Washington letters: War department tour of duty
1918-1919

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 17, 1918.

My dear Pershing:

This letter will introduce Mr. Gerard Swope, who has been General Goethals' right hand man in the Purchase, Storage and Traffic Division of the General Staff here, and has been of great assistance to us in working out the supply part of the military program.

Any courtesies that you can extend to him would be very much appreciated by us.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

P. C. March.

General John J. Pershing,
Commanding American Expeditionary Force,
France.

GÉNÉRAL DE MAUD'HUY
GOUVERNEUR DE METZ
COMMANDANT SUPÉRIEUR
DU TERRITOIRE DE LORRAINE

4. 10. 19

Monsieur

Si vous restez encore à Metz demain, je serai très honoré et heureux que vous voulûtes bien partager mon modeste déjeuner à Midi.

Si au contraire, vous

ne serez pas demain,
je serais très heureux de
causer avec vous avant
19h ce soir et me mettre
à vos ordres.

Il est entendu naturellement
que si vous avez un
mot, vous l'enverrez

Dans l'espoir de vous
voir, veuillez agréer
Monsieur, l'expression
de mes plus distingués
sentiments

de ////////

PS&T Div (Adm Br)
HSJ/mc

October 3, 1918.

MEMORANDUM FOR GEN. GOETHALS:

1. I think Swope ought to take a commission and that he ought to be commissioned as a Brigadier General right away.

Reasons: (a) With that grade he will have more influence than any civilian could and all the objections to his being an officer will pass.

(b) As a civilian he could not be as effective as he could be as a Brigadier General and the work is so important that he is entitled to be freed from every handicap and given every advantage.

HUGH S. JOHNSON,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.

Address reply to
Director of Purchase, Storage and Traffic.
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
PURCHASE, STORAGE AND TRAFFIC DIVISION
WASHINGTON

Refer to File

October 3, 1918.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Mr. Gerard Swope has worked with me, first as my assistant and next as co-assistant with me to General Goethals in the Purchase, Storage and Traffic Division of the General Staff.

My experience with executive and organizational work in Washington has been coterminous with the War and in rather important positions, in which I have had contact with or supervision over a great number of high class men. I have no hesitancy in saying that Mr. Swope has been the most effective of any of whom I have been in a position to judge.

I consider him in energy, mentality, ability and force equal to the best I have known and inferior to none. In his present capacity I think the nature of the work demands that he be an officer of the Army of the grade of Brigadier General and I recommend unhesitatingly that this step be taken forthwith.

Hugh S. Johnson
HUGH S. JOHNSON,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF
PURCHASE, STORAGE AND TRAFFIC
WASHINGTON

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Introducing:
Mr. Gerard Swope.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE, STORAGE AND TRAFFIC
WASHINGTON

June 28, 1918.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have appointed Mr. Gerard Swope my Assistant to study the existing conditions in the various Bureaus and Departments, with a view to outlining an organization which will accomplish the results that are desired, and any assistance rendered him will be appreciated.

Geo. W. Goethals
Director of Purchases,
Storage and Traffic.

MR. GERARD SWOPE.

For exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service. As one of the principal advisers and assistants to the Director of Purchase, Storage and Traffic he accomplished the task of working out the detailed plan for bringing under one head the direction and supervision of procurement, storage and issue of all commodities, and articles of equipment and supply needed for the Army. It was due to his foresight, ability,

(over)

energy and loyal cooperation that the procurement program for the great Army of 1918 was successfully planned, and he assisted materially in carrying it into effect, thereby contributing directly to the success of the military program.

(D.S.M.)

FEB 17 1920

Form 1201

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

RECEIVED AT

140 DI CW 66 GOVT

MR GERARD SWOPE DI WASHINGTON DC 503P FEB 16 1920
195 BROADWAY NEWYORKCITY 1541

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL HAS BEEN AWARDED YOU SECRETARY OF WAR DESIRES TO MAKE PRESENTATION OF THIS MEDAL TO YOU IN HIS OFFICE ON FRIDAY FEBRUARY TWENTIETH AT THREE OCLOCK PM PLEASE WIRE ME IF YOU CAN BE PRESENT AT ROOM TWO THREE ONE WAR DEPARTMENT AT TWO FORTY FIVE FRIDAY

FULTON Q C GARDNER COLONEL SECRETARY GENERAL STAFF

512P

The World.
New York

HERBERT BAYARD SWOPE
CITY EDITOR

February 18, 1920.

Dear G. S.:-

I thought you were coming in this afternoon to see me. Call me up before you go away as there are several things I want to talk to you about.

I am enclosing an outline of a story that will cover your medal, on which I heartily congratulate you, and which I certainly think you deserve. I suggest you have several of these transcribed, and when you get over to Washington call up or drop in to see Charlie Michelson, at The World Bureau, 14th and F Streets. I shall have written him by then. Say to him that I suggested he might be good enough to send us a little story, and also to have the A.P.,and possibly some of the other agencies, carry it. What do you think of this plan?

With best wishes,

Faithfully,

H.B.S.

Gerard Swope, Esq. Prest.,
International General Electric Co.
120 Broadway, N. Y. City.

P.S. Telephone Michelson and make a date. I have asked him to feed the item to The Times and The Sun, as well as the Press Association.

T.N.P.

ROPES, GRAY, BOYDEN & PERKINS

TELEPHONE MAIN 6831

CLIFT ROGERS CLAPP
ROLAND W. BOYDEN
THOMAS NELSON PERKINS
ROLAND GRAY
WILLIAM H. BEST
ROGER ERNST

ARCHIBALD R. GRAUSTEIN
JOHN B. PIERCE
ALBERT BOYDEN
WILLIAM NELSON
JOHN RICHARDSON
CLIFFORD H. WALKER

SAMUEL P. WHITE
HOWARD WHITMORE
ARTHUR H. MORSE
JAMES E. CARROLL
JAMES W. MUDGE
ROBERT D. BREWER
ALBERT A. SCHAEFER
F. DELANO PUTNAM
FRANK D. COMERFORD

JOHN E. SEARLE
BENJAMIN LORING YOUNG
JOHN RAE GILMAN
JOHN M. FOSTER
ARTEMAS C. TOWNSEND
HENRY WHITE EDGERTON
FRANCIS C. GRAY
ABRAM BERKOWITZ

60 STATE STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

February 20, 1920.

Dear G.S. --

Many thanks. Best congratulations. No civilian deserves the decoration more. Of course accept.

Yours very truly,

Thomas N. Perkins

Gerard Swope, Esq.
120 Broadway
New York City, N.Y.

It must be nice to be a great man when even a partial recognition of it -

1918 IDENTIFICATION PASS **1038**

THIS PASS, PROPERLY COUNTERSIGNED, ENTITLES THE PERSON TO WHOM ISSUED THE USE OF THE

ARMY MOTOR SERVICE

MOTOR TRANSPORT CORPS

ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS ONLY SUBJECT TO REGULATIONS INDICATED ON REVERSE SIDE HEREOF

ISSUED TO Mr. Gerard Swope

RANK Asst. to CORPS D.P.S. & T.

SIGNATURE Gerard Swope

FORM MTC---328

COUNTERSIGNED: Samuel Ansell

COLONEL, GENERAL STAFF

WAR Dept Main 2570-4620

REGULATIONS

IDENTIFICATION PASSES, AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ARMY MOTOR SERVICE FOR OFFICIAL BUSINESS ONLY, WILL BE ISSUED BY THE CHIEF, MOTOR TRANSPORT CORPS TO OFFICERS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE BUREAU CHIEFS. ABUSE OR UNAUTHORIZED USE OF THE MOTOR SERVICE PRIVILEGE WILL BE SUFFICIENT CAUSE FOR THE REVOCATION OF THE PASS. THIS PASS IS THE PROPERTY OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, IS NOT TRANSFERABLE, AND MUST BE RETURNED BY THE PERSON TO WHOM ISSUED WHEN LEAVING THE SERVICE OR TRANSFERING TO ANOTHER STATION.

LOCAL BOARD FOR DIVISION No. 2

9 FOR THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX

STATE OF N. J. – NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

General Staff - War Department
Washington D. C.

THIS CARD SHOULD BE KEPT IN THE POSSESSION OF THE REGISTRANT, AND CARRIED BY HIM AT ALL TIMES.

P.M.G.O. Form No. 68.

REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE.

To whom it may concern, Greetings:

THESE PRESENTS ATTEST, That in accordance with the proclamation of the President of the United States, and in compliance with law,

Gerard — Swope

(First name.) (Middle name.) (Last name.)

Allendale Ave. R.F.D. New Brunswick N.J.

(No.) (Street or R. F. D. No.) (City or town.) (County.) (State.)

has submitted himself to registration and has by me been duly registered this 12th day of September, 1918, under the supervision of the Local Board designated on the back hereof.

3—6172

A. N. Dunham, *Registrar.*

(Place stamp of Local Board on back of this card.)

Gerard Swope
(Signature of holder.)

STATE, WAR, AND NAVY DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS

WASHINGTON

Pass Mr. Gerard Swope, with papers, ~~an employee~~

~~of the~~ Asst. Director, P.S. & T., War Dept.

Height 5' 6½"

Weight 140#

Expires April 19, 1919 Complexion dark

GOOD FROM 7 A. M. TO 5.30 P. M., EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.

Countersigned: Allen W. Gullemer
Col. U.S.A. Executive Officer.

Captain, Engineer R. C., Assistant to Superintendent.

3—6143

State, War, and Navy Department Building.

Washington, Oct. 19, 1918

Pass Mr. Gerard Swope, with stenographer, who is now on duty in the Purchase, Storage & Traffic Department, into the Building and to Room No. 2030; on duty.

This pass is good for 180 days.

GOOD ONLY AT NIGHT AND ON SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.

Eben W. Sullivan
Col. M. S. A. Executive Officer.

Countersigned:
F. W. Hoover
Capt. Engineer, R. C., Asst. to Supt.

3—4186

WAR DEPARTMENT,
PURCHASE, STORAGE AND TRAFFIC DIVISION,
GENERAL STAFF.

SUPPLY CIRCULAR No. 85. } WASHINGTON, *September 6, 1918.*

Subject: OFFICERS OF THE PURCHASE, STORAGE AND TRAFFIC DIVISION.

1. The following assignments to duty in and under the direction of the Division of Purchase, Storage and Traffic are announced:

(*a*) Assistants to the Director of Purchase, Storage and Traffic: Brig. Gen. Hugh S. Johnson, G. S., and Mr. Gerard Swope.

(*b*) Director of Storage: Col. F. B. Wells; assistant to the Director of Storage: Mr. L. M. Nicolson. The Director of Storage will report to the Acting Quartermaster General for duty.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

GEO. W. GOETHALS,
Major General, Assistant Chief of Staff,
Director of Purchase, Storage and Traffic.

81267—18

WASHINGTON : GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1918

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY

TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH BUILDING

195 BROADWAY

THEODORE N. VAIL
PRESIDENT

NEW YORK September 11, 1918

GENERAL PEYTON C. MARCH,

Chief of Staff, U. S.A.,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

During a period of about ten years I have known Mr. Gerard Swope as an officer of one of our subsidiary companies, - Western Electric Company, Inc. He has shown marked ability and is a man in whose character and ideals I should have absolute confidence.

Yours very truly,

Theo N. Vail

President.

WAR DEPARTMENT
Office of the Second Assistant Secretary

Washington, D. C.

Room 292
State, War and Navy
Building.

July 11, 1918.

Mr. H. B. Thayer, President,
Western Electric Co.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Thayer:

Before my departure for abroad, I wish again to express my appreciation for your kindness and patriotism in allowing Mr. Swope to devote his services to the work of the Government. Although Mr. Swope has been down here but a comparatively short time, he has obtained a wonderful grasp of the situation, and will, I know, be of the greatest aid to us in dealing with the many and very important problems which are constantly arising in connection with the supply departments.

I appreciate how much of a sacrifice it is to you to release Mr. Swope, but it is a sacrifice in a good cause, and such a one as all of us are compelled to make in these days of emergency and stress.

Again thanking you, I am

Yours very sincerely,

(SIGNED) EDW. R. STETTINIUS.

COPY

W. P. SIDLEY
VICE PRESIDENT
AND GENERAL COUNSEL

Western Electric Company,
INCORPORATED
TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH BUILDING
195 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

July 13, 1918.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:-

I have known Mr. Gerard Swope for many years, both socially and as an officer of Western Electric Company. He is a man of the highest ability, character and integrity and can be implicitly relied upon to thoroughly and conscientiously carry through any undertaking which he assumes. It is a pleasure to speak in his behalf to anyone who wishes to know what manner of man he is.

William P Sidley

COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENSE

WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

July 11, 1918.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I understand that Mr. Gerard Swope is being considered for a commission. I have known Mr. Swope for over twelve years. He is a man of broad experience in industrial and business fields and is exceptionally qualified by personality and energy to fill any position in which such experience would be of value. He is also a man of unquestioned honesty and integrity.

Very truly yours,

Director.

T.N.P.

ROPES, GRAY, BOYDEN & PERKINS

TELEPHONE MAIN 6831

CLIFT ROGERS CLAPP
ROLAND W. BOYDEN
THOMAS NELSON PERKINS
ROLAND GRAY
HENRY L. SHATTUCK
WILLIAM H. BEST
ROGER ERNST
ARCHIBALD R. GRAUSTEIN
JOHN B. PIERCE
ALBERT BOYDEN
WILLIAM NELSON

SAMUEL P. WHITE
ARTHUR H. MORSE
CLIFFORD H. WALKER
JAMES E. CARROLL
JOHN RICHARDSON
JOHN E. SEARLE
BENJAMIN LORING YOUNG
ALBERT A. SCHAEFER
JOHN RAE GILMAN
ARTEMAS C. TOWNSEND
JOHN M. FOSTER
ABRAM BERKOWITZ

60 STATE STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

November 29, 1918.

Dear G. S.:-

Many thanks for yours of Wednesday. H. F. Perkins, I am both glad and sorry to say, is not my brother, but I am still glad they haven't found us out.

I dined with Anson and Owen Young on Wednesday, talked over the situation, but did not get any very definite reaction from them as to what their plans are going to be. They understand that if they want to talk now is a good time to talk, and I think that the fact is they have not thought in those terms.

I want to say again what I have said to you several times,- that I think your contribution has been one of the biggest individual contributions that I have seen in Washington, and I think you have done a wonderful piece of work. You ought to go home with a very comfortable feeling of having done your share and a little more in the big show as completely as anybody. Personally I have had a very good time working with you.

Yours very truly,

Thomas N. Perkins

Gerard Swope, Esq.,
Room 2032 Munitions Building,
Washington, D.C.

Western Electric Company,
INCORPORATED
TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH BUILDING
195 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

H. B. THAYER
PRESIDENT

September 11, 1918

CHIEF OF STAFF,
United States Army,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Mr. Gerard Swope has been employed by this Company since his graduation from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1895 until he recently retired to enter the service of the United States. At the time of that retirement he was a Vice President and Director of the Company, which is probably the best evidence of the confidence and esteem in which he was held in the Company and by me officially. Personally, I have known him intimately during the greater part of this period and can testify to his high character, ability, public spirit and patriotism.

Yours very truly,

H B Thayer
President

HBT/EF

Address reply to
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
Munitions Building
Washington, D.C.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
PURCHASE, STORAGE, AND TRAFFIC DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
WASHINGTON

FILE NO.

December 9, 1918.

Gerard Swope, Esq.,
Somewhere in the United States.

My dear Mr. Swope:

I have before me your note of December 6th which you dictated in my office on that date and which announced to me your departure from Washington. This morning I endeavored to secure your address from Colonel Fullam, who informed me that he had your itinerary and if I wished to forward any mail to you he would be glad to see that it reached you, and so I am taking advantage of his offer and sending you this note.

I wish to repeat what I said to you somewhat haltingly on Saturday that I regret your departure exceedingly as a personal matter. I had become to be exceedingly fond of you and appreciated your interest in what we were all trying to do and the great value of your keen intellect and valuable business experience in helping solve the great problems that confronted us here. I have felt since your departure a depressing feeling of loss that you should find it necessary at this time to return to what I know must be pressing demands in private life.

I shall continue to consider you a member of the Finance Advisory Board. You were originally designated as a member of that Board and I hope that you will still consider yourself at the service of Finance for future conferences.

Again assuring you of my most affectionate regard, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

H M Lord

Brigadier General,
Director of Finance.

HML-j

WAR INDUSTRIES BOARD

WASHINGTON

B. M. BARUCH
CHAIRMAN

IN YOUR REPLY
REFER TO .....

Mr. Swope.

P. S. & T. DIVISION. 300.5 - Supply bulletin #29.

November 22, 1918.

Gerard Swope, Esq.,
Assistant to the Director of Purchase, Storage & Traffic,
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Swope:

I thank you for your favor of November 20 inclosing me a copy of Supply Bulletin No. 29, which I have already looked over with interest and will read more carefully at the first opportunity.

Please let me digress long enough to say that you could not fail to be both touched and gratified at the opinion everyone on the War Industries Board expresses of the fine ability and character with which you have done your work here. I hear it on every hand and I count myself very unfortunate in not having had the pleasure of seeing more of you personally while in Washington. Perhaps the future may give me that pleasure.

Sincerely yours,

Albert C. Ritchie

ACR/RW

188

IN REPLY REFER TO

WAR DEPARTMENT
PURCHASE, STORAGE, AND TRAFFIC DIVISION
GENERAL STAFF
WASHINGTON

December 9, 1918.

Major General James McAndrew, U. S. Army,
Chief of Staff, A. E. F.,
Chaumont, France.
A.P.O. 717.

My dear McAndrew:

This letter will be presented by Mr. Gerard Swope, a very good friend of mine who, for some months past, has, at great personal sacrifice, served as General Goethals' first assistant in the organization and carrying on of the Purchase, Storage and Traffic Division of the General Staff. Mr. Swope's great ability as an organizer and wide experience in large business affairs has been of inestimable value to the Government in this important work. With the signing of the Armistice and the virtual completion of the work in which he was engaged, Mr. Swope asked to be relieved from this duty and is now travelling abroad and desirous of seeing as much as possible of the great work done by our Army over there to which he has contributed such an important part at this end of the line. In addition to being a warm friend of the Army, he is one of the best fellows that ever happened and anything that you can do to make his trip pleasant and put him in the way of seeing what he wants to see will be much appreciated by Mr. Swope as well as by myself.

With personal congratulations for your great success in this war and sincere wishes for a continuation of your success, believe me

Very truly yours,

Geo. W. Burr

DEC 10 1918

WAR INDUSTRIES BOARD

WASHINGTON

B. M. BARUCH
CHAIRMAN

IN YOUR REPLY
REFER TO _____

December 9, 1918.

Mr. Gerard Swope,
C/o Western Electric Co.,
195 Broadway,
New York City.

My dear Swope:

I regret exceedingly not seeing you Saturday, but know you were busy getting out of town. Our own work is closing rapidly.

I want you to know how much I appreciate the privilege of the association with you and how deeply I feel that you have contributed much in straightening out many of the complex problems with which the War Department was confronted. I value greatly the friendship we have started here and trust that I may see more of you in the future.

I shall look you up when I am in New York and hope you will not hesitate to let me know when you are in Chicago, and if you can do this, let me know in advance. I shall no doubt be able to arrange my numerous trips there so as to odcassionaly at least have a little visit with you.

With cordial regards, I am

Faithfully yours,

Bernard M. Baruch

IN REPLY REFER TO

WAR DEPARTMENT
PURCHASE, STORAGE, AND TRAFFIC DIVISION
GENERAL STAFF
WASHINGTON

November 30, 1918.

Mr. Gerard Swope, Ass't. Director,
Purchase, Storage & Traffic Div.,
2030 Munitions Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Swope:

Many thanks for the extra copy of Supply Bulletin No. 29 with accompanying circulars and charts. I particularly appreciate your thoughtfulness in sending this to me because I was wishing yesterday that I had an extra set which I could take back to New York, and now you have made this possible.

Being called to Washington, as I was, within a few hours after the new P. S. & T. Division was set up, I have followed its progress with more than ordinary interest. It certainly had its ups and downs and I am simply stating what is obvious when I say that its "ups" are more due to you than to any other one person, and it must be a matter of profound satisfaction to you to be able to leave behind the nucleus of an ideal organization.

As the functions of the Government must get back to normal as soon as possible it is most desirable that only those should remain here who are willing to stay almost indefinitely, all others leaving when their war tasks are completed. That is the only way a business organization can be successfully reorganized and I think it will also be true of the Government activities. This may seem personal but I really believe it, otherwise I would be glad to stay myself for such time as might be deemed necessary.

Sincerely yours,

R H Montgomery

Lt. Col., U. S. A.

RHM/LB.

Western Electric Company.
Incorporated
212 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
Chicago

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
AND GENERAL COUNSEL

November 30, 1918.

MR. GERARD SWOPE,

Assistant to Director of
Purchase, Storage & Traffic,

Mills Building,

Washington, D.C.

Dear Gerard:-

I have read through your Supply Bulletin No. 29 relating to Purchase, Storage and Traffic Division, and get some insight thereby into what you have been doing in the way of reorganization of the department. We are all proud of the good work you have been doing and the kind things people are saying about you, and will be glad to see you back as soon as possible. I am going to New York tomorrow and hope I may see you there during next week.

Yours sincerely,

W Sidey

WPS-B

Sec. War & Mr. Swope 8/1 - Western Elec. Co

CORRESPONDENCE ROUTE CARD. SERIAL NO. 4116

DATE AND TIME RECEIVED	COMMUNICATION NUMBER

	ROUTE	DESIGNATED ACTION TO BE TAKEN	A CHARGED OUT			B ACTION TAKEN			
			MONTH	DAY	HOUR	BY	MONTH	DAY	HOUR
1	FILE AND RECORD ROOM	RECORD							
2	Winnington Tim		8	2	1:30				
3	Mr Swope		8	2	2				
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									

DIRECTIONS FOR USING THIS CARD: See Office Order No. 13.

Mail-control desk will indicate to whom sent for action, and charge individual in Column A.
Individual will denote by initials the time that he has completed action in Column B.
Any further action he desires taken, and person to take action, is to be noted in next line.

3—5449

WAR DEPARTMENT.

WASHINGTON.

AUG 1 1918

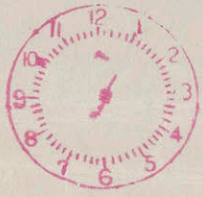
Mr. Gerard Swope,
Office of the Director of Purchases & Supplies,
Mills Building,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Swope:

I have your letter of July 29th setting forth your business connections with the Western Electric Company. I appreciate your reason for making this connection a matter of record in view of your present association as Assistant to General Johnson, Director of Purchase and Supply.

You will, of course, follow the customary rule in the War Department and abstain from any participation in business directly or indirectly affecting the Western Electric Company.

RECEIVED
PURCHASE & SUPPLY DIV.



AUG 2 1918

Very truly yours,

NEWTON D. BAKER,
Secretary of War.

July 29, 1918.

General Hugh S. Johnson,
Brigadier General, N. A.,
Director of Purchases & Supplies.

My dear General:

In accordance with our conversation which I desire to make a matter of record, I have been connected with the Western Electric Company for twenty-three years and have been for several years and am now a Director and Vice President. At the request of the War Department I have asked for a leave of absence to take up work in the War Department in Washington and the Company has granted my request, continuing my salary for the present.

The Western Electric Company has always done some business with the Government and latterly in connection with radio work has done more with the Signal Corps. Of course the work in which I am now engaged does not bring me into direct relation with the work done between the Government and the Western Electric Company.

I should be glad if you would lay this letter before General Goethals and, since it may affect the question of policy and personnel of the War Department, have it brought to the attention of the Secretary.

Very respectfully,

GERARD SWOPE

GS/emj

LAW OFFICES
HOLT, CUTTING & SIDLEY
THE TACOMA, 1007
5 NORTH LA SALLE STREET
CHICAGO

Williams & Thompson
Williams, Holt & Wheeler
Holt, Wheeler & Sidley

Norman Williams, 1866-1899
John L. Thompson, 1866-1888
Charles S. Holt, 1882-
Arthur D. Wheeler, 1886-1912
William P. Sidley, 1897-
Charles S. Cutting, 1913-
Donald F. McPherson, 1913-
William D. Bangs, 1917-

7/24

July 24, 1918.

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Gerard Swope,
Room 705, Mills Building,
17th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Gerard:

I have been thinking over the matters referred to in your note of July 19th, and my conclusion is that if there is anything even theoretically inconsistent between your duties to the Government in your new position and your duties to this Company as a Director and as its Vice President and General Sales Manager, you ought to sever your relations with this Company as far as possible. As Assistant Director of Purchases it might be incumbent upon you to have no official connection with a company which is selling largely to the Government, even though you do not come into direct contact with such purchases.

If I were you I would take this matter up very frankly with General Goethals and secure his advice, and also consult the legal adviser of your department as to any existing law upon the subject of disclosures of business relations to be made or to be severed by persons assuming such official positions in the Government as you will occupy. If as a result of such interviews it is apparent that your relations ought to be severed, I should not postpone action in that regard. I feel in your case as I did in Mr. Thayer's, that every possible precaution must be taken to shield you and the Company from adverse criticism on account of business relationships.

There is, of course, involved in this question the matter of continuing to receive even a partial salary from the Company in case your relations with it are severed. I do not at this moment see how any such partial payments could be justified under such circumstances. At the same time, I should be most reluctant to have you sacrifice your entire remuneration from the Company in order to perform this patriotic service. Before attempting a final word upon it I should like to know what you think of my suggestion as to consulting General Goethals and the legal adviser of your department, and if you decide that this is the thing to do I should like to know the result of such interviews.

I shall be in New York for the latter half of next week and the first of the following week, and will be glad to see you either there or at Washington, or talk with you from that point if it seems desirable.

Yours sincerely,

WPS-BK

W P Gidley

~~p Koto~~

Nuy gil 48 J

Pestpiem
Zoitof
Lebel

August 5, 1918.

Dear Will:

I duly received your letter of July 24th. I talked the matter over with Mr. Thomas N. Perkins, who, you may know, is a prominent lawyer of Boston and who is now in Secretary Baker's office as his assistant. I wrote the enclosed letter to General Johnson and received a letter from Secretary Baker which the one enclosed is a copy. I hope you think this puts the entire matter in good shape.

Thank you very much.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. William P. Sidley,
Holt, Cutting & Sidley,
The Tacoma,
5 North LaSalle St.,
Chicago, Illinois.

GS/emj

ADDRESS REPLY TO
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
MUNITIONS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

FEB 24 1920

WAR DEPARTMENT
FINANCE SERVICE
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
WASHINGTON

File No.

February 21, 1920.

Gerard Swope, Esq.,
General Electric Company,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Swope:

I did not realize when you called on me the other day that you were here engaged in the pleasant duty of receiving a Distinguished Service Medal or I certainly would have congratulated you on receiving recognition for the splendid service you rendered the Government in its time of need. I did have occasion to get in real touch with some of the great things that you accomplished and I know that the award was in every way merited and I am extremely gratified that the authorities held that same view.

With the very kindest regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

H M Lord

H. M. LORD,
Brigadier General,
Director of Finance, U. S. Army.

HML-j

ADDRESS REPLY TO
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
MUNITIONS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

JUN 12 1920

WAR DEPARTMENT
FINANCE SERVICE
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
WASHINGTON

File No.

June 11, 1920.

Gerard Swope, Esq.,
International General Electric Company,
120 Broadway,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Swope:

The Finance Department of the Army with a Chief of Finance, rank of Brigadier General at its head, is now a statutory organization, the Army Reorganization Bill having become a law. Under this law all expenditures of funds of the War Department, including the River and Harbor appropriations, the Panama Canal appropriations, as well as the appropriations for the military establishment proper, will be disbursed and accounted for by the new Finance Department. This may not be news to you but it is merely an introduction and to afford an opportunity for me to express to you my appreciation of the assistance you rendered in bringing about this consummation. You, with the possible exception of General Goethals, are the only one who had a hand in the very beginning of an independent finance activity for the War Department. I recall very distinctly meeting you in the War Department and your announcement to me that General Goethals had sent for me for the purpose of giving me directions to consolidate the finances of the War Department, so if truth be said you are the original Finance Department man. Because of this I felt that I must write you at this time and let you know I am not lacking in gratitude for the wise counsel, the friendly consideration and the intelligent and important help that you have rendered me since the date to which I have referred.. During that time I may state that I have become greatly attached to you personally and appreciate the privilege I have had in being associated with you in this particular work.

I do not intend that the establishment of the Finance Department by law shall result in the discontinuance of the activities of the Volunteer Consulting Committee,for in perfecting our new organization and in working out the financial policies that shall be followed by that organization many most important problems will be presented that will require the wisest counsel available, and I hope at some no distant date to have the opportunity of meeting in conference with the Committee to make a report and to ask for advice.

Again thanking you for your friendly interest and your valued cooperation, I remain, as ever,

Very sincerely yours,

H. M. Lord

H. M. LORD,
Brigadier General,
Director of Finance, U. S. Army.

HML-j

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

WASHINGTON.

His Excellency Hugh C. Wallace,

The American Embassy,

Paris, France.

INTRODUCING MR. GERARD SWOPE.

Dear Mr. Swope:
I have to be happy to see you on any
time. Hugh C. Wallace
Sept 12 1919

THE SECRETARY OF WAR
WASHINGTON

August 22, 1919.

Your Excellency:

I depart from my rule of not presenting to you persons who go abroad upon other than military missions, and beg leave to introduce Mr. Gerard Swope, an American business man who left very important concerns and came to Washington to assist us on the business side of our administration, and who conferred upon the Department, and through it upon the country, distinguished and perhaps invaluable services. I have no knowledge of the mission upon which Mr. Swope is now abroad, but I am very happy to present him to you and to request that any proper courtesies from the Embassy which will facilitate his ease of movement be extended to him. They will be worthily bestowed.

Cordially yours,

Newton D. Baker

His Excellency Hugh C. Wallace,

The American Embassy, Paris.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE, STORAGE AND TRAFFIC
WASHINGTON, D.C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE $ 300

Mr. Gerard Swope,
Assistant Director of
Purchase, Storage and Traffic,
Washington, D. C.

Form 1201

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

GOVT RUSH

JUN 14 PM 1 55

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT — GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

RECEIVED AT 195 BROADWAY N.Y

A58DI QQ 103 GOVT

DI WASHINGTON DC 1255PM JUNE 14 1918

H B THAYER

973

PRESIDENT WESTERN ELEC CO 195 BROADWAY NEWYORK

YOUR MR GERARD SWOPE SPENT YESTERDAY WITH GENERAL JOHNSON DISCUSSING SOME EXTREMELY IMPORTANT WORK WHICH IT IS IMPERATIVELY NECESSARY SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN WITHOUT DELAY IN THE WAR DEPARTMENT BY REASON OF HIS EXPERIENCE AND ABILITY MR SWOPE IS PECULIARLY QUALIFIED TO RENDER VERY GREAT AND REAL SERVICE IN THIS SITUATION AND I VENTURE TO EXPRESS THE EARNEST HOPE THAT YOU WILL FIND IT POSSIBLE TO PERMIT HIM TO BECOME ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEPARTMENT AND ASSIST IN A MATTER OF PRESSING AND GREAT IMPORTANCE

HOWARD R STETTINIUS SECOND ASST SECTY OF WAR

1259PM

GOVT RUSH

FORM 80 GN

TELEGRAM

JUN 17 1918

IN CASE ANY PART OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS NOT THOROUGHLY UNDERSTOOD
PLEASE CONFER IMMEDIATELY WITH THE MAILING DEPARTMENT

9114

WASHINGTON D C 6/17

MR G SWOPE
W E CO NY

I sincerely hope that you will consent to join our forces for the purpose of lining up an organization for our activities.

GEORGE W GOETHALS

10 10 A

June 17, 1918

MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE W. GOETHALS,
Assistant Chief of Staff,
War Department,
Washington, D.C.

My dear General Goethals:-

I am in receipt this morning of your telegram, and I thank you very sincerely for your invitation "to join your forces for the purpose of lining up an organization for your activities," as you put it.

As I told General Johnson, I, of course, consider it an obligation and a duty to contribute whatever I can, if I were assured that the work that I would be called upon to undertake, were such that I could justify giving up my present activities, and if there is no one else available who could do the work that you desire to have done, better than I could do it.

I expect to be in Washington on Wednesday, in connection with a conference with some members of the Labor Department, and if convenient to you, shall be very glad, indeed, to call upon you and have the pleasure of meeting you.

Very sincerely yours,

June 17, 1918

H. B. THAYER, ESQUIRE,
c/o E. B. FIELD, President,
Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company,
1421 Champa Street,
Denver, Colorado.

At Mr. Stettinius' request I went to Washington, saw him and General Johnson. They are desirous of having me go to Washington. Saturday, General Johnson, after a talk with General Goethals, telephoned, asking that I go, and offering a broad opportunity for useful work. I feel very much that it is a duty, and work that I should undertake. Please consider the request along the lines of how we can arrange the work to enable me to say yes. If you are delayed or wish me to meet you en route so that we may talk it over, will you please telegraph me.

SWOPE

FORM U 126
12-17

JUN 18 1918
37

AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
Internal Correspondence.
Long Line Printing Telegraph Service

TELEGRAM

TC 28 11:22 6-18-18 7 DENVER COLO
GERARD SWOPE
WESTERN ELEC CO 195 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

SHALL BE ON CENTURY LEAVING CHICAGO ON FRIDAY AND GLAD TO SEE YOU ANYWHERE ENROUTE. IF IT IS FOR THE WAR SUGGEST THAT YOU CONSIDER PINGREE COMING OVER TO HANDLE FOREIGN JOB

H B THAYER

JUN 18 1918 P.M.

JUN 22 1918

June 22, 1918.

HONORABLE E. R. STETTINIUS,

Second Assistant Secretary of War,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Your telegram with reference to Mr. Swope, as you know, was received in my absence. I returned this morning and have been talking the matter over with Mr. Swope.

I am very unwilling at the present time to lose Mr. Swope's services, but his feeling that duty calls him and my belief that he can render important services in any situation which permits him to work effectively, leaves me no alternative to letting him go.

Yours very truly,

HBT.DM

President.

Mr. Swope

C O P Y

WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington

Room 292
State, War and Navy
Building

June 24, 1918.

Dear Mr. Thayer:

I was deeply gratified to receive your note of the 22nd. I can quite understand your reluctance to part with Mr. Swope's services at this time, and I appreciate the more your consenting to allow him to come to us now.

With renewed thanks and kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

(Sgd) Edw. R. Stettinius
Second Assistant Secretary of War.

Mr. H. B. Thayer, President,
Western Electric Company,
195 Broadway, New York.

December 2, 1918.

Major General Geo. W. Goethals,
Assistant Chief of Staff,
Director of Purchase, Storage and Traffic,
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

My dear General:

Herewith I tender my resignation, effective in accordance with our conversation, on December 7th.

In doing so I cannot refrain from expressing my deep and sincere feeling of respect and esteem for you. Please accept my heartfelt thanks for the privilege of working with you and for the confidence and support you have always accorded to me.

Very cordially yours,

GERARD SWOPE,
Assistant to the Director of
Purchase, Storage and Traffic.

1/13/19

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE, STORAGE AND TRAFFIC
WASHINGTON, D.C.

January 11, 1919.

Dear Mr. Swope:

Your letters of the 30th and 31st ultimo deserve and would have received more prompt replies but for my absence from the city and also from the difficulty that I had in getting my correspondence attended to because of the absence of my secretary.

I am delighted to hear that you made the change, for, as I stated to you when I last had the pleasure of seeing you, your field will be broader and therefore your accomplishment greater in your new task.

I appreciate your congratulations on my receiving the Distinguished Service Medal, though I feel I have done nothing more than the Government had a right to expect of me, and I hope before it is given me that others who should receive it and whom I have recommended for it will also be favored.

I appreciate your kindness to Mr. Graham, from whom, however, I have not yet heard. From Mr. Stettinius, who has returned, I gather that conditions are so upset that it will be some months before any reconstruction work will be considered other than the reestablishment of some of the industries of the country; however, Mr. Graham will get the necessary preliminaries arranged.

When I go to New York it will be a pleasure to look you up, though the immediate prospects are not favorable to an early visit there.

With best wishes and warmest regards, I remain

Yours faithfully,

Geo. W. Goethals

Mr. Gerard Swope,
120 Broadway,
New York City.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE, STORAGE AND TRAFFIC
WASHINGTON, D.C.

December 7, 1918.

My dear Mr. Swope:

It is with sincere regret that I herewith accept your resignation, tendered in your letter of December 2, 1918.

Like Mr. Perkins, I am not an adept at kind words, but I cannot let you go without expressing appreciation of your helpful cooperation and assistance in all matters that have come up, and thanking you for the able manner in which you have invariably handled them.

In all my experience I have never worked with anyone so harmoniously nor received more loyal support than you have given me.

With best wishes for your future and warmest regards, I remain

Yours very sincerely,

G. W. Goethals

Mr. Gerard Swope,
Assistant Director of
Purchase, Storage and Traffic,
Washington, D. C.