

October 30, 1918.

Commissioner E. A. Bryan,  
State House,  
Boise, Idaho.

Dear Dr. Bryan:

Our influenza situation continues serious but the outlook for three days now has been encouraging. There have been three deaths from pneumonia, all from Section B. Most of the cases of influenza are mild. The Commanding Officer, realizing that the Government could not supply sufficient beds, bedding, overcoats, etc., telegraphed a request that the men for the vocational contingent be not sent; but the men came and one army surgeon, tho very efficient, found it a difficult task to carry forward prompt inspection of all the men. Meanwhile the local physicians volunteered their services. It required some effort on our part to secure full cooperation, thanks to the army habit of assuming that the army could take care of the situation.

The local Red Cross has done superb work, but it required several days to get the details of hospital service systematized. From the start the care of the men has, in my judgment, been exceptionally good, and to that we must credit the low death rate. Gritman's hospital takes most of the serious cases. The Inland Hospital (Carithers!) is headquarters and has cared for a large number of fairly severe cases. The A.K.E. House, up-town, has been reserved for the milder cases. In addition, several homes have been thrown open, notably that of Attorney Frank L. Moore, candidate for U.S. Senator, whose wife has taken at least a dozen mild cases. The response of the people of the city has been wonderful in its generosity and efficiency. We have other reservations of hospital room against further emergencies but the outlook continues to improve.

These have been anxious days for us all, but I think we have a right to assume that Moscow is about the safest place in Idaho.

E.A.B. -- 2

10-30-18

Classes have been resumed on bad days for the S.A.T.C. and for a small group of civilian male students who have submitted to medical inspection. The girls up to date have not been infected and we hesitate to expose them for a few days yet. On bright days outdoor work is the program. We proceed from day to day, one eye on the hospital report and the other on the weather. For four days now the number of admissions to the hospitals is smaller than the number of discharges. The Elks Club House has been turned over to the S.A.T.C. for convalescents. These ~~w~~ will be able to keep the boys several days following their discharge from the hospital.

I cannot praise too highly Captain Felker and his staff. They have done valiant work against great odds. The faculty of the University, the Red Crodd, and the citizens generally have done all and more than could be expected. I shall keep you advised of the general situation.

Very cordially yours,

President.

EHL:O

*cc to Evans*  
*cc to Walker*