

**BOX**  
**005**  
**FOLDER**  
**031**

**Ambulance Service, Board  
of**

**1912**





## CITY OF NEW YORK

## BOARD OF AMBULANCE SERVICE

300 Mulberry Street

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
FOOT OF EAST 26TH STREET  
NEW YORK CITY

Rhinelanders Walk

WM. F. BAKER  
COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, PRESIDENT

MICHAEL J. DRUMMOND  
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC CHARITIES,  
SECRETARY

JOHN W. BRANNAN, M. D.  
PRESIDENT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
BELLEVUE AND ALLIED HOSPITALS

R. S. COPELAND, M. D.  
W. I. SPIEGELBERG

New York, January 26, 1912.

To the Honorable,

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Provision 56 of the Greater New York Charter, I would respectfully request that the position of EXAMINER for one (1) incumbent, at the rate of \$2100 per annum, be established for the Board of Ambulance Service.

Respectfully,

Board of Ambulance Service.

*Michael J. Drummond*  
Secretary.

J.A.N.

Hon. William J. Gaynor,

Mayor of the City of New York.



Jan. 26/12.

Ed

Re-position at \$2100  
of Examiner for Board  
of Ambulance service.



RHINELANDER WALDOY  
COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, PRESIDENT  
MICHAEL J. DRUMMOND,  
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC CHARITIES, SEC'Y.  
JOHN W. BRANNAN, M. D.,  
PRESIDENT BELLEVUE & ALLIED HOSPITALS  
ROYAL S. COPELAND, M. D.  
WILLIAM I. SPIEGELBERG

CITY OF NEW YORK

**Board of Ambulance Service**

300 MULBERRY STREET

TELEPHONES:  
FOR AMBULANCE CALLS  
3100 SPRING

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES:  
7586 SPRING

D. C. POTTER, DIRECTOR

April 24, 1912.

James Matthews, Executive Secretary,  
Mayor's Office.

Sir:

On April 9th you addressed a letter by order of the Mayor to Commissioner M. J. Drummond, Secretary of this Board, enclosing a complaint written by Julius Kramer, 723 - 9th Ave., in which the statement is made that two cases of injured citizens were brought into his store and that there were delays of fully an hour and a half before ambulances reached the sufferers. You desired a report upon this statement of alleged facts -

A search continued through several days has failed to locate more than one case and that one arises through unusual circumstances.

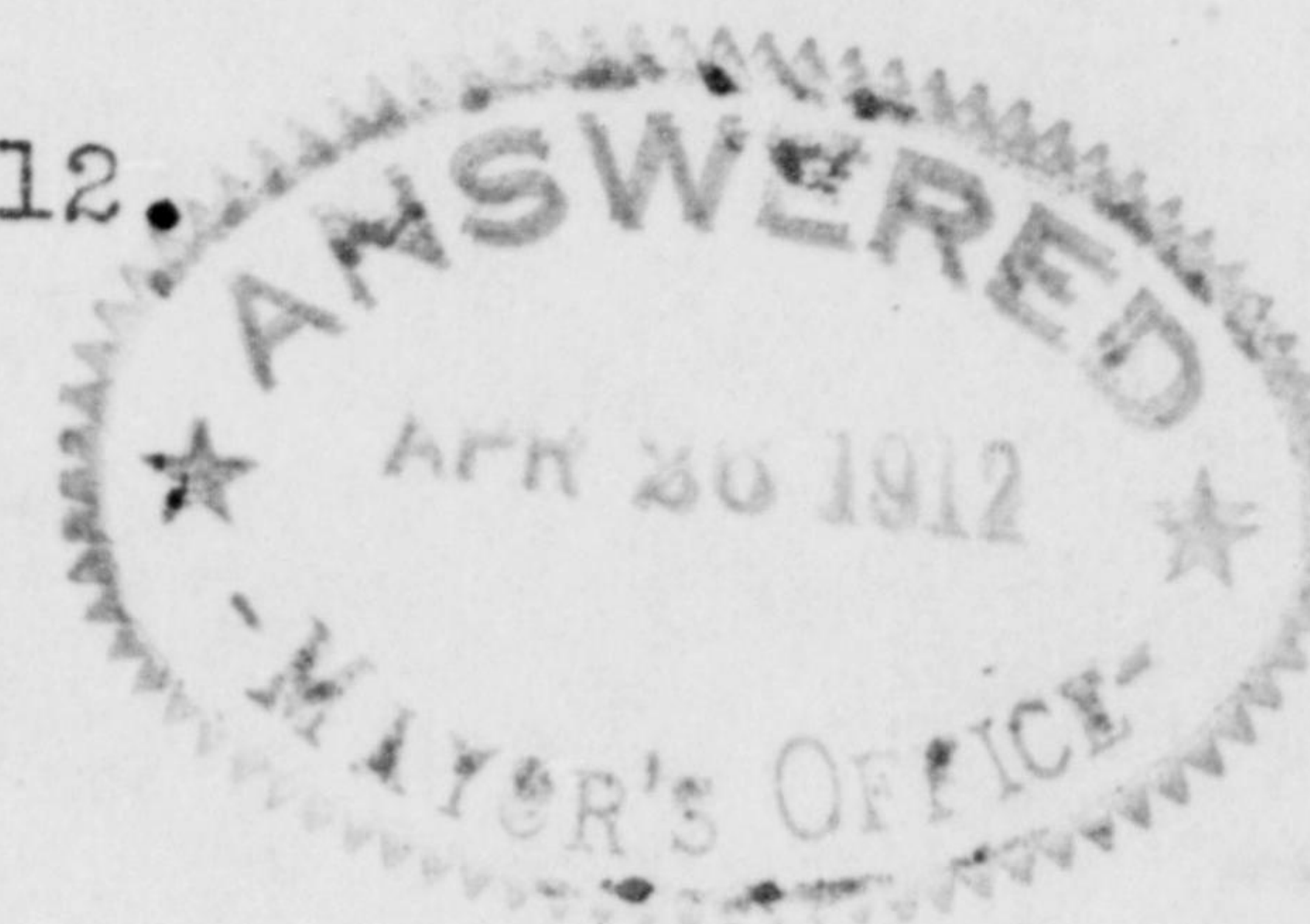
That district is covered by Flower Hospital. Mr. Arnold Wood, chairman of the ambulance service of that hospitals, says of their investigation of Mr. Kramer's complaint -

"In his letter he speaks of two cases, but when I talked with him yesterday over the telephone he could recall but one specific instance. I have taken pains to investigate this and find the facts to be as follows-

On the 6th of April, within one minute of each other, Flower Hospital received two calls in this immediate neighborhood. One of them was to see a boy with a contusion and was not considered an urgent case in the sense of needing treatment within 15 minutes. The other call was given to us by the Police Department as a 'hurry call' and as is our custom we directed the ambulance surgeon to make that call first, then to see the other case, and, if necessary, call another surgeon.

When Dr. Andrews reached the patient designated as a 'hurry call' he found a woman who had taken corrosive sublimate with intent to end her life. It was in every sense of the word an emergency that required the energetic efforts of the surgeon to relieve. He worked over the patient about 40 minutes and in his anxiety to save her forgot about everything else in the world except this one present, pressing duty. At the end of this time it suddenly dawned upon him that he had neglected to send word to the Hospital of his inability to care for the second case, and, naturally, since the Hospital heard nothing from Dr. Andrews, our official there concluded he was caring for the second patient.

This is a case like one of the rare instances where one fire engine is supposed to take care of two fires, one thought to be a blaze in an ash can and the other a






burning house. The case mentioned by Mr. Kramer was a boy who had bruised his leg and was so trifling that upon the application of a bandage he was able to walk home."

The delay in this case was not reported through police channels. Serious delays even of a few minutes are always reported, the officer making the call not regarding the delay in the call for the boy as warranting a complaint against the hospital. It has been impossible to locate in any way the other call spoken of by Mr. Kramer. He can give no helpful information.

Under the rules of the Board, calls are generally sent in through the police - by a citizen where no officer is at hand. If there is a delay of consequence another call is sent in and if necessary another hospital is summoned. The knowledge of the first delay then comes to the Board in routine, whereby we are able to make investigation. As said above, there was no police complaint in these Kramer cases, sure evidence no harm had been done.

It may be said that when the Board first began its work there were many reports of delays. They are of decreasing frequency, the hospitals assisting very generally in the Board's oversight of the service.

Respectfully,



Director.



April 24/12.

April 9/12.

Report on letter Julius Kramer,  
re-delay in ambulance service.



RHINELANDER WALDO,  
COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, PRESIDENT  
MICHAEL J. DRUMMOND,  
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC CHARITIES, SEC'Y.  
JOHN W. BRANNAN, M. D.,  
PRESIDENT BELLEVUE & ALLIED HOSPITALS  
ROYAL S. COPELAND, M. D.  
WILLIAM I. SPIEGELBERG

D. C. POTTER, DIRECTOR

CITY OF NEW YORK

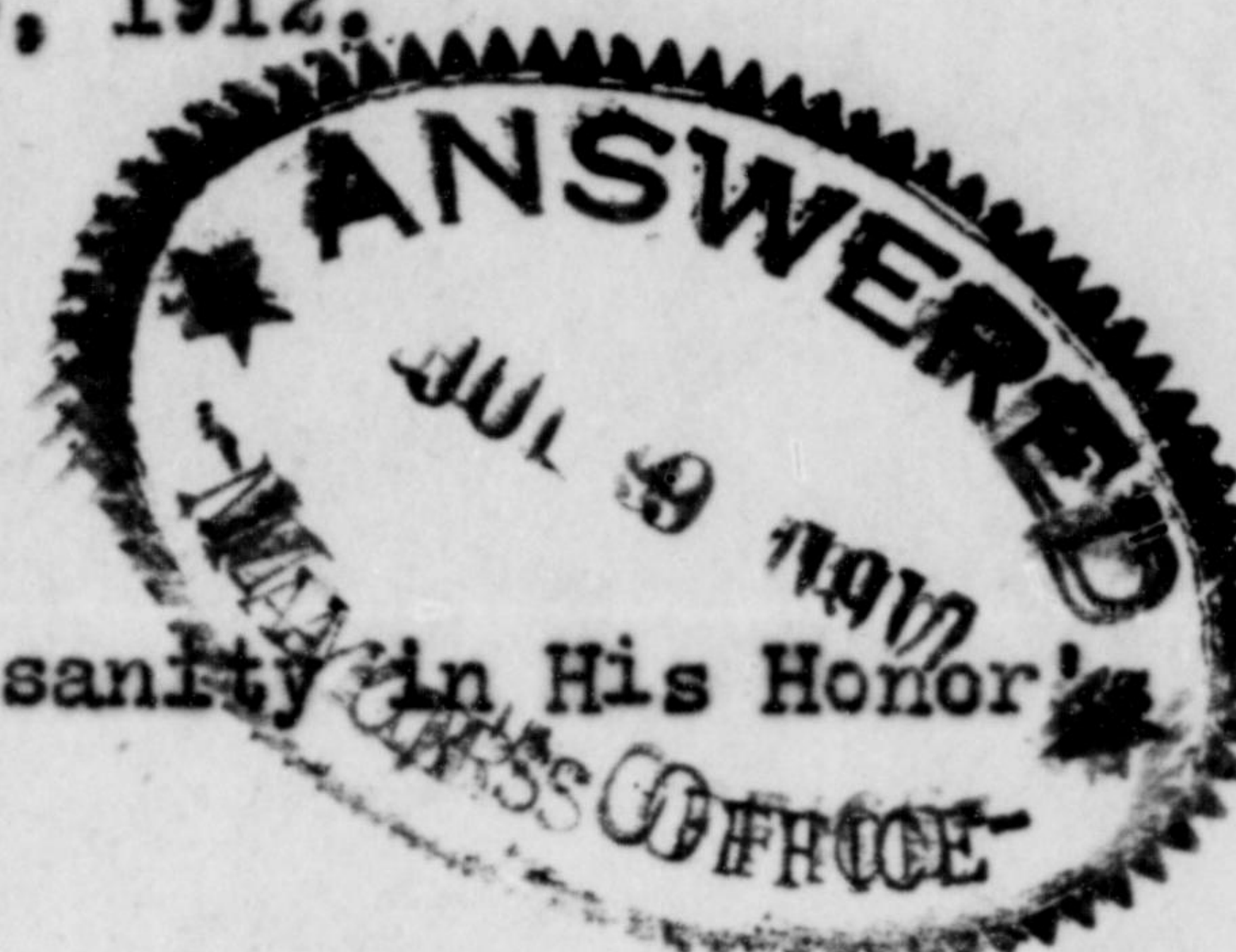
## Board of Ambulance Service

300 MULBERRY STREET

TELEPHONES:  
FOR AMBULANCE CALLS  
3100 SPRING

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES:  
7586 SPRING

July 5, 1912.



Dear Mr. Adamson:

Here is the proof of the sense and sanity in His Honor's  
re-modeled Fourth.

The record of Ambulance calls uncovers the situation as nothing else can. Should the Mayor be speaking on the subject, or writing an epistle, - for the appearance of one of which the whole town waits with abiding interest, - attention could be called to the fact that there is no long list of fires, financial loss, accidents followed by pain, suffering, disfigurements, maiming for life or the loss of life.

The Hospitals and their Ambulances now find the Fourth to be a day of normal activity or less than that. What happened yesterday could happen any day.

### AMBULANCE CALLS IN ALL THE BOROUGHES.

	July 4, 1911	July 4, 1912	
Manhattan	196	130	The daily average in all the boroughs throughout the year is 261.
Bronx	21	19	
Brooklyn	105	111	
Queens	17	14	
Richmond	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	
	344	277	

Robert Adamson, Esq.,  
Secretary,  
City Hall, N. Y.

Very respectfully,

*D. C. Potter*  
Director.

76.7



RHINELANDER WALDO,  
COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, PRESIDENT  
MICHAEL J. DRUMMOND,  
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC CHARITIES, SEC'Y.  
JOHN W. BRANNAN, M. D.,  
PRESIDENT BELLEVUE & ALLIED HOSPITALS  
ROYAL S. COPELAND, M. D.  
WILLIAM I. SPIEGELBERG

D. C. POTTER, DIRECTOR

CITY OF NEW YORK

## Board of Ambulance Service

300 MULBERRY STREET

TELEPHONES:  
FOR AMBULANCE CALLS  
3100 SPRING

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES:  
7586 SPRING

November 9, 1912.

Robert Adamson, Esq., Secretary,  
Office of the Mayor,  
City Hall, New York City.

Dear Mr. Adamson:

The kindly consideration shown by his Honor the Mayor in appointing me as delegate to represent the City at the Thirteenth New York State Conference of Charities to be held at Syracuse is greatly appreciated. I beg you to convey to his Honor my sincere thanks.

I had the honor of representing the City at this same Convention for eight years preceding 1910 and my appointment this year is peculiarly gratifying.

Very sincerely yours,

