

Jonas A. Helland Dead in France.

Mr. and Mrs. Arndt Helland received a letter from France Monday announcing the death of their son, Jonas A. Helland, in a hospital there, death being due to cerebro spinal menengitis.

Many friends were shocked when the news spread, and sympathy for the parents and family is spontaneous and sincere.

Jonas left with the Griggs county boys on Good Friday for Camp Dodge.

In a letter from him dated May 26th, but not mailed on that date because he had no envelope at hand, a postscript was later added stating that he was taken sick the next day with a severe headache. Shortly after the nurse in charge wrote that his condition was improving. This was the last news received until the letter announcing his death reached here.

Mr. Helland has permitted The Times to print these letters.

16(Phila. U. S. A.) Gen'l Hosp.

B. E. F., France.

My Dear Mrs. Helland:

I am very sorry to have to inform you that your son Jonas is ill in our hospital, suffering from Cerebro Spinal Menengitis. While he was quite ill for a day or two, he is doing very well indeed now, and the doctors are much encouraged by his condition.

He is being looked after by American doctors and nurses and I assure you that we shall take the very best care of him that we possibly can.

I shall write to you again in a few days and hope to be able to report further improvement.

Jonas is quite cheerful, not suffering at all, and sends his love to you.

Very sincerely yours,

Caroline Robelen,

(Nurse)

16(Phila. U. S. A.) Gen'l Hosp.

B. E. F., France.

My Dear Mrs. Helland:

It is with deepest sympathy that I write to tell you of the death of your dear son. He was indeed a brave good boy, and fought a hard fight.

After my first letter to you I had intended to write again in a few days, but there seemed so little change in his condition, or at least the change was so gradual that I waited from day to day to have something definite to tell you, and now after all these weeks I can only tell you that he is gone—having given his life for his country just as truly as if he had died on the battle field.

Perhaps it will be a comfort to you to remember that he was spared the horrors of war, and perhaps much suffering. He was delirious for the last few days of his life but even in his delirium was never anything but gentle and patient. He suffered very little during his illness and when asked how he was, almost always answered that "he felt fine."

May it comfort you in your sorrow to realize that you have given your very best for your country—surely such sacrifices can not be in vain.

Yours with deepest sympathy,

Sister Caroline Robelen A. N. C.

July 10, 1918.