth. They are no longer adapted to the purpose for which they were originally designed. Our comrades have grown old, feeble and helpless; their ages now average 76 years and 8 months and but comparatively few of them are now able to care for themselves; a very large per cent of the comrades or their old wives at this time are either partially or wholly paralyzed or blind or in some way incapacitated from caring for themselves without personal care. The cottage system will soon have to be practically abandoned, or turned over to the Spanish-American or the soldiers of the late war if it be the policy of the State of Kansas to care for its helpless defenders; but what we need now and need it bad at Ft. Dodge, is a large modern barracks, with ample toilet and bath room facilities for at least 80 old people; and I would suggest in the interest of efficiency, in the interest of economy and in the interest of humanity, that we at once provide a modern building at Ft. Dodge and transfer all the members of the Bickerdyke Home at Ellsworth to Ft. Dodge. Install those who are yet able to care for themselves in the cottages and take all the helpless, both in Ft. Dodge and the Bickerdyke Home, and place them in a new and modern barracks. The Homes are both practically sanitariums, but in this way we could separate the helpless from those who are yet able to care for themselves. The old ladies at Bickerdyke are anxious to go to the Ft. Dodge Home for the majority of them have buried their husbands there; from a sentimental stand point it is best they should be there; from a financial stand point we could do away with the entire official organization at Bickerdyke and the overhead expense at Bickerdyke Home which now amounts to Six Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars per annum, and by so doing, we could vacate the Bickerdyke Home which would provide an ideal place for a Detention Home, which I understand the present administration intend providing at this term of the Legislature.

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<p style="text-align: center;">RESIDENT OFFICERS</p> <p>KANSAS STATE SOLDIERS' HOME FORT DODGE, KAN.</p> <p>S. S. MARTIN, . . . . . Commandant JOHN W. SIDLOW, . . . . . Quartermaster PERCY GEORGE, Ass't Quartermaster H. M. COON, . . . . . Chief Clerk J. J. McNAMARA, . . . . . Surgeon J. S. FISHER, . . . . . Assistant Surgeon SARAH J. DIXON, . . . . . Adjutant E. V. MARTIN, . . . . . Matron J. McMILLEN, . . . . . Chaplain H. L. SIMPSON, . . . . . Chief Engineer</p> <p>MOTHER BICKERDYKE HOME ELLSWORTH, KAN.</p> <p>A. R. KYLE, . . . . . Superintendent J. W. ANDERSON, . . . . . Steward C. E. KYLE, . . . . . Matron HISSEM and O'DONNELL, Surgeons</p>	<p>OFFICE OF PRESIDENT</p> <p>BOARD OF MANAGERS</p> <p>KANSAS STATE SOLDIERS' HOME</p> <p>AND</p> <p>MOTHER BICKERDYKE HOME</p> <p>MEMORIAL BUILDING</p> <p>Topeka, Kan.,</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BOARD OF MANAGERS</p> <p>J. N. HARRISON, . . . . . President Topeka, Kan. H. R. WELLS, . . . . . Treasurer Louisburg, Kan. AGNES MICHAELIS, . . . . . Secretary Nickerson, Kan.</p>
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If this suggestion meets with your approval, I would be pleased to have a talk with you on the subject, at your convenience, and start the ball to rolling. If it does not if you will so indicate, I will drop the matter. All that I know is, it is impossible to properly care for our old, feeble, decrepit comrades as they should be cared for as we are now situated at the Homes. I write this for I think "Burleson" can get to you in a better shape than I can and quicker.

Your friend,

*J. N. Harrison*  
"Curly"

*The Plan for this Barrack was made by  
State Architect Chandler - 2 years ago  
it would have cost \$50,000 then but  
will cost 75,000 now  
JNH*

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Executive Committee

A. W. Swayze, Ellsworth  
T. G. O'Donnell, Ellsworth  
C. L. Danner, Wilson  
J. H. Minnich, Holyrood  
A. M. Woodmansee, Kanopolis

A. W. Swayze, *Chairman*

T. G. O'Donnell, *Sec. and Treas.*

*Republican Central Committee  
of Ellsworth County*

Ellsworth, Kansas.

Jan 22nd 1919.

Governor Henry Allen,

Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Governor:- The rumour has reached Ellsworth that the State Board of Control propose to move the Widows of Old Soldiers from the Bickerdyke Home at this place to Fort Dodge and convert this institution into to a detention home for dissolute women.

If this be the case, I want to protest most earnestly in the name of the citizens of this community against any such action.

The citizens of Ellsworth donated the present Bickerdyke site to the State for the use of the Old Soldiers or their widows, and their wishes in this matter deserve some little consideration.

If there is any truth in this rumour I would ask that you kindly hold up any action until the Ellsworth people have a chance to be heard.

With best wishes for your continued success, I am.

Respectfully,

*T. G. O'Donnell*

County Chm. Allen for Governor Club.

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Feb. 7, 1919  
H. Dodge Kan

Gov Henry J. Allen

I am going to write you  
as I believe that you are a friend  
to the Old Soldiers + their wives  
+ you can tell by the vote we  
gave you that we all think that  
you are our friend + will do  
something for us to make things  
more pleasant in the home. The  
Chaplain Mrs McMillan has  
Resigned + I see that Rev J W  
Waldron will soon be back home.  
He was our Pastor at the Kan. ave  
M.E. Church in N Topeka & we  
need just such a good man as  
he is one that loves the Old  
Soldiers + their wives that will  
visit them + take an interest  
in them + the having of their  
souls if you could send him

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to us or if he couldnt come  
some other good live wire one  
that is filled with the spirit  
of the master + that is able to visit  
is all + now we are hoping +  
trusting you to send us a comander  
that will have symithy for these  
old people instead of abusing  
them + we need a cleaning out  
in the hospittle the sick are not  
cared for as they should be + we  
want a good Prodstant Dr the  
Head Dr is cathloic + not the  
Dr for this place now gov Ballou  
I am writting the sentiment of the  
home I am Janitor of the Little  
chapel here so I come in touch  
with most of the people now my  
dear gov this is just a personal  
message to you feeling sure that  
you will do your best for us  
yours truly  
Mrs Martha Hill  
ft dodge Kan

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Fort Dodge Kans.  
Mch 16/19

Gov. Henry J. Allen  
Topeka Kans.

Dear Governor:

I inclose you  
a truthful copy of the vote of the Soldiers' Home  
taken from the Poll Books on the night of  
The Election -

Copper -	206	} 29 maj.
Thompson -	177	
Allen -	246	} 105 "
Lomudan -	143	
Pettigrew -	267	} 151 " Home C.
Salisbury -	116	
Tinsler -	237	} 90 "
Shouse -	147	

*Gettles papers to Pens*

You will note that ex Gov. Copper received least  
votes of any Republican candidate and that  
the Home is intensely republican - we have  
as denizens (members) no Lawyers no educated  
Doctors or Preachers but we do have rep-  
resentation members of every trade and  
calling where muscle and brain has been  
needed. We represent the Producing Class.  
And are here because the muscle is used up.

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(2)

In the study of character we note this fact - that successful Teachers and Preachers become arrogant and egotistical. The one teaches the road to financial success, the other teaches the road to spiritual success, and both receiving the adulation of a trusting public soon become Egotistical - witness our Common-  
Lawyer of the Home and our President - If conceit, Arrogance and Egotism, represent Executive Ability then both should be retained in office.

It is a recognized principle in our Constitution that "All just governments derive their powers from the consent of the governed" If this is not a Penal Institution, why not give the Home some consideration.

We have a Bi Annual report of work of the Home written for the public which is a good deal like Gen. Zane's vindication of the Regular Army a sort of mutual admiration society affair, where the tickling is in evidence.

Dodge City seems to be the parasite of the Home and State. If some of the damned stuff coming from Dodge City could be inspected

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by higher authority Dodge City would  
certainly loose out at Messrs Locke  
and Stubbins would.

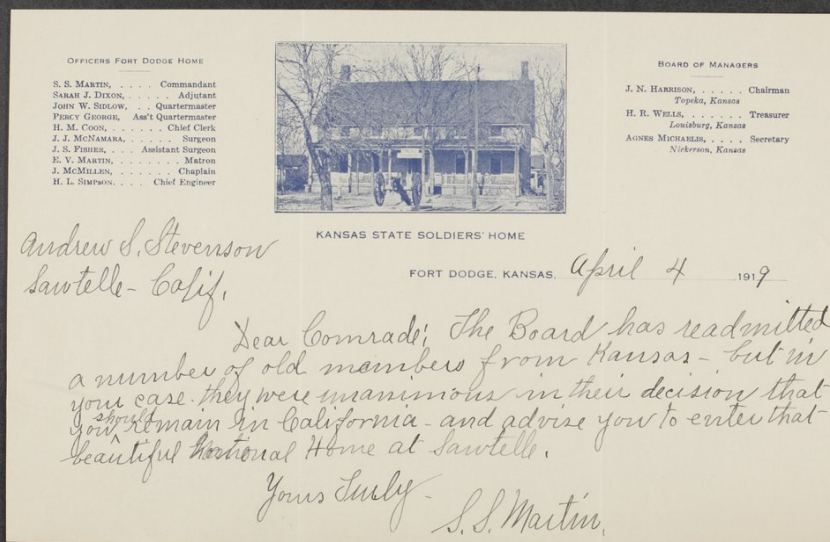
The former the grocer the candle stick maker  
All get bread from the Soldier's Home Bk.

I am aware that letter writing of a  
criticizing nature is damaging to the writer  
it has proven so in a number of cases  
in the Home, and yet all reforms are  
brought about by criticizing.

If there is any thing worth considering  
in this letter I am satisfied. If  
not Please forget that I have written  
you.

Respectfully,  
William H. Barney.

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LEE J. OVERMAN, N. C., CHAIRMAN.  
JOHN STARR WILLIAMS, MISS. FRANCIS E. WARREN, WYO.  
HOKKE SMITH, GA. KNUTE NELSON, MINN.  
ROBERT L. OWEN, OKLA. ALBERT B. CUMMINS, IOWA.  
OSCAR W. UNDERWOOD, ALA. PHILLANDELL G. KNOX, PA.  
CLAUDE A. SWANSON, VA. CHARLES CURTIS, KANS.  
PETER O. GERTY, R. I.  
CHARLES H. MARTIN, CLERK.

### United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON RULES.

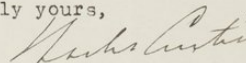
April 18th. 1919.

My dear Governor:

I am writing you in behalf of Mrs. Mae C. Patrick of Santa Fe, Kansas. She is very anxious to be appointed on the State Board of Welfare, and if there are no vacancies would be glad to be appointed on the Soldiers Home. I wish when you are making up your appointments you will give her application careful consideration and appoint her if possible. She is very prominent in welfare work; is a woman of splendid ability, and would make a good member of either of the above named boards.

Hoping she may be appointed, I am, with personal regards,

Very truly yours,



Governor Henry J. Allen,  
Topeka, Kansas.

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Gov. send  
file when  
he could  
get it  
later  
D



## Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

Fort Dodge Kansas.

April 24th, 1919.

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To His Excellency,  
Governor, Henry J. Allen,  
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

At a regular meeting April 22nd of Victor Post No. 293 G.A.R. Department of Kansas and Fort Dodge, Kansas, The following Resolution and Statement of facts were duly passed upon and ordered sent to your Office for investigation-with the request- that the blame if any is found to exist may be properly placed, and steps taken to prevent in the future these gruesome scenes and mismanagement concerning the care of our dead Comrades. This is not the first of similar cases.

The facts we wish to present for your consideration are as follows;

Comrade I.H. Watkins died in the Hospital here at the Home of dropsy at 4 o'clock P.M. April 11th, 1919. It was a case where the body needed the immediate attention of an Undertaker. Instead, the body was held in the Morgue till 3 o'clock P.M. April 13th, 1919 without proper attention, then taken out, without clothes, pinned up in a sheet, lying on a stretcher, put in the Home hearse by his Old Comrades and sent to Dodge City to be prepared for shipment to Lakin, Kansas, his old home, at the expense of his son, who had already telegraphed money to the undertaker with the statement that if the amount was insufficient he would telegraph more.

All this occurred in the presence of a throng who had gathered around the Morgue "Obtensibly" to hear a funeral service.

Further, the only excuse we have heard for holding the body, was the storm, and extra expense it would have entailed.

In answer to this excuse we wish to call your attention to the fact that Comrade J.C. Robb's wife died during this same storm and was buried during the very worst of it, in the Home cemetery with hardly a hitch in the proceedings. They had the services of an undertaker, and managed the whole affair himself and at his own expense without calling on the State for a penny.

We think the management of the Home could have been as efficient in handling the Watkins case as Comrade Robb was in handling his own.

In conclusion we wish to state that it is the honest opinion of each member of this Post, that any betterment we can get regarding these cases must come directly or indirectly from your office.

Therefore, be it "Resolved" by the members of this Post that we earnestly protest against such proceedings, and that they must have been under the circumstances inexcusable upon the part of those who had charge of the body and burial of Comrade I.H. Watkins.

T.L. Dellinger, Adjt.

W.H. Culter, P.C.

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We the undersigned Pull Bearers of  
 the body of comrade J. H. Watkins  
 who died in the Hospital in the State  
 Soldiers Home, at Fort Dodge Kansas  
 at 4 O'clock P.M. Apr 11<sup>th</sup> 1919, and his  
 body being held in the Morgue till  
 3 O'clock P.M. Apr 13<sup>th</sup> 1919, then we the  
 undersigned Pull Bearers placed  
 his dead body in the hearse on a  
 stretcher, We believe without being  
 embalmed or dressed, with only a  
 sheet over him, and sent his dead  
 body to Dodge City Kansas in that condition

George W. Wolford O.D.  
 D. R. Catron O.D.  
 St. Clair Watts  
 E. Collett  
 W. H. Ausman  
 A. L. Baird  
 J. L. McKee

State of Kansas  
 County of Ford /SS.  
 Subscribed and sworn to before me  
 this 23 day of April 1919  
 St. Jackson Notary Public  
 my commission expires March 7 1921

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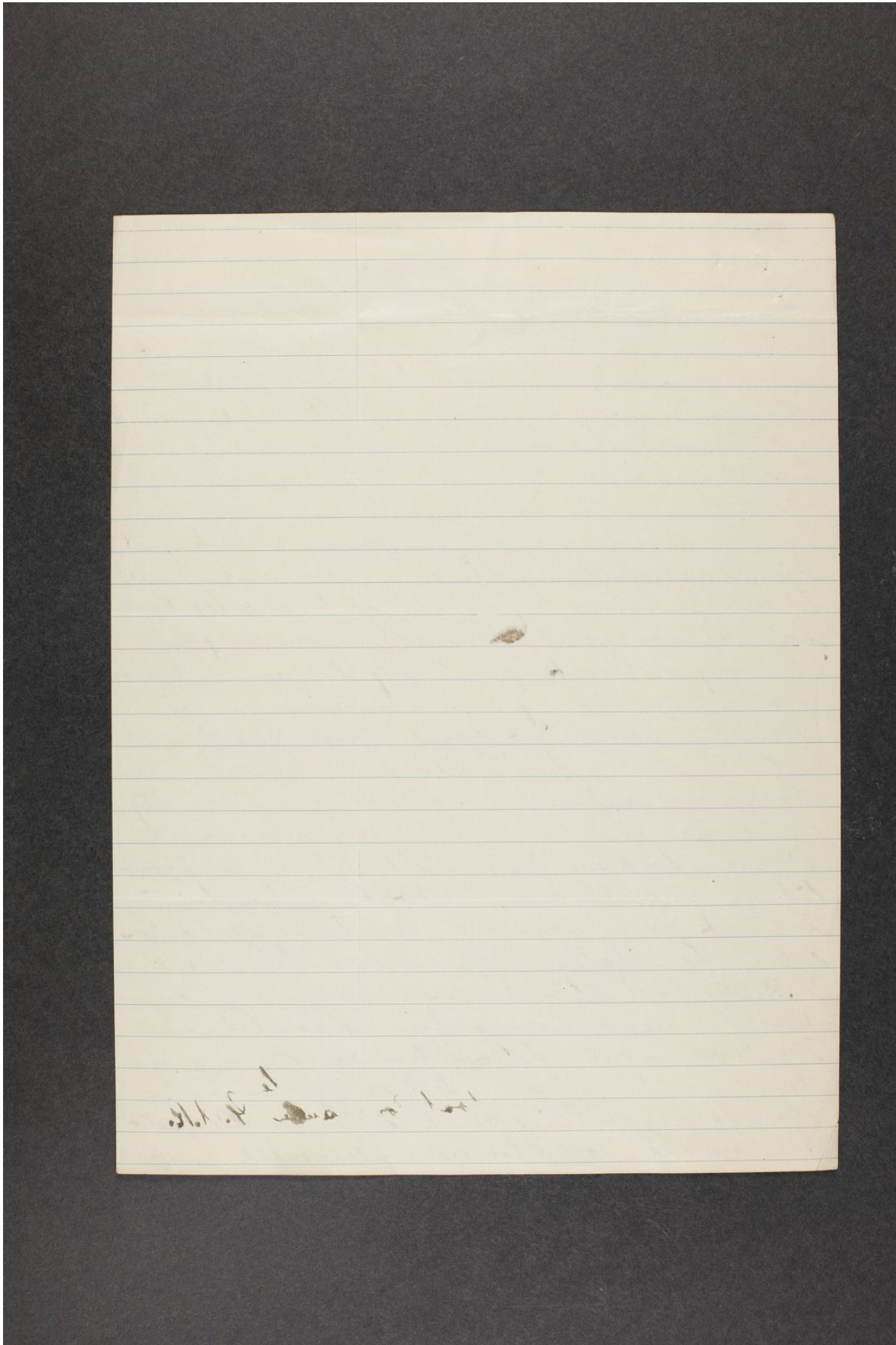
Fort Dodge Kans  
April 21/19

Mr. Clyde M. Reed  
Topeka Kans.

Dear Mr. Reed:

I have just read your reply to Mr. Culter's letter in reference to my candidacy for Quartermaster here in The Home. I sincerely thank you for any interest you may take in favor of my candidacy. As a member of The Home I can not come before the Governor with a strong political pull, but I have the friendship and good will of a majority of the comrades in The Home that would like me to have this position and if appointed I will surely administer the duties to the interest of the "Old Boys" and to the best interest of The State. I have filled the office of U.S. General Storekeeper - Ganger for a long period of years having been appointed in Mr. Harrison's administration serving up to Mr. Loft's administration. I have filled the office of Chief Clerk to the Quartermaster here in The Home for nearly 18 months. I am

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70 years old so I am not incapacitated by reason of old age. I believe I understand the needs of these Old Comrades as well as any man that could be selected from the State at large.

Should the Governor come to Dodge City on May 10<sup>th</sup> I will try to meet him, but I am sure that he will be obsessed by old time polititions so that I would be unable to get a hearing. - But you Mr. Reed are near the Throne, I seek your interest and ask your help in my candidacy for the place, and although a stranger to you now your good offices will not be forgotten.

Respectfully,

William W. Barney

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

Fort Dodge, Kansas.  
Apr 16<sup>th</sup> 1919

Governor Henry J. Allen.  
Topeka, Kansas.

My Dear Governor,

I am writing you to-day as a member of the State Soldiers Home in behalf of a comrade here in the home. Four years ago Mr. William W. Barney was an applicant for the position of Quartermaster in the home before Gov. Capper. Mr. Barney sent with his application a petition signed by three-fourths of the then membership of the Home. Mr. Capper wrote Mr. Barney very encouraging letters even congratulating him for making an application for the position, many of these letters I saw, and many in the Home were jubilant over the prospect of a member of the Home obtaining this appointment for they believed Mr. Barney competent, and

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worthy. We are now coming before you asking this appointment for Mr. Burney, we know that <sup>you</sup> will have to deviate from precedent, that the official sentiment is against an appointment of this kind to members in the Home, but why? is it because we are incompetent? Or just financially incompetent? Why the present incumbent Director-Master is only a protégé of Mr. Lane. Stubbs of Dodge City, when Mr. Sidley is out of a job here in the Home Lane lets him run a little Branch store in Dodge City. What is precedent any more? Squatter Sovereignty based its legality on precedent, candidates come to this Home for our voting support, often we are the deciding factor for the County Politicians. Is it possible only to help others, and ourselves we can not help? Governor! Depart from precedent in this instance, and see if it does not work well, see if bids from business men of the State

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B"

does not compete with business men of  
Dodge City, and thereby get better goods  
for less money. Under the present conditions  
here this theme is inexhaustible. Please give  
this letter some thought, and let us hope  
for some recognition from you.

Yours Respectfully,  
Wm. H. Luther  
Post Commander &c

## Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

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*Memo*

April 24, 1919.

Hon. Henry J. Allen,  
~~Governor of Kansas,~~  
~~36 West 40th St.,~~  
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Governor:

I have gone over the correspondence relating to the quality of the food furnished to the State Soldiers Home at Dodge City. I asked Col. Harrison to let me have his schedule of prices under the last letting. This was furnished. Mr. Kimball checked it up with prices paid for the same class of supplies by the Board of Administration. The following figures show the comparison:

ARTICLES	BOARD OF ADM'N.	SOLDIERS HOME	MOTHER BICK- ERDYKE HOME
Apples, evaporated, 50-lb. boxes, as ordered,	14.75	16.74	
Apple butter, guaranteed pure, gallon cans,	.89	1.15	1.15
Apricots, canned, No. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1.89	1.89	2.06
Apricots, evaporated, 50-lb. boxes, as ordered,	17.50	19.50	
Beans, navy, choice, hand-picked, as ordered,	9.92	10.75	10.75
Beans, Mexican, as ordered,	8.00	7.74	
Beans, string, canned, No. 2,	1.63	1.64	1.78
Catsup, tomato, 12 oz. to 16 oz.,	2.15	2.55	
Cheese, full cream, as ordered,	39.25	37-7/8	37-7/8
Coffee, choice roasted, in sealed cans, as ordered,	22.00	23-7/8	23-7/8
Corn, canned, No. 2, Standard,	1.65	1.74	1.84
Crackers, soda, as ordered,	13-1/8	13.75	13.75
Hominy, canned, No. 3,	1.25	1.45	1.45
Macaroni, 10-lb. boxes,	94.50	95.50	
Oatmeal, fresh, flakes, as ordered, price per 90-lb. bag,	4.89	5.59	5.59
Peaches, California, or as good, canned, No. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ,	1.95	2.55	2.55
Pineapple, Hawaiian, canned, No. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ,	2.95	3.49	3.59
Pickles, sweet, medium, as ordered,	29.00		30.50
Prunes, as ordered, 50-lb. boxes, 60-70 and 70-80,	13.50	11.25	12-3/8
Rice, choice, as ordered,	9.10	9.85	
Salt, table, 2-lb. cartons,	4.91	5.44	

## Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

Governor Allen - #2.

ARTICLES	BOARD OF ADM'N.	SOLDIERS HOME	MOTHER BICK- ERDYKE HOME
Salmon, red, 1-lb. cans,	2.80	2.85	2.85
Soap, laundry, 8 to 10-oz.,			
100 bars in box,	4.95	6.29	6.29
Spaghetti, 10-lb. boxes,	94.50	95.50	
Sugar, standard granulated,			
100-lb. sacks,	9.75	9.82	9.95
Tea, Japan, as ordered,	29.50	39-7/8	
Tea, Gunpowder or Imperial,	35.00	39-7/8	
Vinegar, as ordered,	30.00	30.40	
Buttons, dress, white pearl,			
22-line,	37.00	43.20	43.20
Buttons, dress, white pearl,			
18-line	30.00	37.20	37.20
Breakfast bacon, boneless,	43.00	43.00	43.00
Pork, dry salt, sides,	28.85	30.12	29.87

It will be observed that except on two or three items the Soldiers Home prices are higher than those of the Board of Administration. This may be accounted for by the fact that the quantity purchased is smaller and all is used at points where the average freight haul and rate is higher than for the larger state institutions, most of which are on the east side of the state.

My inquiry into the subject leads me to believe that there is fair competition on the supplies furnished the Soldiers Home, and that prices quoted are, under the circumstances, reasonable. This brings the question up as to whether or not the supplies being furnished the Soldiers Home are such as comply with the specifications. When the bunch of samples came in from Dodge City, Mrs. Reed happened to be in the office, and I asked her to look them over without telling her where they were from. She said the food was of the lowest grade to be found on the market and was not such as she would purchase for home consumption. This was confirmed by one or two other women, who happened to be around the office and looked it over.

I am disposed to think that Mr. Kimball, or some one of the good stewards at state institutions, ought to go to Dodge City and look the supplies over with a view of determining whether or not the quality is up to a reasonable standard and such as the state is paying for. I do not know any other way to get at this.

Very truly yours,

CMR:Mod

## Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

Fort Dodge Kans Mo. 11th 19  
To Hon. Henry J. Allen  
Gov. of the State of Kans  
Dear Governor  
I hope you will Pardon a relic of  
the civil war for taking the  
liberty of addressing you  
but having a deep interest  
in seeing some of the abuses  
of this home corrected. I wish to  
call your attention to some of  
them in the first place we should  
have a comandant that has the  
Patience of Job & some sympathy  
with these old people & should treat  
them kindly & a matron who will  
visit the hospital daily & see that they  
get proper care & something that they  
can eat & a matron who will

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visite the kitchen at the mess hall  
daily & see that the food is properly  
cooked for these old People & see  
that what is furnished is cooked &  
not carried off by the help.  
when the contracts are let for  
supplies for this home it is for the  
best of its kind. but instead we get  
the cheapest that can be bought  
Tea & coffee not fit for these old  
People crackers I never saw one  
fit to eat Navy beans yellow with  
age canned goods slask filled  
1 1/2 Pounds of lard for 2 people has  
to do for 1 month. these contracts  
are invariably let to strube of  
dodge city & he has two or three  
Butcher Shops & what he cant