

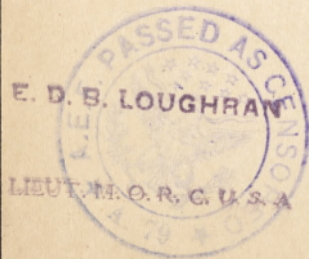
THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



EARL REED SILVERS

ALUMNI HOUSE

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.



11-14-17

Litter #1 arrived this AM. Splendid
idea. Shall be glad to get news, etc of
Rutgers. Thanks very much. Things are
very busy over here.

Carl H. Maar, (19)

(Corrected Address) → Base Hosp. #8,
A. E. F.

From Sergeant Carl H. Maar '19

France, March 6, 1918.

I haven't seen Paris yet, and present prospects indicate that my chances for such a trip are very poor, since all passes thereto were forbidden on the first of the year, more because of the moral effect on the French people. You see, we are over here primarily and all the time for the grim business of war, and because of our peculiar position in which all depends upon a continuation of the friendly feeling between the French and ourselves, it is not good to see so many in one large city all bent on having a good time. Hence the order forbidding passes.

Last night we were paid, and although I only drew \$16.60, still it seems like a lot more when it comes in francs - 94 francs, 60 centimes. That only goes about half as far as it used to when we first landed. We have two hundred Singalese laborers around here now; I think they're Singalese, although they might be Algerians, Moroccans, or Serbians from their looks and uniforms. Some angry looking mob! I'd hate to meet one of them in a dark alley, believe me.

March 24, 1918.

We received a bunch of gassed men from the front a few days ago, and they were pretty badly afflicted. The Germans have four gases which they send over in different forms - such as rubber balls, shells, etc. - along with the shrapnel. There is the chlorine gas, the mustard gas, a gas which throws off the odor of rubber, and another that smells like spoiled fruit. This mustard gas burns the moist parts of the boys, especially the eyes, throat, and lungs. Some of the boys haven't seen daylight yet, and their throats and lungs are all raw and burned out. But every last one of them wants to get back in the game and wipe out the Hun. Such spirit and pep you never saw. Sick and weak as they were, when the ambulatory ones were led or walked of their own accord into the wards, they stood at attention, straight as sticks, until they were

bidden to get into bed. Can you beat that for military training? Such is Yankee pluck and spirit.

April 14, 1918.

Last evening, Miss Elsie Janis, of Broadway fame, gave two shows in our Y.M.C.A. hut, and to say that she spread considerable mirth would be unfair to her. The crowds simply went wild about her. It was the first American actress I had seen since last summer, and there were lots of others in the same boat. She told several good stories and sang a few songs, - some old and others new. She seemed more clever than ever before, and I had seen her three times in New York.

As you say, things are happening over here, but we don't know any more about them that you do. Of course, by talking with men from the front we get individual tales of some small sector that have no bearing at all on the general outcome. It is truly marvelous what men can go through and come out alive, and then again, a very small thing will bring death and suffering to many.

We have a Rutgers 1920 man in the "nut factory" now. Seems as if I always have a friend in that place. It is very easy for a man to get that way over here, especially if he gets thinking about things. However, most of the time all we think of is how to get enough sleep and to make sure of three meals a day.

Am feeling fine. No guns have reached us here yet.

STATE OF NEW YORK
INSURANCE DEPARTMENT
ALBANY

~~WILLIAM T. EMMET~~
SUPERINTENDENT

My dear Mr. Silvers:

Agreeably to your wishes,
I enclose a few of the more recent
letters of our boy - and leave you
to make such excerpts as may best
suit your purpose. I note your
purpose to return the originals. As
I am subscriber, the Quarterly reaches
me.

Yours cordially

Charles Maer.

May 23, '18.

May 23, 1918

Rev. Charles Maar
538 Morris St.,
Albany, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Maar:

Thank you very much for
your letter of May 22nd containing letters
from your son. We shall take the very best
of care of them and will return them to you
not later than June 15th.

Very truly yours,

ERS/W