My dear Miss Thompson:

The Child Welfare Committee of the American Legion Auxiliary is making plans for the Christmas Season and we would like very much to know whether or not there are Veterans' children in the schools at Faribault and Owatonna that we might remember at this time.

We would also like to know whether there might be any Veterans' children in these schools that we might remember during the year.

I would appreciate it greatly if you could give me this information or refer me to some one who can do so.

Thanking you, I am

Very truly yours,

S/ Marion E. Hollenbeck.
December 2, 1946

Hon. Marion E. Hollenbeck
Judge of Probate
Swift County
Benson, Minnesota

My dear Judge Hollenbeck:

What a very nice letter to have at this time of the year. I presume the children you want listed will be those Veterans’ children for whom families are not likely to do anything, or at least not a great deal. I would like to add Cambridge to the two institutions, since those at that institution are also our wards, and I am having your letter copied to forward to the three institutions. I believe they will be a little better able than I to list the children of Veterans who should be remembered at Christmas and also give some statement concerning those who have no family contacts that would therefore make it particularly fine to keep them in mind during the year.

We have also a boy committed as feebleminded who is now at the School for the Deaf. I believe his father is a Veteran of World War I, as there is a statement that he received an injury while in the Army. I am verifying that, because if he is, this child, __________ is one we particularly hope you could remember. He is dumb and almost completely deaf and is now fourteen years old. Up until recently we had thought he was an imbecile child and no effort was made therefore to teach him as it seemed he could not learn. It is now felt he possibly is not even feebleminded and intensive work will be done with him at the School for the Deaf if they can carry out their plan. When I find out definitely, therefore, whether he is the child of a Veteran, we will give you his name and other information as hoping that he can have special consideration, as we are planning to try and have him boarded out of the school but in the town of Faribault during the vacation.

I assure you we in this office will cooperate with the institutions in making any list if they are doubtful whether children that should be remembered are the children of Veterans.

Very truly yours,

Division of Public Institutions
Carl H. Swanson, Director

By Mildred Thomson (Miss)
Head, Bureau for Feebleminded & Epileptic