

July 13th, 1923.

Personal.

General John J. Pershing,
General of the Armies,
Washington, D.C.

My dear General Pershing:-

Forgive me for troubling
you about so small a matter as the request contained
in this letter.

I received a communication from an old
friend, Mr. F. W. Harcourt, a member of the firm of
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt, Solicitors, Toronto. Mr.
Harcourt is the official guardian and has charge of
the affairs of the Bickerstaff estate. It seems that
William Bickerstaff, then aged 17, went from Toronto
to the United States in June 1922 to look for employ-
ment, which ended in his enlistment in the 63rd Service
Squadron, Francisco Canal Zone, Panama. Mr. Harcourt
thinks the date of the enlistment was October or
November 1922. His mother, Mrs. Bickerstaff is in
great distress concerning the boy's enlistment and
desires to have him discharged and returned to Toronto.
Will you please have some officer on your staff tell
me if it is possible for Mr. Bickerstaff to be dis-
charged and if so, under what conditions.

With kindest personal wishes, I am,

Yours faithfully,