

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

Section 8, Pages 211 - 240

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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Date: 1919-1923

Callnumber: Governor's Office, Governor Henry J. Allen, Correspondence Files, Subject Files Box 19

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

Jefferson Co.
July 7 1919

OS Kaloosa Kansas.
Mr Henry J. Allen

Dear Governor

I Am writing you a rather
letter to see if you know.
Ever got any more word.
are heard any thing
more of My son John J. Ray.
I haven't heard are got
any letters from him
yet and I am sure anxious
to hear from him as
I am sick and worried
about him so when
I can't hear from him
I am sure I hope you will
find out something about
him and I will get word
before long. I am

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

and I think you know
so much for what you
have done.

Mrs. B. J. Ray.

O.S. Kaloosa Kans

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WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

In reply refer to

201 Ray, John Sherman
(Misc. Div.) GR

May 26, 1919.

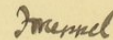
Honorable Henry J. Allen,
Governor, State of Kansas,
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Governor:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 21, 1919, making inquiry concerning Private John Sherman Ray, on the part of his mother, Mrs. B. T. Ray of Oskaloosa, Kansas. You are advised that the records of this office show John Sherman Ray, serial number 3463919, to be in the 1st Replacement Depot, Medical Labor Camp for Organization and Training. The roster of this unit dated March 31, 1919, shows this soldier to have been transferred to the First Replacement Depot, A. P. O. 727, France, under date of March 1, 1919.

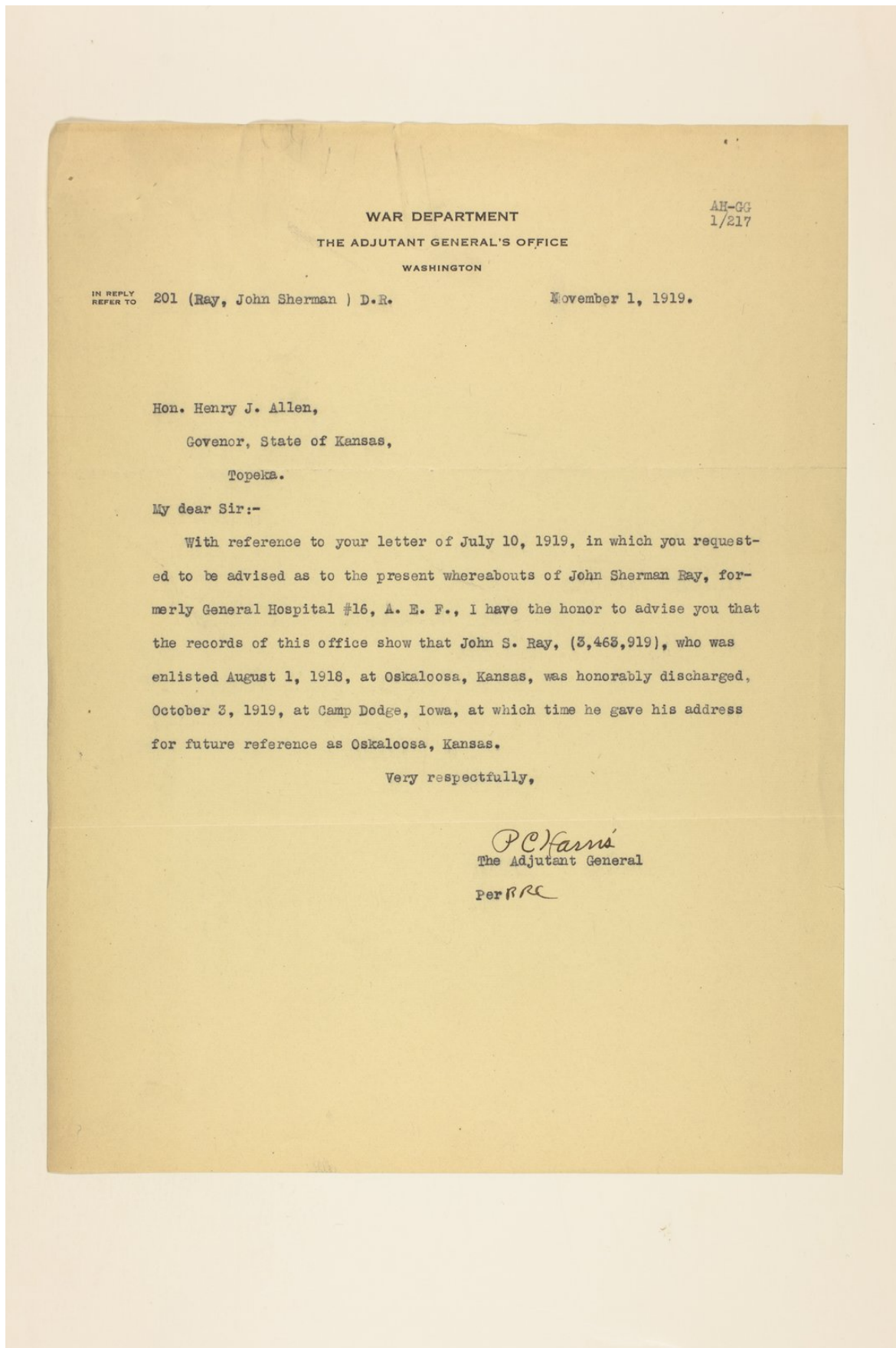
Your letter has been forwarded this date by courier to the Commanding General, American Expeditionary Forces, France, for the information required.

Very truly yours,



F. P. Keppel,
Third Assistant Secretary of War.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19



WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON

AH-GG
1/217

IN REPLY
REFER TO 201 (Ray, John Sherman) D.R.

November 1, 1919.

Hon. Henry J. Allen,
Governor, State of Kansas,
Topeka.

My dear Sir:-

With reference to your letter of July 10, 1919, in which you requested to be advised as to the present whereabouts of John Sherman Ray, formerly General Hospital #16, A. E. F., I have the honor to advise you that the records of this office show that John S. Ray, (3,463,919), who was enlisted August 1, 1918, at Oskaloosa, Kansas, was honorably discharged, October 3, 1919, at Camp Dodge, Iowa, at which time he gave his address for future reference as Oskaloosa, Kansas.

Very respectfully,

P. C. Harris
The Adjutant General

Per *RRC*

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

*Jefferson
Co.*

August 16, 1919.

My dear Sir:

Mr. B.F. Ray, of Oskaloosa, Kansas, who is the father of Private 1st Cl. John Sherman Ray, of your organization, has not heard from his son directly since last September. An inquiry conducted through the Department at Washington developed the information that he was present for duty with your organization on June 30th, 1919.

If this soldier has been transferred will you kindly advise to what organization; or if he is still under your command, please let me know what his present status is and tell him to communicate with his family. Numerous letters written by his father to various addresses have been returned to the writer.

I will greatly appreciate you prompt attention to the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Governor.

Commanding Officer,
Medical Labor Camp,
A.P.O. 713, A.E.F.,
Gievres, France.

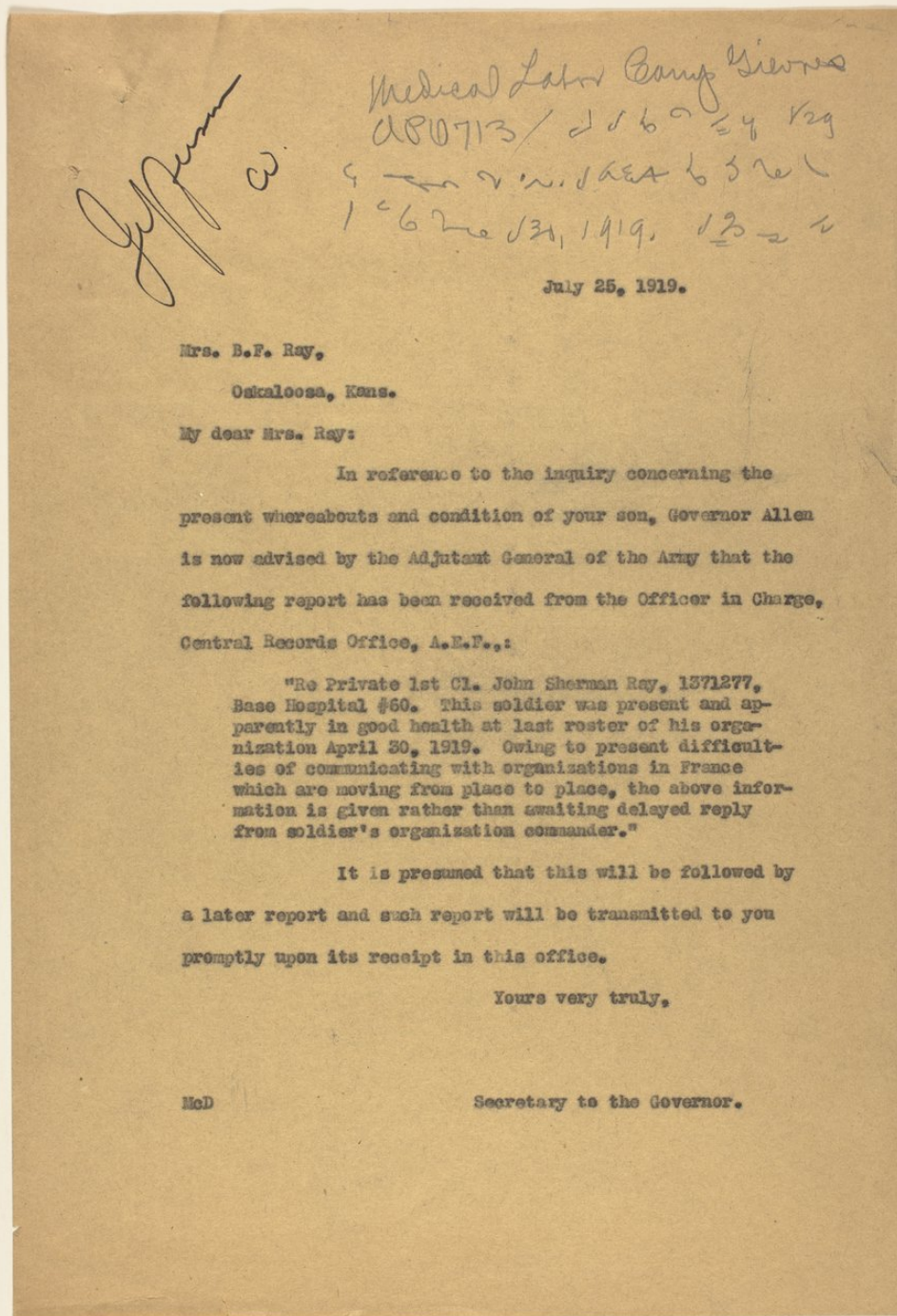
Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

May The 15 1919.
Oskaloosa Kansas
Mr Henry J. Allen
Dear Governor
I am ^{writing} you a few lines to
night to see if you would
help me to find out something
about my son. I am a
Pawnee as I haven't heard from
him since the 21 of January
the letter was dated Dec 20
and we haven't heard from
him since now my boy.
Can not other recd are write
and it look like they
are to write for him
after take him over there
last we heard from him

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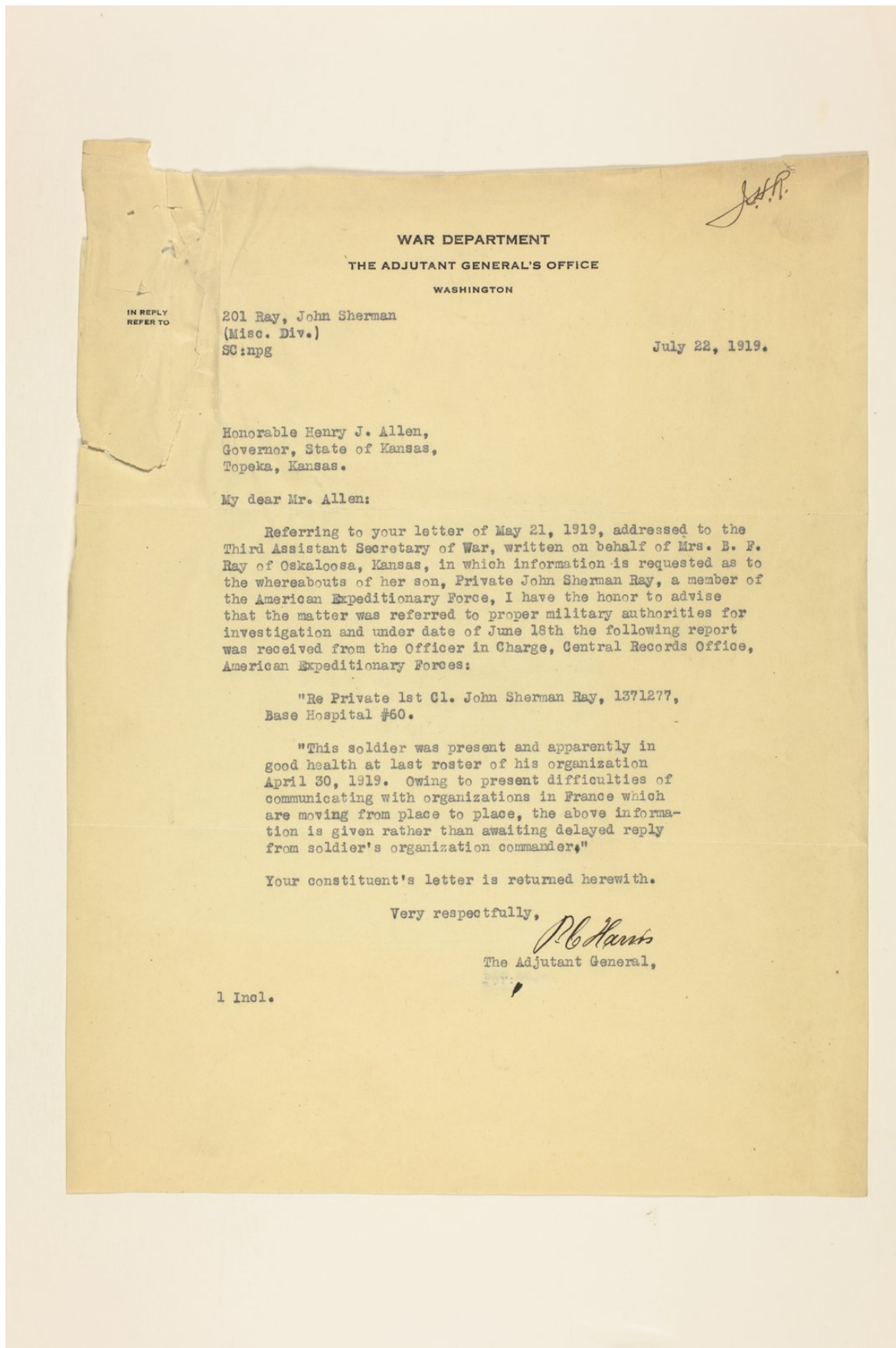
He was in France. His
 address was John Shannon
 Ray No 16 Phil v s a
 gen Post B & F France
 He has been over there
 about 9 months - and I sure
 need him at home.
 And will you please
 see if you can find
 out something about
 him for me.
 With many of thanks
 Mrs - B J Ray.
 Oskaloosa Kansas
 When we left there is address was
 Exceptional Replacement
 Medical Corps - unit 40 60
 Rec'd Ocs. Div.
 JUL 17 1919

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Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19



WAR DEPARTMENT

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

WASHINGTON

IN REPLY
REFER TO

201 Ray, John Sherman
(Misc. Div.)
SC:npg

July 22, 1919.

Honorable Henry J. Allen,
Governor, State of Kansas,
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Mr. Allen:

Referring to your letter of May 21, 1919, addressed to the Third Assistant Secretary of War, written on behalf of Mrs. B. F. Ray of Oskaloosa, Kansas, in which information is requested as to the whereabouts of her son, Private John Sherman Ray, a member of the American Expeditionary Force, I have the honor to advise that the matter was referred to proper military authorities for investigation and under date of June 18th the following report was received from the Officer in Charge, Central Records Office, American Expeditionary Forces:

"Re Private 1st Cl. John Sherman Ray, 1371277,
Base Hospital #60.

"This soldier was present and apparently in good health at last roster of his organization April 30, 1919. Owing to present difficulties of communicating with organizations in France which are moving from place to place, the above information is given rather than awaiting delayed reply from soldier's organization commander."

Your constituent's letter is returned herewith.

Very respectfully,

P.C. Harris
The Adjutant General,

1 Incl.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

BASE PERSONNEL ADJUTANT OFFICE
RECORDS SECTION
BASE SECTION # 5, A.P.O. 716, A.F. in F.

September 29, 1919.

From : Base Personnel Adjutant Office - Records Section. BS #5 -
To : Governor - State of Kansas - U.S.A.
Subject : Information .

1. I am informing you that Pvt. 1st Cl. John Sherman Ray was returned to the United States on the S/S MALLORY August 20th, 1919. under order to be discharged there.

L.M. Douglas
L.M. Douglas,
2nd Lt. Inf.
Ass't Base Personnel Adj't.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

STATE OF KANSAS
HENRY J. ALLEN, GOVERNOR
TOPEKA

August 16, 1919.

My dear Sir:

Mr. B.F. Ray, of Oskaloosa, Kansas, who is the father of Private 1st Cl. John Sherman Ray, of your organization, has not heard from his son directly since last September. An inquiry conducted through the Department at Washington developed the information that he was present for duty with your organization on June 30th, 1919.

If this soldier has been transferred will you kindly advise to what organization; or if he is still under your command, please let me know what his present status is and tell him to communicate with his family. Numerous letters written by his father to various addresses have been returned to the writer.

I will greatly appreciate your prompt attention to the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Henry J. Allen
Governor.

Commanding Officer,
Medical Labor Camp,
A.P.O. 713, A.E.F.,
Gievres, France.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

Oct the 28 1919.
OS Maloosa Kans.
Mr. Henry J. Allen.
Dear Governor
I will write and let you
know that my son John Roy
has come home and thank
you ever so much for what
you have done.
from Mr. and Mrs B J Roy.
OS Maloosa Kansas.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

E. White

Melvern Stans
June 3, 1919

Governor Allen,
my dear Sir:-

I am writing you to see if you can help me get my allotment which I made out to my mother (Mrs Nellie J. White). I made out this allotment Nov. 7 1917 including Nov. 1917. I allotted her \$15 per. mo. and this amount was held out of my pay from this date on. until my discharge which was granted May 12, 1919. She has never received a cent of it nor has it been payed. She has written the war department many time about matter but could do nothing with them. There is now due (\$270) two hundred seventy dollars which I need badly to carry on my business.

I entered the service Sept. 19 1917 went to France and served with the 3rd Division thirty days.



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for twelve months and 18 days
in active service all the time
and did not receive a cent only
\$32 casual pay while there. So I
feel that I should have what is
coming to me.

Yours Sincerely

Mr Earl Witcher,

R.R. #1. B.33.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

June 11, 1919.

Director, Bureau of War Risk Insurance,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Mr. Earl Witcher, of Helvern, Kansas, formerly a private in the 30th Infantry, 3d Division, A.E.F., but now discharged, has written to me in reference to the non-payment by the Government of his salary allotment during his period of service.

Witcher entered the service on Sept. 19, 1917, and made an allotment of \$15.00 per month in favor of his mother, Mrs. Nellie J. Witcher, in November, 1917. He was discharged from service on May 12, 1919. He states that while the amount of the allotment was withheld from his pay-check each month, no money was ever sent to his mother, and claims that there is now due her the amount of \$270.00.

Kindly check up your records on this case and make such adjustment as is equitable. Am sorry that I am unable to furnish Witcher's army serial number or more detailed reference to your files.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

Director, Bureau of War Risk Insurance - #2.

Your early attention to this case will be greatly
appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Mad

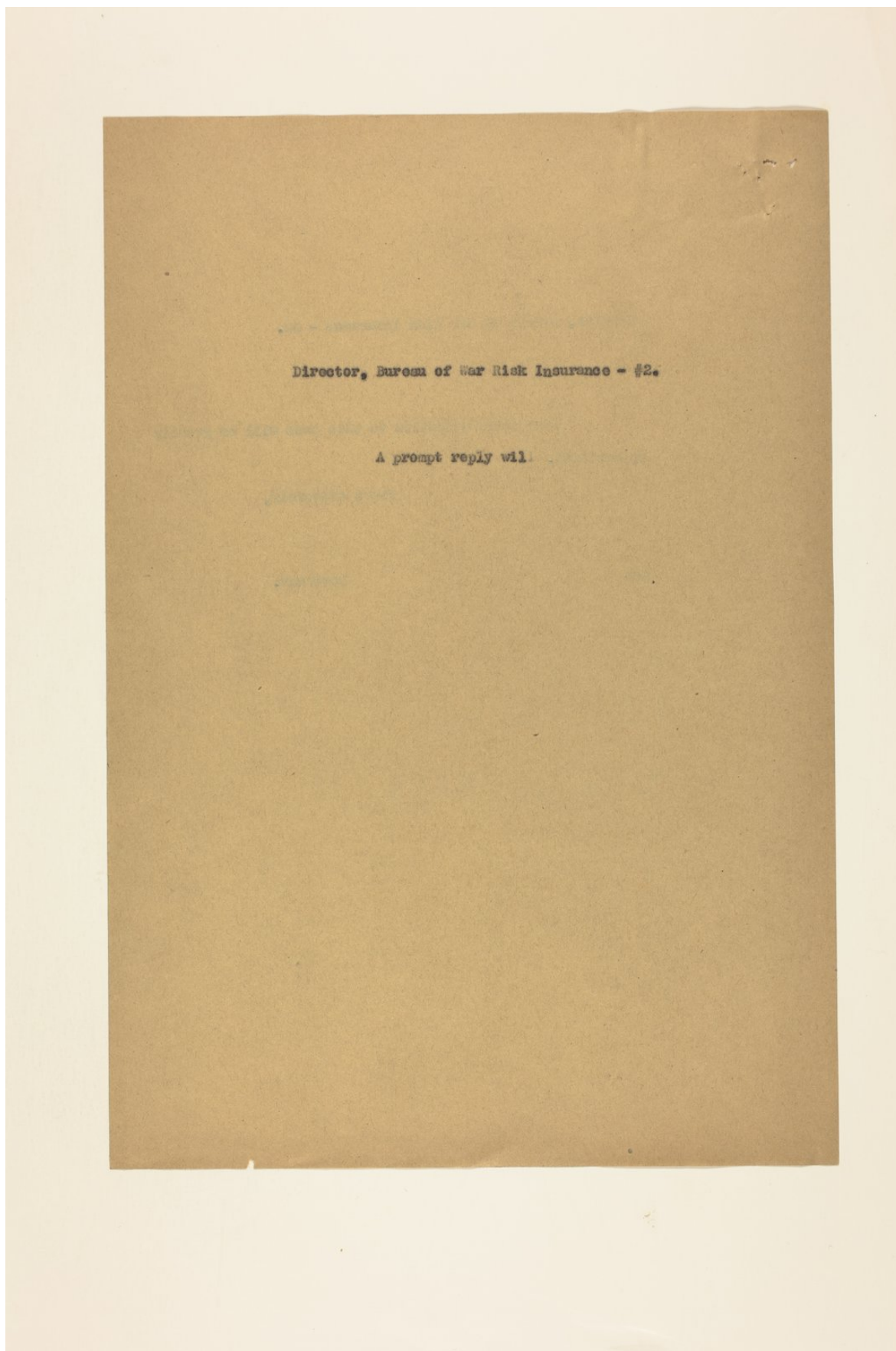
Governor.

Sen up 1917

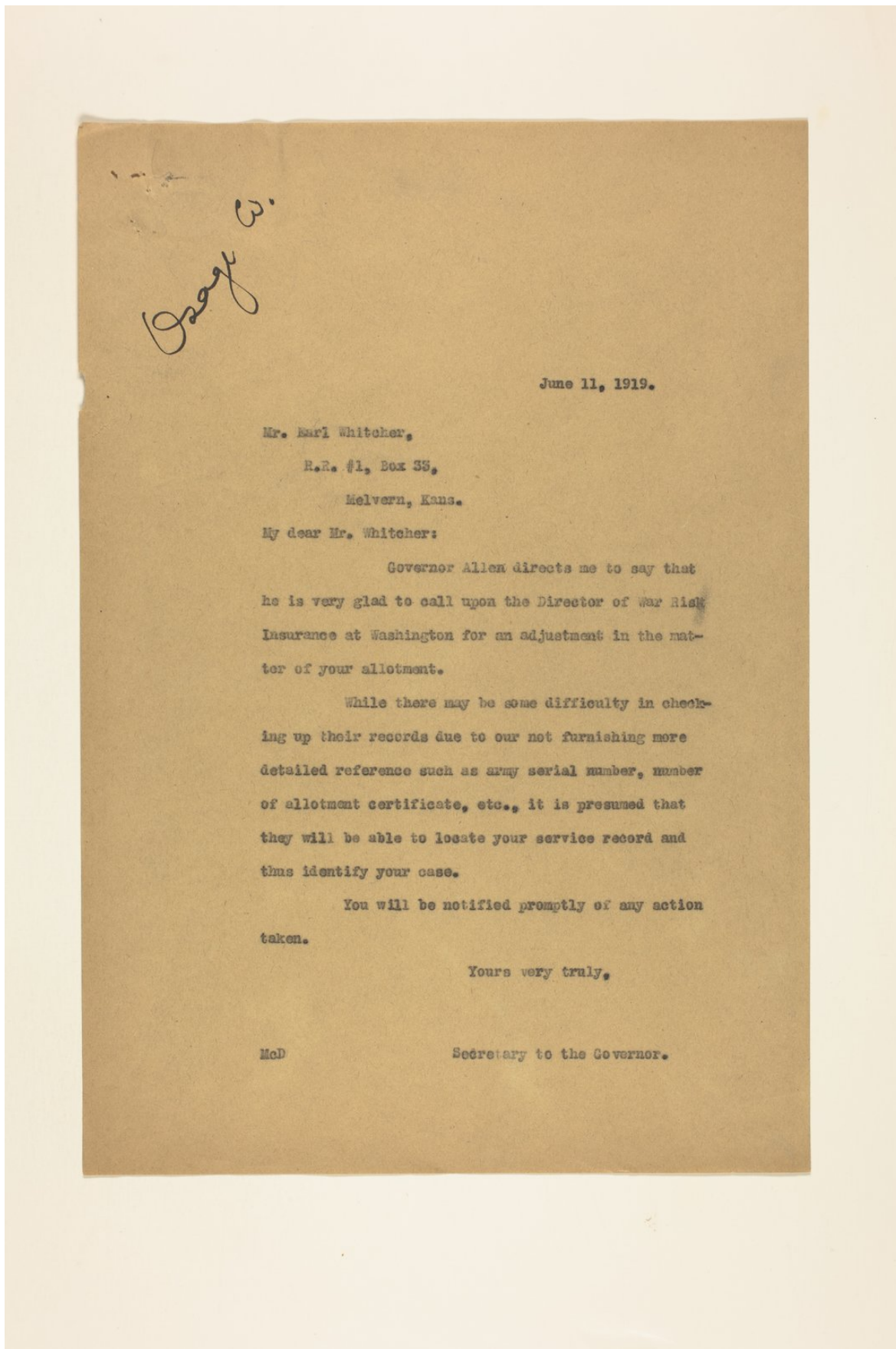
164 MB - we

A S W 2179013

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19



Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19



Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

Orange Co.

August 21, 1919.

Dear Sir:

Our files do not disclose that we have yet been favored with a reply to my letter of June 11, 1919, in reference to the allotment of Private Earl Witcher, 20th Inf., 2d Division, A.E.F. (Discharged), whose present address is Belvern, Kansas. I would greatly appreciate being advised of what is being done to adjust this soldier's claim.

I am now advised that his army serial number is 2179013 and his allotment was filed on or about November 1st, 1917, he then being a member of the 164th Depot Brigade at Camp Funston. This information may be of use in identifying his case in the records.

Trusting that this case will now be given your prompt attention, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Director,
Bureau of War Risk Insurance,
Washington, D.C.

Governor.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19



BUREAU OF
WAR RISK INSURANCE

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

December 5, 1919.

IN REPLY REFER TO: SAC-T-1

Earl Whitcher
Private
4th Co., 164 D.B.
S- 2 179 013

Hon. Henry J. Allen,
Governor, State of Kansas,
Topeka, Kans.

Dear Sir:

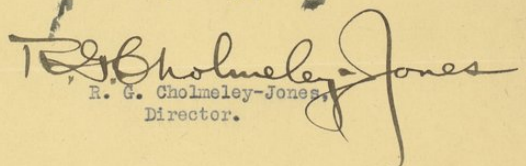
In reference to your communication of recent date concerning the above mentioned enlisted man you are advised that there is no allotment application, Form 1-B executed by him on file in the Bureau.

A thorough search of the files fails to disclose your letter of June 11th.

The records show that this soldier's pay was checked for an allotment. When information is received as to whether the checkage was made for allotment through this Bureau or through the War Department, further action will be taken, and you will be later advised.

Copy of this letter is enclosed for your use.

Very truly yours,


R. G. Cholmeley-Jones,
Director.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19



BUREAU OF
WAR RISK INSURANCE

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

January 8, 1920.

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Honorable Henry J. Allen,
Governor of the State of Kansas,
Topeka, Kansas.

Amy Serial No. 2 179 013
Earl Whitcher
Private
4th Co., 164 D.B.
ENR-b-1

Dear Sir:

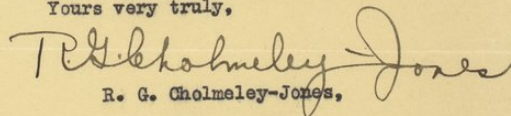
In further reply to your communication concerning the case of the above named soldier, you are advised:

The records of this Bureau show no application on file by this soldier, and a report from the Adjutant General's Office is to the effect that no duplicate Form 1-B executed by the soldier is on file in that office. The War Department also reports no record of allotment through the Zone Finance Office.

However, as the records show checkage for \$15 allotment the soldier should request a refund of allotment checked against his pay and still unpaid, of the Director of Finance, War Department, Washington, D. C.

Enclosed is a copy of this letter for your use.

Yours very truly,



R. G. Cholmeley-Jones,

Director.

Enc.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19



BUREAU OF
WAR RISK INSURANCE

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

January 21, 1920

IN REPLY REFER TO:
C-342,366
Lee Young,

Mr. Clyde M. Reed,
Secretary to the Governor,
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of your favor of January 12th, enclosing a letter from Mrs. Lee Young, whose address is in care of Ottawa Mfg. Co., Ottawa, Kansas, regarding the matter of insurance on account of the death of her husband, who it appears was formerly in the Military Service.

An answer cannot be given her questions, as she has not supplied sufficient information or data for that purpose.

There is herewith enclosed a blank form for emergency information, and a blank form application for compensation, which is distinct from, and in addition to, insurance, to be executed by Mrs. Lee Young and returned to this Bureau as promptly as possible in the enclosed envelope. The instructions printed on the first page of Form 527 should be carefully read and complied with. Upon the receipt of her application with the information which it should contain I will be in position to answer her regarding the matter of insurance, and also I will be able to determine whether or not she is entitled to compensation as the widow of the deceased soldier.

All communications addressed to this Bureau relating to this case should bear the file number C-342,366.

I am pleased to enclose a copy of this letter for your use.

Very truly yours,

(R. G. CHOLMLEY-JONES)
Director.

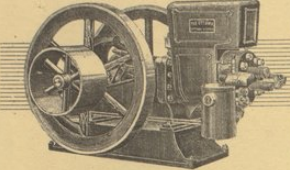
Encl. 41)

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19


GEO. E. LONG, President. C. R. LAWSON, Treasurer. J. R. TEPPER, Secretary.

The Ottawa Manufacturing Co.

ESTABLISHED 1904



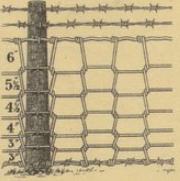
OTTAWA KEROSENE ENGINES
USED THE WORLD OVER



THE LARGEST
ENGINE FACTORY
IN THE WORLD
SELLING EXCLUSIVELY
DIRECT FROM
FACTORY TO USER.

Ottawa, Kansas

January 6, 1920.



STYLE 53 FARMERS
FRIEND FENCING

Governor Allen,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

My husband was in service 15 months. During that period he applied for over seas service, and was always rejected with no explanation as to why. He was kept in Camp Funston, as truck driver until the last of January 1919.

We were married February 27th, 1919, and about two weeks after that he was taken sick with Brights disease and dropsy and died April 26th.

He carried an insurance and dropped it some time, either just before he was released or after, and I want to know if there is such a thing as my being able to take over, and pay up this insurance during the period set for soldiers to pay back insurance, and get it.

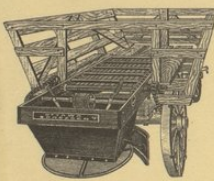
If he has been released and told what was the matter with him when they first found out he would probably be alive today. While in camp his records were lost and he was given a second round of vaccinations, etc, which I think helped to hurry his death, also while there he acquired a disease common among soldiers the he was not cured of before leaving.

Trusting that you will let me hear from you, in regard to this matter, I remain

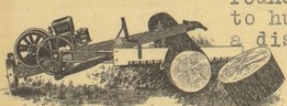
Yours sincerely

Mrs. Lee Young.

OTTAWA Mfg. Co.
Ottawa, Kansas.

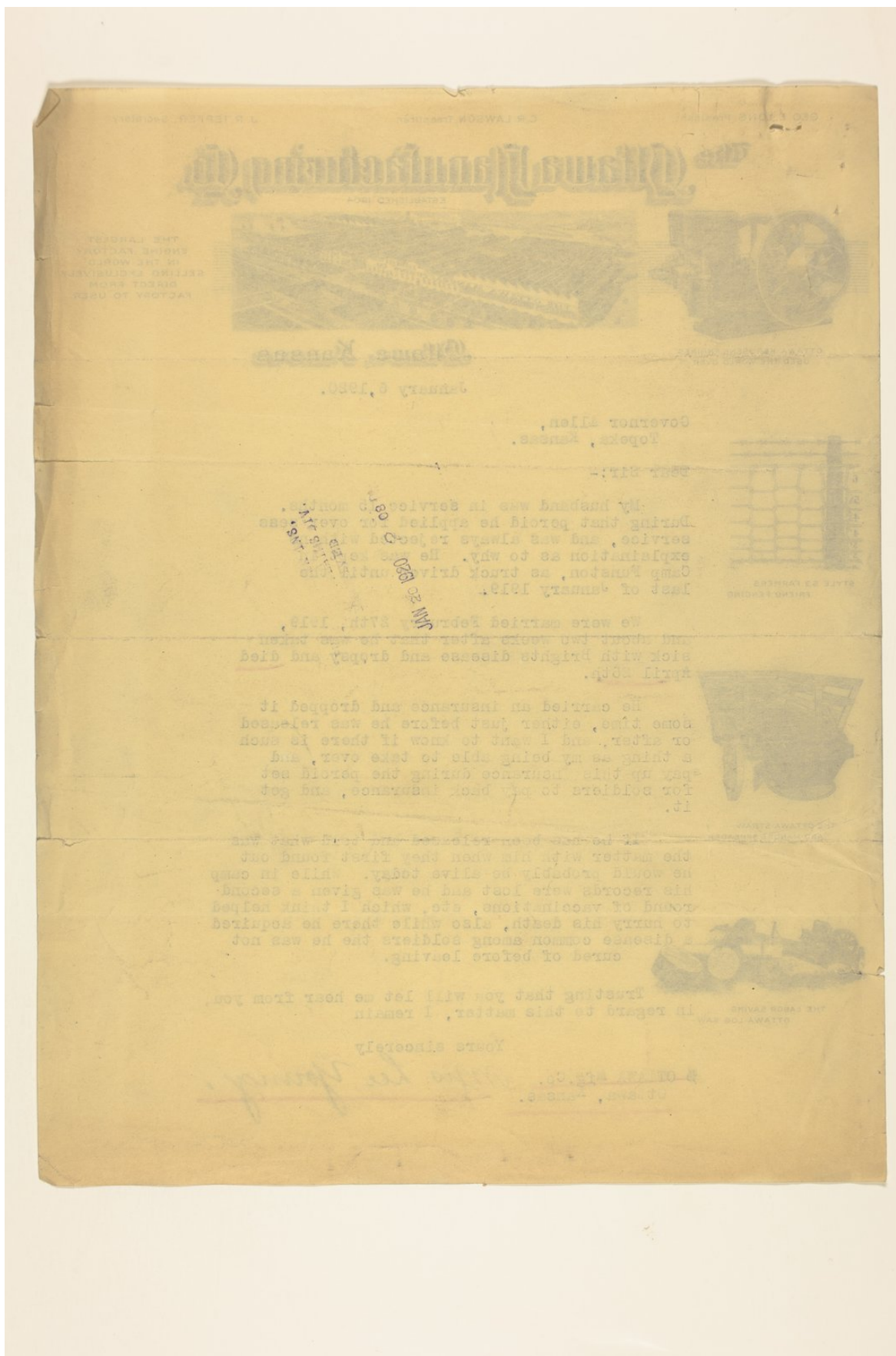


THE OTTAWA STRAW
AND MANURE SPREADER

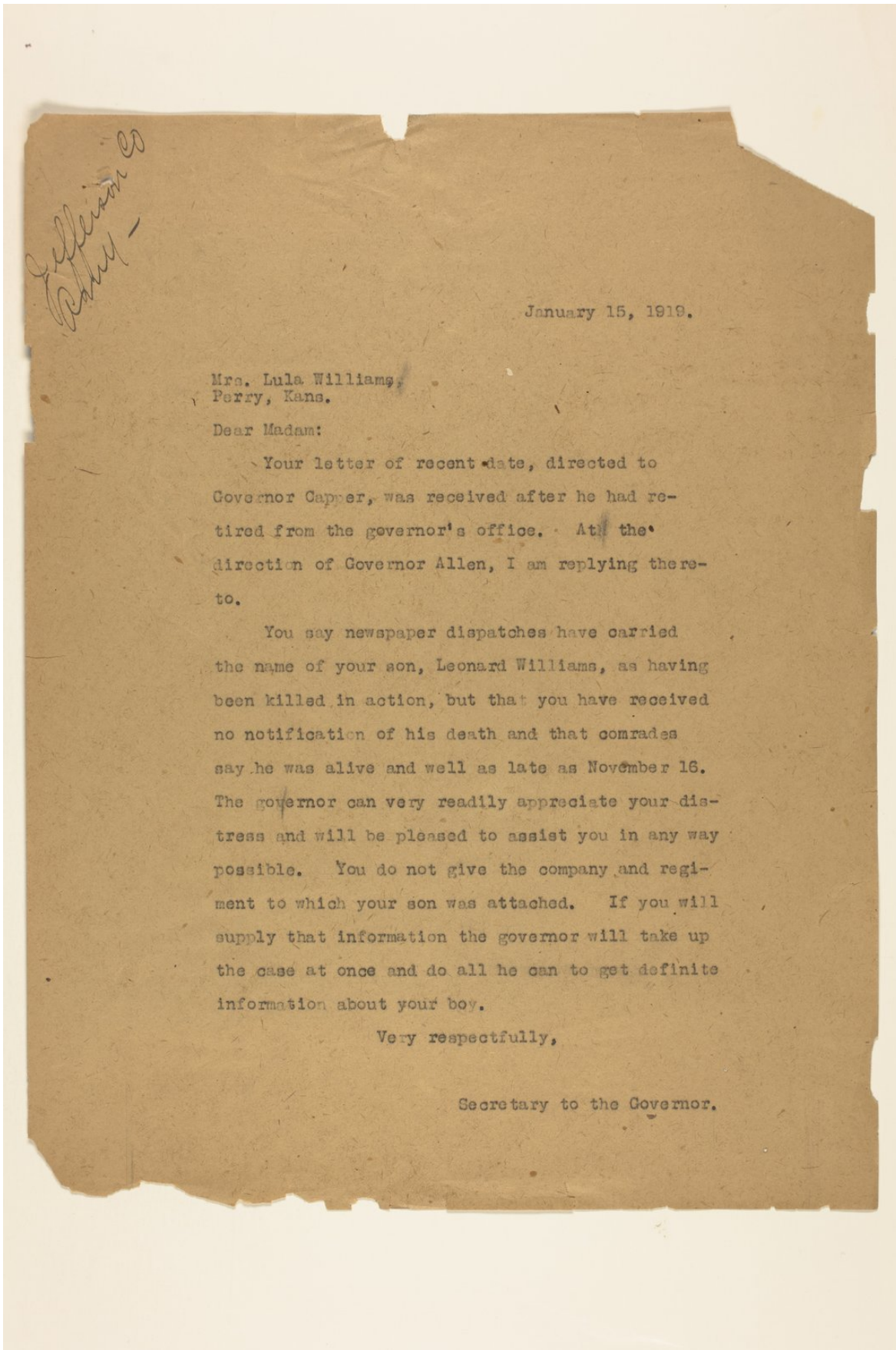


THE LABOR SAVING
OTTAWA LOG SAW

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19



Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19



January 15, 1918.

Mrs. Lula Williams,
Perry, Kans.

Dear Madam:

Your letter of recent date, directed to Governor Capner, was received after he had retired from the governor's office. At the direction of Governor Allen, I am replying thereto.

You say newspaper dispatches have carried the name of your son, Leonard Williams, as having been killed in action, but that you have received no notification of his death and that comrades say he was alive and well as late as November 16. The governor can very readily appreciate your distress and will be pleased to assist you in any way possible. You do not give the company and regiment to which your son was attached. If you will supply that information the governor will take up the case at once and do all he can to get definite information about your boy.

Very respectfully,

Secretary to the Governor.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

Perry Kansas
Mr Capper dear Sir in
Sundays Capital appeared
the name of my son
Leonard Williams and
gives his unck name
James Williams of Perry
now I am his mother
Mrs Lula Williams and
he was my only suport
and I have never heard
of him to killed but
in august they cut my
aloft man off and he
carried 1.00 insurance
made to me and here I
am 62 years old give
my ~~only~~ only son as

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

other 2 mothers but
they never have sent
my Pension and if my
son is killed we have
never heard now if
need my money will
you tell me what can
be done there is a
mistake it was a
mother Leonard
Williams discharge
August 10 we have
heard and my boy
was all right there
was a negro boy
heard November 16
1915 and he was well
will you tell me what
can be done about this
address me
Mrs Lula Williams
Perry Kansas

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

40
January 11, 1919.

Hon. Newton D. Baker,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:--

I am loth to trespass further on your attention or good nature, or to urge again the state's great need for the immediate release of Kansas men from the military service, but my public duty compels it.

During the recent bitter weather Kansas women had to feed the live stock on many farms and ranges. Now with the season of spring farm work upon us, the need of these men at home has become if possible, still more urgent.

I am daily and hourly besieged to bring about the return of these men by those who cannot understand why there should be any further hesitation on the part of the War Department toward granting what seems to them so reasonable a request.

The people cannot see that these men who are now so urgently needed at home, are serving any useful purpose by remaining longer in the camps. They are becoming increasingly impatient and bitter over the delay and the seeming lack of attention to their needs and to their not unreasonable wishes. All of which is the more galling to them because it seems a form of ingratitude on the part of those in authority.

I feel it is due to you who are urged to take this action, that I present the case frankly and plainly.

Very respectfully,

Governor.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

80
January 11, 1919.

Capt. G. C. Skinner,
U. S. General Hospital #26,
Fort Des Moines, Ia.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of January 8th in regard to the steps taken in Kansas to give employment to returning soldiers.

This is a matter to which the state is giving its very best attention. We are cooperating through our state labor department with the state and district departments of the United States employment service. Public meetings are being held in all parts of the state with a view to impressing upon the people the importance of giving preference to the returning soldiers in the matter of employment. The commercial clubs of the various towns and cities are behind the movement strongly and the railroads and other employers of labor are entering into the program with fine spirit. Our legislature convenes on next Tuesday and I am quite sure the labor question will have attention during the session.

There is very little unemployment in Kansas and I am very sure that no Kansas soldiers will be denied gainful employment when he returns home, for our people are deeply appreciative of the service rendered by these men who have responded to the Nation's call.

Very respectfully,

Governor.

Governor Henry J. Allen, correspondence files, box 19

