

# Calendar No. 302

72<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS }  
1st Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT  
No. 284 }

## CATHERINE McLINDEN

FEBRUARY 24, 1932.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. REED, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany S. 1157]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1157) for the relief of Catherine McLinden, having considered the same, report it back to the Senate and recommend that the bill do not pass.

This is a claim for compensation under the World War veterans' act by the mother of a young lady who served for a short time as a volunteer student nurse in helping to care for fellow students at the University of Kansas during the influenza epidemic of 1918. She rendered service in the barracks of the student military training corps of that university. She fell ill of pneumonia during this time and died of that disease.

The report of the Veterans' Administration is as follows:

VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION,  
Washington, January 12, 1932.

Hon. REED SMOOT,

Chairman Committee on Finance, United States Senate,  
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SENATOR SMOOT: Reference is made to your letter of December 29, 1931, transmitting a copy of S. 1157 a bill for the relief of Catherine McLinden, requesting a report on the same.

This bill is identical with S. 2555, Seventieth Congress, on which my report is contained in letter to you dated January 26, 1928, and with S. 975, Seventy-first Congress, which was the subject of my letter of June 5, 1929, in which you were informed that the Veterans' Administration has no record of any claim having been filed on account of the services of Lucy Catherine McLinden. It is, therefore, not practicable to furnish a report as to the merits of the bill. The status of the case has not changed since my letter of June 5, 1929.

A copy of this letter is inclosed for your use.

Very truly yours,

FRANK T. HINES, Administrator.

## CATHERINE McLINDEN

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 UNITED STATES VETERANS' BUREAU.

Washington, June 5, 1929.

HON. REED SMOOT,  
 Chairman Committee on Finance,  
 United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SENATOR SMOOT: Reference is made to your letter of May 24, 1929, transmitting copy of S. 975, a bill for the relief of Catherine McLinden, requesting a report as to the merits thereof.

This bill is identical with S. 2555, Seventieth Congress, which was the subject of my letter of January 26, 1928, in which you were informed that the bureau has no record of any claim being filed on account of the services of Lucy Catherine McLinden and is therefore unable to furnish a report as to the merits of the bill. The status of the case has not changed since my letter of January 26, 1928.

A copy of this letter is inclosed for your use.

Very truly yours,

FRANK T. HINES, Director.

UNITED STATES VETERANS' BUREAU,  
 Washington, January 26, 1928.

HON. REED SMOOT,  
 Chairman Committee on Finance,  
 United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SENATOR SMOOT: Reference is made to your letter of recent date transmitting a copy of S. 2555, a bill for the relief of Catherine McLinden.

The bill proposes that notwithstanding the provisions of the World War veterans' act, the sum of \$20 a month be paid to Catherine McLinden for the remainder of her life, as compensation for the death of her daughter, Lucy Catherine McLinden, resulting from disease contracted in the performance of her duties as a student volunteer nurse, Student Army Training Corps, University of Kansas.

The bureau has no record of any claim being filed on account of the services of Lucy Catherine McLinden and is, therefore, unable to furnish a report as to the merits of this bill.

A copy of this letter is inclosed for your use.

Very truly yours.

FRANK T. HINES, Director.

The claimant has submitted the following affidavits:

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS,  
 Lawrence, Kans., February 16, 1927.

To whom it may concern:

This is to certify that Lucy Catherine McLinden was a student in the University of Kansas during the years 1917 and 1918. When the influenza epidemic swept over the university in the fall of 1918, Miss McLinden threw aside all thought of her own welfare and with absolute unselfishness volunteered her aid in nursing the stricken soldiers in the University of Kansas barracks of the Student Army Training Corps. In this heroic work she offered without stint her strength and energy until finally, after several weeks, attacked by the same disease which she had so successfully combated in others, she fell a victim to it, thus becoming as truly as any soldier, fallen upon the field of battle, one of that great number of splendid Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice for the liberties of our own country and those of mankind.

DAVID L. PATTERSON,  
 Acting dean of the college of liberal arts and sciences in 1918.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a notary public, in Douglas County, Kans., February 16, 1927.

[SEAL.]

EDNA TEETER, Notary Public.

My commission expires January 6, 1930.

CLAREMONT, CALIF., June 28, 1927.

To whom it may concern:

This is to certify that I was personally acquainted with Lucy C. McLinden, and know the circumstances of her death in Lawrence, Kans., in the fall of 1918. Lucy McLinden was a student in the University of Kansas when the influenza epidemic, which proved fatal to so many that year, broke out. The need for nurses at the Student Army Training Corps barracks was very urgent, but the fear of contagion withheld many from offering their services. Lucy McLinden did not hesitate to offer hers. Bravely and unselfishly she stayed at her post until the disease seized her; she died in a short time.

I believe, and all who witnessed her sacrifice believed that Lucy McLinden was as much in her country's service as any of the soldiers at who bedsides she ministered.

MARGARET S. HUSSON.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

County of Los Angeles, ss:

On this 5th day of July, in the year 1927, A. D., before me, Elizabeth Draper, a notary public in and for the said county of Los Angeles, State of California, residing therein, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared Margaret S. Husson, personally known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal n said county the day and year in this certificate first above written.

[SEAL.]

ELIZABETH DRAPER, Notary Public.

My commission expires June 9, 1929.

ALMA, KANS., August 13, 1927.

To whom it may concern:

We the undersigned do testify that Lucy Catherine McLinden volunteered to nurse the soldiers in the barracks at the University of Kansas during the flu epidemic in 1918 and while she was nursing contracted the flu and died.

MISS AUGUSTE JTERMANN.  
MRS. VICTOR R. MOORE.

Subscribed and sworn to before me the undersigned notary public this 13th day of August, A. D. 1927.

O. F. DEANS, Notary Public.

Term expires October 2, 1929.

STATE OF IDAHO,

County of Washington, ss:

The undersigned, first being duly sworn, on their oaths depose and say:

That they are husband and wife, and reside at Weiser, Idaho, and in 1918 resided at Ellenwood, State of Kansas; that they are the parents of F. Kimpler, a soldier in the United States Army, whose serial number was 161307, and who died in the Government barracks at Lawrence, Kans., on October 22, 1918, and that they know of their own knowledge that Miss Lucy McLinder, a student at the University of Kansas, was a volunteer nurse nursing soldiers in said Government barracks at Lawrence, Kans., and as such nurse nursed our son above named, as above set forth.

F. B. KIMPLER.  
Mrs. LIZZIE KIMPLER.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of October, 1927.

ED. R. COULTER,  
Notary Public, Weiser, Idaho.

LAWRENCE, KANS., August 20, 1927.

In the fall of 1918 I was one of several women of the faculty of the University of Kansas who as volunteers nursed the young recruits of Student Army Training Corps in the barracks on McCook Field of the university.

Among the volunteer nurses in barracks 1, where I served, and in my ward, was Lucy McLinden, a young student who had taken some training in the special classes in nursing which were opened at the university as part of its war service.

I had never seen Lucy McLinden before this time. I soon saw that she was unusually capable, untiring, and devoted. She was a quiet girl, never thinking of herself, but she inspired confidence and cheer in the patients.

One day Miss McLinden did not appear at the barracks. We were told that she was ill with influenza and had been taken to the student hospital. Here she died for her country—like a soldier on the field, November 9, 1918.

HANNAH OLIVER,  
*Associate Professor Latin University of Kansas.*

[SEAL.]

A. F. FLINN,  
*Notary Public.*

Commission expires April 10, 1931.

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This is to testify, that as a volunteer nurse in the hospital of the Student Army Training Corps at the University of Kansas during the influenza epidemic of 1918, I knew Lucy McLinden, a student volunteer nurse in the Student Army Training Corps hospital. Lucy McLinden worked most zealously until she contracted the influenza in her performance of duty while nursing influenza patients. She died in the university hospital shortly after she was stricken.

SARA G. LAIRD,  
*Assistant Professor of English.*

Signed and acknowledged before me, Karl Klooz, notary public, in and for the State of Kansas, county of Douglas, this the 20th day of September, 1927.

[SEAL.]

KARL KLOOZ, *Notary Public.*

My commission expires August 1, 1930.

OCTOBER 11, 1927.

STATE OF NEBRASKA,  
*County of Otoe, ss:*

*To whom it may concern:*

While in the Army at Lawrence, Kans., I was taken sick with the flu and on October 9, 1918, was taken to the barracks hospital. At that time there were no nurses at all in the hospital and it seemed as though they were unable to get the nurses to take care of the sick, and with the sickness growing worse every day a call for volunteers was made and responded to by a number of University of Kansas girls, who came to do what they could toward helping us in our sickness. These girls stayed only a few days, when most of them quit, Miss Lucy McLinden being one of these girls that stayed with us as long as I was in the hospital. I was discharged from the hospital on October 27, 1918; Miss McLinden being still there at work on that date. A few days after my discharge from the hospital Miss McLinden was taken sick with the flu and died about a week later. Her work was surely appreciated by me and I believe by all others in our barracks.

Serial No. 3477555.

HENRY STOEWE.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of October, 1927.

[SEAL.]

LLOYD E. PETERSON,  
*Notary Public.*

My commission expires March 2, 1929.

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CAZENOVIA SEMINARY,  
*Cazenovia, N. Y., September 28, 1927.*

*To whom this may concern:*

This is to certify that Miss Lucy McLinden, a student at the University of Kansas in 1918, was brought into the university student hospital, of which I was superintendent during the years 1916-1919, in the latter part of October or the first of November, 1918, from the barracks hospital of the R. O. T. C. of the University of Kansas, where she had been a volunteer nurse for at least two weeks.

At the time she entered the university student hospital she was suffering from influenza which she had contracted at the barracks hospital and this developed very soon into pneumonia, from which she died November 13 or 14, 1918. Her name appears on the University of Kansas honor roll among the names of other students who gave their lives in service during the World War.

Subscribed and sworn to the 28th day of September, 1927.

[SEAL.]

MARY HAIGHT.

LENA R. MUNGER, *Notary Public.*

CHICAGO, ILL., November 25, 1927.

HON. CHARLES CURTIS,  
*United States Senate, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SENATOR: This is to certify that I knew Miss Lucy McLinden as a member of my parish, St. John's Evangelist Church, Lawrence, Kans., while she was attending Kansas University as a student. In the autumn of 1918, when the young men of the State were called together for the student army training corps, the flu epidemic broke out amongst them. So many were the victims of this dread disease that an appeal was issued for volunteer nurses to take care of the stricken ones. Amongst these volunteers was Miss Lucy McLinden. She was actuated by a spirit of sacrifice and she worked faithfully and long hours in the barracks, which were temporary hospitals, to alleviate sufferings. In the course of a few weeks, being in contact with the contagious disease, she too was stricken with the flu. She was taken to the university hospital as a flu patient. Upon the advice of the doctor in attendance, who announced her case a serious attack of the flu and that there were slight hopes of her recovery, I was called to her bedside to prepare her for death and bring the consolation of religion to her. For days, she hovered between life and death, and finally paid the great sacrifice of her life in the noble cause.

Thanking you for your kind consideration, I am  
Sincerely yours,

GEORGE J. ECKART,  
*Pastor Sacred Heart Church, Topeka, Kans.*

STATE OF ILLINOIS,  
*County of Cook, ss:*

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of November, A. D. 1927.

[SEAL.]

MARGUERITE A. MOREY,  
*Notary Public.*

My commission expires April 25, 1931:

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS,  
*Lawrence, Kans., February 16, 1927.*

Mrs. CATHERINE McLINDEN,  
*Route No. 6, Marion, Kans.*

MY DEAR MRS. McLINDEN: I am very glad to be able to send you the inclosed testimonial, witnessed by a notary public, concerning the war work of your daughter, Miss Lucy C. McLinden, as you requested in your letter. My delay was occasioned by unavoidable circumstances, such as the looking up of records of nine years ago.

I hope this inclosed statement with notary's seal attached is what you desire. If it is not adequate, please state explicitly what sort of document is needed, and I will be glad to furnish it.

The newspaper clippings which you sent to me I am also returning in this letter. Believing that you are more than entitled to the compensation you desire for the heroic sacrifice made by your daughter for her country's welfare during the World War, I wish to extend my hope that you will be entirely successful in that matter.

Very sincerely yours,

DAVID L. PATTERSON.

## CATHERINE McLINDEN

LAWRENCE, KANS., August 20, 1927.

MY DEAR MRS. McLINDEN: I am sending my affidavit to my knowledge of your noble daughter's war service in the university barracks.

Going over all this in talk with others, looking up the records, and seeing again among the photographs in the university's gallery of heroes her pure and lovely face, I have been filled with memories and have lived over again the days when she and I worked side by side over our sick soldiers, she so earnest and self-forgetting, so beloved and looked for by the sick.

My heart is filled with sympathy for you as it was when her beautiful soul left its earthly dwelling place. I know what a daughter she would have been to you if she had lived.

I believe that when the Government learns of her devoted service even unto death her country's recognition and gratitude will be shown by making what compensation is within its power to her mother, whom she so deeply loved.

I remain, dear Mrs. McLinden,

Very sincerely yours,

HANNAH OLIVER.

LAWRENCE, KANS.,  
September 19, 1927.

To whom it may concern:

This is to certify, that I attended Miss Lucy McLinden during her fatal illness. That she died from pneumonia following the influenza. That prior to her illness she was nursing members of the Student Army Training Corps ill with influenza at the barracks at Lawrence, Kansas. She was a volunteer nurse in the Red Cross, and in my judgment her fatal illness was contracted in line of duty.

H. T. JONES, M. D.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of September, 1927.

[SEAL.]

ANNA H. MARTINDALE, Notary Public.

My commission expires August 9, 1930.

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS,  
Lawrence, Kans., September 16, 1927.

To whom it may concern:

This is to certify that I knew Lucy McLinden when she was a student at the university. She was a member of one of my classes during the spring semester in 1918 and had charge of our department library in the fall of 1918 until she left to help nurse the sick at the barracks during the influenza epidemic.

I know that Miss McLinden contracted the influenza while helping at the barracks and died as a result of the pneumonia which soon developed.

LALIA V. WALLING,  
Assistant Professor in Physiology.

I certify this to be a true statement.

LALIA V. WALLING.

Certified to in my presence this 11th day of November, 1927.

[SEAL.]

KARL KLOOZ, Notary Public.

My commission expires August 1, 1930.

COTTONWOOD FALLS, KANS., December 3, 1927.

To whom it may concern:

This is to certify that the Lucy McLinden unit of Claude Newlee Post, No. 78, the American Legion, located at Cottonwood Falls, Kans., was named for Lucy Catherine McLinden, of Marion, Kans., for the reason that she was the only woman from this county who gave her life while in the service during the World War. Lucy McLinden was a student at the Kansas University when the influenza epidemic struck the camp at Lawrence, Kans., and was a volunteer nurse until the time of her death, which was caused from pneumonia contracted while on duty.

GEORGIA H. BROWN,  
Junior Committeewoman, the American Legion Auxiliary.