

4-24-1934

## VETERAN DIES IN CHICAGO HOSPITAL

Lloyd W. Campbell, age 33, father of eight children and a member of the local post of the American Legion, died at a government hospital in Chicago early Wednesday morning. His home was at 522 West Jackson street.

Mr. Campbell was in poor health even before his discharge from the army, but he has been in serious condition for the past six months and was taken to the hospital in December.

Surviving relatives are: the widow, Lulu; three daughters, Thelma, Mary and Hazel; five sons, Lloyd Eugene, Jack, Jimmie, Dickie Joe, and John; the mother, Mrs. Ida Campbell; and three sisters, Mrs. Ethel Thompson and Mrs. Wilma Tilley, both of Kokomo, and Mrs. Lillian Moss, of Galveston.

The remains were to be brought to Kokomo Wednesday night to be taken to the Eilers mortuary. Later they will be removed to his mother's home at 1115 South Bell street.

Left With Pension Right  
Now his widow and eight small children mourn their father. It is a good family, prospective fine American citizens of native Hoosier stock. While seeking to comfort them in their grief, the Legion

proposes to keep an active family. By getting that tiny service connection on the case the widow now has a right to participate in a governmental pension. The Legion will try to get her a death compensation under the insurance law that Campbell and his buddies paid for out of their war wages. At least they will not starve or be thrown on charity. Their father gave all he had to the nation in time of stress. The nation owes him something now, the veterans contend.

One of the Legion officers Monday called attention to the fact that the men now planting trees make their families eligible to \$40 a month pension from the government while the widow of the average veteran gets nothing.

"That is the justification for Congress in its recent legislation," said Glen R. Hillis, national executive informed of the case.

Lloyd Campbell was 33 years old. His home was at 522 West Jackson street. The surviving relatives are the widow, Lulu; three daughters, Thelma, Mary and Hazel; five sons, Lloyd, Jack, Jimmie, Dickie and John; the mother, Mrs. Ida Campbell, and three sisters, Mrs. Ethel Thompson, and Mrs. Wilma Tilley, both of Kokomo, and Mrs. Lillian Moss of Galveston.

The body will be brought to Kokomo Wednesday night and will be taken to the home of his mother at 1115 South Bell street. The funeral will be held Friday at 2 o'clock at the Bethel Friends church west of Kokomo. The Rev. Dan Hogan, Legion chaplain, will officiate.

### Compensation Is Cut

That continued for several years, and then the self-styled "National Economy League" began its campaign to cut soldier compensation. Campbell was one of those to receive the first cut, and his compensation was cut to \$30 a month.

In desperation, he moved his family from near Alto to Kokomo and obtained a job here from a kind hearted man who overlooked the fact that this veteran was really unable to do the job required.

Another attack from the so-called "Economy League" and Campbell's compensation was "chiseled" to \$24.75 a month. Almost the very day that cut was received, Campbell became hopelessly stricken. He was hardly able to move.

Legion Leads Aid. Although he had never been a member of the American Legion, that organization became interested in his case and started to do something for him. In spite of stringent regulations, the chief de gare of the local "40 & 8", a Legion organization, took the sick man to a veterans' hospital in Indianapolis and with the aid of Harry Hall, state service officer of the Legion, got the man admitted to the hospital.

A few weeks later, came a letter from the veteran bureau at Washington, under the direction of General Frank T. Kipps, which stated that since the man had been admitted to a government hospital, his compensation would be cut from \$24.75 to \$15 a month of which nine would be sent to Mrs. Campbell for the care of herself and eight children and the remaining six dollars would be sent to Campbell. The only complaint the silent sufferer Campbell made was that it took a three cent stamp for him to send his six dollars back home.

### Hungry Children Fed

From time to time, the local Women's Auxiliary of the Legion assisted the Campbell family with clothing, coal and things of the sort. Then on January first the Legion offered to feed every hungry child in Kokomo. Approximately four hundred children responded and in the long line there appeared a beautiful child of fourteen, and holding her hand was another who held the hand of a third and so on down a little "staircase" of hungry youngsters.

One of the Legionnaires serving the luncheon noticed the little family. "Who are they?" he asked, and was told that they were the children of Lloyd Campbell. Then the Legion got hungry. Investigation

showed that Campbell's family, having moved to Kokomo but a short time before, was not eligible for relief from the trustee. The former trustee had declined aid because Campbell "was receiving a compensation." All of this legal red tape meant nothing to the Legion. The stark fact that here were eight hungry children, hungry through no fault of theirs or their fathers, was before them. That father was unable to support his family because he had served his government. The Legion started to do something.

Claimed Disease "Arrested" Both the heads of the Legion and the Forty and Eight took the matter up with state and national organizations. Any number of letters passed, one outstanding being a letter from the government saying that Campbell's tuberculosis had been "arrested" and until he could prove that he had ever had "active" tuberculosis he would be eliminated.

The Legion wanted to know how a disease could ever be "arrested" unless the man had had it. It also demanded to know how a disease could be called "arrested" when the man was dying in the hospital. The "40 & 8" demanded some action on behalf of these children. Members of each organization personally helped where they could. One local barber made periodical trips to the home of the family where each youngster was given a "regular hair cut" whenever needed. That was just an example.

A few weeks ago the red tape won. Campbell was cut entirely from the rolls of government compensation under the ruling that all presumptive cases were "out." That day Campbell lapsed into unconsciousness in the hospital.

The next week Congress arose and, defying a Presidential veto, restored the presumptive connected cases to the rolls. Immediately the Legion went into action for Campbell.

On April 21, Harry Hall, state service officer of the Legion, reported that he had been able to get Lloyd Campbell restored to a partial disability of 33 percent which meant that Campbell would thereafter be paid \$33 a month, payable from March 28, 1934. On April 25—just four days later—Lloyd Campbell died.

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## 'WAR' ENDS FOR LOCAL VETERAN AFTER 15 YEARS

### Lloyd Campbell Dies in Hines Hospital After Fight for Nation and Family.

"Finis le guerre" the French shouted on November 11, 1918, and across the ocean messages flashed which set all America into a spasm of ecstasy, as in the wildest celebration of all times the American crowds joined in the world wide shout of—"The War is Over!"

Early Wednesday morning in a ward of the Hines hospital, near Chicago, after fifteen years of suffering, the war ended for Lloyd Campbell, Howard county soldier.

With the inarticulate courage of his generation, the silent Campbell heard the final trumpet sound "finis le guerre" for him and as he joined the serried ranks of the departed men-at-arms, standing before the Lord of Hosts, he became just one more man who had laid down his life for his country.

### Nine Survive in Family

A widow and eight small children survive and only the fact that the American Legion put up a strenuous fight for this disabled veteran, and the additional fact that a courageous Congress refused to permit such cases as Campbell's to be cut from the government pension rolls, prevents absolute destitution for this family. Late Monday afternoon it was learned that only in the nick of time, the fight of the Legion and "40 & 8," which has been waged for months in behalf of this veteran, had been successful.

Campbell was discharged from the army in 1919. In 1920 it was discovered that he was suffering from tuberculosis. When he became unable to work, he applied to the government under the existing laws for help. Under the law he was given a presumptive service connection for his disability and was granted a compensation sufficient to support himself and family with what he could eke out by odd jobs.