

RUTGERS COLLEGE
NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY

August 31st. 1917.

To the Alumni of Rutgers College:

The College is preparing a list of Rutgers Alumni who are in the service of the United States. In order to make this list as complete as possible, we request your earnest co-operation.

Will you please advise us:

- (1) Have you received a commission in any branch of the Army or Navy? Please give information as follows:

John Smith '10, Second Lieut. Infantry, Officers' Reserve Corps, etc..

- (2) Have you enlisted in any branch of government work? Please give information as follows:

John Smith '13, private, Infantry, National Army,

- or -

William Jones '14, Seaman, Naval Reserve, etc.

- (3) Have you been drafted? Please give information as follows:

John Smith '12, District No. 1, Union County, N.J.

Drafted men are urged to advise us immediately, as their names will be sent to Washington with recommendation for transfer to the field of work for which they are especially trained.

(Signed) EARL REED SILVERS

Assistant to the President

INFORMATION CONCERNING ANY RUTGERS MEN WILL BE APPRECIATED

Joseph R Forsyth '11

*Second Reserve Officers Training Camp
Fort Niagara, N.Y. Company 5*

*As I am in doubt as to being transferred to the
Engineering Corps, wish influence can be used to
bring this about. There is no Engineers Camp here.*

Company 5
RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CAMP
FORT NIAGARA, NEW YORK

Oct. 27, 1917

Mr. Earl R. Silvers,
New Brunswick, N.J.

Dear Sir:-

I am very much in favor of your plan, to keep Outgers men posted regarding each other and shall do all in my power to keep the good work up.

At present I am in training and have no news of interest. This camp will close soon and we will be detailed to other stations. Perhaps I will have something of importance to write then.

These are rush times and we get little time to get in touch with outside affairs, so a line from you will be greatly appreciated. I

always enjoy reading about
Cutgers and her men. I have
been unfortunate in always being
located at some distance from
New Brunswick, so could not
get back often for good times.

Hoping to hear from you as
often as possible, I remain

Yours truly
Joseph P. Forsyth.

October 31st. 1917.

Mr. Joseph R. Forsyth,

Fifth Company, O. R. T. C.

Fort Niagara, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Forsyth:-

We were mighty glad to get your letter of October 27th. I know how rushed you are and appreciate the fact that you have taken time to write me in spite of the pressure of other matters. I am planning to send out a news letter some time this week which will give about all the gossip of the college. When you move from Fort Niagara, I hope that you will not forget to send me your new address.

Very sincerely yours,

1.

RUTGERS COLLEGE CADET CORPS.
AND BAND.

1917-1918.

COMMANDANT.

Major John Bigelow, U.S. Army, retired.

155 Depot Brigade
5th Training Battalion
Company '7
Camp Lee, Va.
Dec. 23, 1917

Dear Silvers:-

Had good intentions about writing to you as soon as Training Camp closed, but time passed so quickly and I have been quite busy.

I received a commission as 1st Lieut Inf. O.R.C. I had hoped for Engineers but it all amounts to the same thing. We reported here Saturday Dec. 15.

Kindly keep me in touch with Rutgers. I have enjoyed

the weekly letters very much
and hope to receive them
as usual.

I met Atwood, I should
have said Captain Atwood, who
graduated from Rutgers in
1909 or 1910. He is in 155 Depot
Brigade, Company 67 Blacks
and Co 15 Whites. These whites
are a few non Coms from
15 who help train 67. I have
met no other Rutgers men
outside of Whistler, about 1916,
at Fort Niagara.

There is a camp paper here
called "The Bayonet". I will
send you a copy from time
to time. There is some camp
news in it.

(3)

Guess I have given you
about all the information
I have at present. You may
expect to hear from me
now and then.

Yours truly
Joseph P. Forsyth.

Has a list of Rutgers men
in service been gotten out
showing where they are
detailed. It would be fine
to have such a list if you
have one.

December 26th. 1917.

Lieut. Joseph R. Forsyth, .

155 Depot Brigade,

5th Training Battalion,

Company 17, Camp Lee, Vir.

Dear Forsyth:-

Thank you for your letter of December 17th and for the word about your commission. I am hoping to print in the next Alumni Quarterly the list of Rutgers men in the principle camps. By that list you can tell what Rutgers men are near you at Camp Lee.

With every good wish, I am,

Sincerely yours,

55th. Company, 14th. Provisional Recruit Battalion
155th. Depot Brigade, Camp Lee, Va.
Sept. 4, 1918.

Dear Silvers;

I have read your request for a letter so often that I feel somewhat guilty for neglecting to comply with your request before this. Although I am in the Depot Brigade and have been here since reporting last December I have been very busy, just taking care of green recruits as they report for duty. This in itself has been an experience that I value highly but one can not help but feel the great desire to get over and join the boys over there. After breaking in hundreds of boys for duty overseas, it gives us a great feeling of regret when we see them start out for the big game leaving us behind to continue our work here.

The Depot Brigade can be compared to a large sorting room in a factory, where the green goods are sorted out for the different finished products. They come in here just as they leave civilian life, with their defects and good points but are not here long before they are mustered into the Service, at which time they are selected for the different branches of the Service. Those who fail to come up to the standard are soon sent Home but are subject to call again if needed. It is our duty to give these men their first training in the Army and it requires at times no little patience to whip them into the degree of fitness necessary. It is at this time that all family differences must be settled and we must listen to all this with all the patience possible. It is no easy thing for the younger officers, to listen to all these tales of trouble from men much older than they are.

Good news has come to us and we are told that all the Depot Brigade Officers are to be sent to different Divisions where they will be assigned to outfits for overseas. This will be a slow process and we hope that the war will not be over before we have our chance. It is understood that we will move out in thirds and the first third will move out before many days. Of course each officer is hoping that he will be with the first third. As for myself, I think that I will come in the second third if not the first. Even at that it will be some time before we will go over and the way things are going now I am afraid the show will be over before we even get sailing orders.

The casual list is growing larger each day and I am afraid Old Rutgers will be minus a large number of men before the affair is settled. Those in the show can rest assured that lots of us are over here who envy them in what they are doing.

I enjoy reading your letters and hope the good work keeps up. I shall keep you posted so that I shall not miss any of the news from the College.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph R. Fonyth.
1st. Lieut. Inf. U.S.A.

I am now Commanding the 55th Co. This has been my outfit for some time.



Earl Reed Silvers

Rutgers College

New Brunswick, N. J.

1) 1st Lieut Joseph Robert Forsyth

2) Infantry, U.S. A.

3) 155 Depot Brigade,
8th Battalion.

Camp Lee,
Virginia

4) Mrs. Mary Forsyth,
313 Fourth Street,
Little Falls,
New York.

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