Washington State University Welcomes Gina Kolata

Author of our first Common Reading book, “Flu”
The 1918 Influenza Pandemic at WSU

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OFFICIAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all persons concerned that by reason of the appearance in epidemic form of Spanish Influenza in the City of Pullman, for civic reasons of public health protection, all public places where people assemble are

CLOSED

This includes schools, all places of amusement, dance halls, pool rooms, churches, Sunday Schools, lodges, conventions, etc.

This order to become effective at noon, Thursday, October 10, 1918. When all danger of epidemic has passed this order will be raised.

Dr. J. L. GILLELAND,
City Health Officer.
FROM  Commanding Officer, S.A.T.C., Washington State College, Pullman, Wash.

TO    President, Washington State College, Pullman, Wash.

SUBJECT: Hospital Accommodations.

It is imperative that the S.A.T.C. have enlarged hospital accommodations immediately. Already our hospital is overflowing and Influenza patients reporting almost hourly. If practicable, I recommend that Van Doren Hall be used temporarily as a hospital.

W. T. May,
Colonel.
Infirmary, S.A.T.C.,
Pullman, Washington,
November 6, 1918.

To Miss Agnes H. Craig
and her corps of Assistants:

I wish to endeavor to express to you at this
time my deep appreciation of your coming to our rescue
in our hour of need.

Without previous experience along these
lines, you arranged and efficiently fed, to the satisfac-
tion of all, patients at one time amounting to over
three hundred men stricken with influenza.

You provided for their needs, doing it in a
most scientific, appetizing, and tasty manner.

I do not have the power of words at my com-
mand to express the gratitude of all the officers and
men of the S.A.T.C.

(Signed) I.S. Collins,
Captain, M.C.,
Post Surgeon.
SANBORN BLAMES W. S. C. REGENTS

In Declining to Appear Before the Board Meeting Declares Action Too Late.

HAS APPROVING LETTERS

Red Cross Worker of Garfield and Student Soldier Aver Delinquency Charge True.

To the Editor of The Spokesman-Review: Will you please publish the enclosed letters.

ROGER S. SANBORN.

Spokane.

Sanborn Invited to Attend.

Mr. Roger S. Sanborn, E1413 Twelfth avenue, Spokane, Wash.—Dear Sir: The regular meeting of the board of regents of the Washington State college will be held in Pullman on Tuesday, November 19, commencing at 1:30 p.m. At this meeting it is expected that Governor Lister will be present as a member of the board. If you or any one else has any matter to bring before the board for consideration, you will be given the fullest opportunity. Yours very truly,

EDWIN T. COMAN, President.

Spokane, Nov. 42.

Too Late Now, Says Sanborn.
CRITICIZES STATE COLLEGE

Says Institution Failed to Safeguard Lives of Young Men.

Prof. R. S. Sanborn, of Spokane, who has lived in that city for the last thirteen years, and who is one of the leading educators of the state, has charged the State College with neglecting to properly care for the young men who were sent to this institution with the members of the national army S.A.T.C. He stated in a signed article, which appeared in one of the Spokane papers Sunday, that there were no provisions made for the proper care of the young men when they took ill with influenza and that a number of the forty-odd deaths which occurred at the State college during the epidemic can be traced to the lack of treatment and proper hospital facilities.

The article described in detail how the boys were found at the State College hospital and the statements of the boys in the hospital are used to substantiate the charges. Among the charges published are that the boys did not have proper clothing; that the boys were lodged in buildings in which no proper care was taken; that the boys were housed in open delivery wagons in a damp and filthy condition; that physicians in command were not on duty at the post; official red tape stood in the way of care; that the degree of care was not up to that of the lives of some of the young men who lost their lives due to the lack of proper care; and that the institution was not furnished the boys and that the boys were not properly clothed nor allowed to keep their bedding.

The statements of Professor Sanborn are denied by President Holland and other Pullman citizens. William Goodyear has written one or two lengthy articles for publications denying that proper treatment was not given the boys and states that he himself aided in helping to care for some fifty-odd boys during a ten day period. Mr. Goodyear is a newspaper man and is recognized as the champion of the state college, and his defense of the college was expected.
GOODYEAR DENIES SANBORN CHARGE

Care Given to Influenza Patients at State College is Defended.

WAS HIMSELF NURSE

Army Officer Praises Barracks—Health Record of Girl Students Refutes Contention.

To the Editor of The Spokesman-Review: Although sympathizing deeply with Professor R. S. Sanborn in the loss of his son and feeling that every allowance should be made for his rash statements because of the trying ordeal through which he has passed, yet I believe that he has no right to add to the anxiety of other parents who have boys in Pullman by his unfounded charges that
W. A. Brown Approves.

Mr. R. S. Sanborn, Spokane, Wash.

Dear Mr. Sanborn: I read your statement in Sunday's Spokesman-Review regarding the conditions at Washington State College as you found them, and wish to say to you that I am in full sympathy with the attitude that you have taken. If there have been as many deaths among the S. A. T. C. boys as have been reported in the Spokane papers, it would seem that there was something radically wrong that should be thoroughly investigated for the good of the college and every one concerned.

My attention has been particularly called to the conditions that existed, for the reason that I had a daughter in Stevens Hall. When the situation was at its worst, fearing that in case the epidemic got into the hall the girls could not have the attention needed, we phoned for our daughter to come home. Later in the evening a member of the faculty called me by long distance telephone to request that she be left there. The reasons to have her come seemed to me to be much better than to have her remain in the hall and I insisted that she be allowed to come. I happen to know that a number of girls have remained on representations from time to time that school would likely open again very soon, and that it would be difficult for them to get back into the school this semester in case they left.

I want to again assure you of my sympathy on account of the loss of your son, and for your feelings regarding the conditions that you found at Pullman. Very sincerely,

W. A. Brown.

E2510 Altamont boulevard, Spokane, Nov. 11
WSU Campus Nurses
1918
Seattle, Washington,  
November 8, 1918.  

President E. O. Holland,  
State College of Washington,  
Pullman, Washington.  

Dear Sir:  

I wish to thank you and the good people of Pullman for the kindness shown my son while he was ill with the Spanish influenza, for there was nothing left undone from the promptness of the telegram informing me of his serious condition, to the comfort shown him and the rest of the brave boys by the nurses and good mothers and fathers of Pullman.  

I want to say to the parents who were not at the bedside of the noble lads that passed to the great beyond, "Do not think they died alone. Their last gaze on earth was on nurses fighting to the last, and eyes dimmed with tears and words of comfort ringing in their ears."  

All of these things I witnessed while at my son's bedside. I shall always remember a little church with rows of beds and patiently suffering boys with angels of mercy hurrying from one bedside to another. I remain  

A grateful parent,  

(Signed) A. A. Tarte
INFLUENZA MORE
FATAL THAN WAR

Deaths From Disease in America
Greater Than Number of Men
Killed in France.

CENSUS BUREAU SHOWS

Figures From 46 Cities Give 82,306
Fatal Cases in Two Months.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.--The recent epidemic of influenza in the United States caused more deaths than occurred among the American expeditionary forces from all causes from the time the first unit landed in France until hostilities ceased.

This announcement today by the census bureau was based on unofficial estimates of the total casualties among the overseas forces and reports from 46 cities having a combined population of 23,000,000 which showed 82,306 deaths from influenza and pneumonia from September 9 to November 9.
LET THE W.S.C. CHARGES BE INVESTIGATED

Through the Spokesman-Review, a reputable Spokane citizen has made certain charges regarding the manner in which the militarized student body of Washington State College was cared for during the worst of the influenza epidemic at Pullman. These charges, alleging as they do inefficiency and negligence on the part of both college and military authorities, are serious enough to call for a thorough investigation.

On behalf of the college and the S.A.T.C. organization, statements have been made by President Holland, Colonel May, and President Coman of the Board of Regents. These officials contend that considering the nature of the emergency, the students received the best care that could have been given them, and deny that sick men were neglected or carelessly handled.

In justice to the college and to parents of boys who were ill or who died at Pullman, investigation ought to be not only thorough, but official. Governor Lister should appoint a competent investigating commission, whose findings would be a final settlement of the distressing question that has been raised. Instant action by such a commission is necessary as a matter of fairness to all concerned.
W. A. Brown Approves.

Mr. R. S. Sanborn, Spokane, Wash.

Dear Mr. Sanborn: I read your statement in Sunday's Spokesman-Review regarding the conditions at Washington State College as you found them, and wish to say to you that I am in full sympathy with the attitude that you have taken. If there have been as many deaths among the S. A. T. C. boys as have been reported in the Spokane papers, it would seem that there was something radically wrong that should be thoroughly investigated for the good of the college and every one concerned.

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I want to again assure you of my sympathy on account of the loss of your son, and for your feelings regarding the conditions that you found at Pullman. Very sincerely,

W. A. Brown.

E2510 Altamont boulevard, Spokane, Nov. 11
"The Pullman Herald"
November 8, 1918

BEREAVED PARENTS EXPRESS GRATITUDE

We desire to express our heartfelt gratitude to President Holland, to the military authorities at the State College, to the doctors and nurses and to the people of Pullman for the care which was bestowed upon our son during his fatal illness, and for the sympathy and consolation rendered to us during the hours of our terrible anxiety and sorrow. We feel that everything possible was done to save the life of our beloved one and that the college authorities and people of Pullman deserve the highest commendation for the efficient manner in which the influenza emergency was met and handled.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Dosh.
President E. O. Holland,
State College of Washington,
Pullman, Washington.

My dear President Holland:

As I have been relieved from my temporary station at Pullman during the time of the influenza epidemic, I cannot forget and it gives me great pleasure to express to you my gratitude for the satisfactory cooperation you gave at a time when there was such a great need for everyone to work in unison.

I have served in the military service and in civil service during times of six epidemics; this has been the first pandemic in which I have ever taken a part, and the most intense in an effort to save the lives of men. However, comparing the death rate with that of other localities, I do not know of any lower, and a great number were higher.

At this time I wish to thank Professor T. J. Murray, of the Department of Bacteriology, Doctor J. W. Kalkus, of the College of Veterinary Science, who rendered splendid service in the way of blood counting, and Doctor S. E. Nelson for his efforts to promote whatever might be for the best interests.

One of the great factors entering into the care of men has been the feeding, which has been taken care of by Miss Craig, Head of the College of Home Economics, and her associates. I am satisfied that this has wielded a tremendous force, that the men have had the correct food properly prepared. While I shall express this in other form to Miss Craig, I am pleased to note it at this time.

Again thanking you, I am

Most sincerely,

(Signed) Eben W. White

EWW

Captain, Medical Corps
"Portland Oregonian"
November 16, 1918

STATE INQUIRY DESIRED

Mismanagement of Pullman Influenza Situation Alleged.

SPOKANE, Wash. Nov. 15.--(Special.)--The executive board of the Chamber of Commerce at a meeting today decided to ask the Governor to have an investigation of charges of alleged mismanagement of the influenza situation among the Students' Army Training Corps at Pullman. The charges are made by R. S. Sanborn, whose son died there.
"The Pullman Herald"
November 15, 1918.

THE PITY OF IT

Of the scores of parents and relatives who came to Pullman to visit the boys who were suffering from influenza or pneumonia, but one, R. S. Sanborn of Spokane, saw fit to rush into print and vent his grief in a bitter and unjust criticism of the way in which the emergency was handled by the college authorities. It is true that he lost his son. Many other parents lost theirs, but despite their grief they felt impelled to express their gratitude for the care which had been bestowed upon their dear ones and to commend the methods adopted to handle the difficult situation. The relatives of several of the boys who died were not content to voice their gratitude in spoken words, but have written letters to more fully set forth their appreciation of the efficient way in which the emergency was handled, of the careful attention given to the patients and of the sympathy and consideration extended to the bereaved or anxious visitors. A sister of one of the dead boys writes that she would like to see "a monument of mercy erected and dedicated to the people of Pullman in recognition of their kindness."

Another bereaved sister expresses the conviction that her brother was given better care than he could have received in his own home.
"Spokesman-Review" - Spokane
November 8, 1918

S.A.T.C. NEED READING MATTER

E. T. Coman Appeals in Behalf of Sick Students at Pullman

Need of reading material in the student army training camp at Washington State College, Pullman, particularly among the influenza patients, is urgent, according to E. T. Coman, who returned yesterday after a visit of inspection to study hospital conditions. He is president of the board of regents. Magazines, of reasonably recent date, and other reading material can be left at the Exchange National Bank and will be forwarded to Pullman. Mr. Coman reports that the influenza epidemic has largely abated and it is hoped to resume classes next week.
Pullman, Washington,
November 13, 1918.

Doctor E. O. Holland,
State College.

Dear Sir:

At the suggestion of Doctor Nelson, I am writing to you about what I heard and saw of the treatment given the boys at the Northwest Sanitari-um.

I visited my husband each afternoon throughout his illness. I always found him in clean clothing and a clean bed. I saw nothing that indicated carelessness or neglect. During one of my visits there, Mr. Nolan in speaking of so many being sick said that they did well by the boys, that they were given the very best of care. Never at any time did he complain of the treatment he received.

I wish to thank you for the very kind letter I received this morning extending your sympathy in this time of trouble.

Yours truly,

(Signed) Mrs. Stella Nolan
Toppenish, Washington,
November 11, 1918.

President E. O. Holland,
State College of Washington,
Pullman, Washington.

Dear President Holland:

Your kind letter at hand regarding
death of my son, John Paul White, November first
at S. A. T. C. Pullman, and I thank you for same.

Although my trip was a sad one, it
was greatly helped and made bearable by the fact
that I met the doctor and nurse who attended my
boy and saw the hospital record of his treatment,
and I am satisfied that everything possible was
done for him.

I met so many of the good people of
Pullman in the home service of the Red Cross, and
I know that every one in the army, college, and city
worked faithfully day and night to alleviate an
epidemic that was not foreseen. Let us hope our
boys who have made the supreme sacrifice shall not
have died in vain.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) J. A. White
November 13, 1918.

From: President, State College of Washington

To: Commanding Officer, S. A. T. C., Pullman, Washington.

Subject: Work of Section B Men of the S. A. T. C.

1. As you know, since the influenza became epidemic among the S. A. T. C. men, we have had some help from the Section B men who, under the contract with the government, were to assist in the erection of barracks, plumbing, steam fitting, carpenter work, etc. But this amount of help has been small in comparison with what we would normally expect, and as a result much of the work that should have been done a month ago is even yet not completed.

I am sure you realize the difficulties under which we have all labored, and this letter is merely a suggestion as to how we can get additional help from the Section B men while some of them are recovering from the influenza and others are suffering from other slight ailments.

During the four months of summer, the men were inoculated on Saturday mornings, and most of them were ready for work the following Monday. If it is possible for Captain White to arrange it, we should be glad if this plan can be followed hereafter, in order that we may be able to get as much help as possible from men in the Vocational Section.

Yours very sincerely,

BOH V

President
STUDENTS ARMY TRAINING CORPS  
STATE COLLEGE OF WASHINGTON  

FROM  
Commanding Officer, S.A.T.C.  

TO  
President, Washington State College.  

SUBJECT:  
Resumption of Classes.  

Pullman.  

Nov. 15, 1918.  

I have to inform you that conditions are so improved,  
there having been no new cases of influenza in the S.A.T.C.  
unit for six days, that it is deemed safe to resume class  
room work on Monday, 18th inst.  

In this connection, I should have lists of classes etc.  
as requested, in order that instructions as to formations,  
roll calls etc. may be carried out.  

W. T. May.
1st Ind.

Hq. S.A.T.C., State College of Washington, Pullman, Wash., Nov. 18, 1918 TO: President, State College of Washington.

1. According to our records there is or have been 800 cases of influenza in this S.A.T.C. unit.

2. Attached are your lists of the men who have died. With one addition they are correct and complete according to our records. Section and company to which the men belonged have been indicated before their names.

3. Old men, that is members of the Second Detachment, have been indicated on your list with an "OM" before their names.

4. We have no records in this office of the illnesses or deaths of the men of the Naval Unit. Ensign Havens should be able to supply this information upon request.

5. As the lists will show 22 of the 41 deaths were of men in the new detachment arriving Oct 15, 9 from men of the Second Detachment held over on account of illness at date of shipment (Oct. 14), and 10 from among the men of the collegiate section arriving Oct. 1st, or thereabouts.

6. Attached is a list of the number of men sick and the various illnesses during the influenza epidemic, which may be of interest and information to you.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL MAY

[Signature]

1st Lieut. Inf., U. S. A.
ADJUTANT
Atwell, Dolan B/
Notify J.A. Atwell,
229 Kell St.
Memphis Tenn.

Oct. 30, 1918

Billings, Charles W.
Notify R.E. Billings,
Clayton, Wash.

Oct. 30, 1918

Doss, Perry H.
Notify Charles Doss,
Palouse, Wash.

Nov. 1, 1918

White, John Paul
Notify John A. White,
North Yakima, Wash.

Nov. 1, 1918

Owens, Perry Dave
Notify Mrs. Minnie Owens,
Kanwister, Wash.

Nov. 1, 1918

Nolan, William
Notify Mrs. William Nolan,
603 Montgomery,
Pullman, Wash.

Nov. 1, 1918

Hardesty, Ray M.
Notify Mr. Mack H. Hardesty,
2030 20th Ave.,
Spokane, Wash.

Nov. 1, 1918

Munks, Chester A.
Notify Mrs. O.B. Munks,
Anacortes, Wash.

Nov. 1, 1918

Burbank, Richard B.
Notify David Burbank,
Edmonds, Wash.

Nov. 2, 1918

Sanborn, Roger P.
Notify Roger Sanborn,
E-1415-15th Ave.,
Spokane, Wash.

Nov. 3, 1918

Eaton, Chas. Wagner,
Notify John W. Eaton,
Williamson, N.Y.

Nov. 3, 1918

Moore, George Bernard
Notify W.J. Moore,
P.O. Box 645
Montesano, Wash.

Nov. 3, 1918

Richards, Clyde Bledsoe
Notify Mrs. A.M. Richards,
Perry, Missouri.

Nov. 5, 1918
To read learn more about the 1918 Influenza on the Pullman campus, Google “WSU 1918 Influenza”