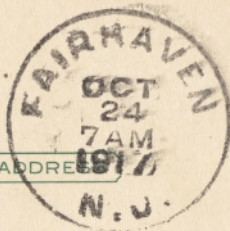


THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



EARL REED SILVERS

ALUMNI HOUSE

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

Box 154. Red Bank L. J. Oct-23-1917

Sir:-

In answer to your communication, I am
very glad to give you my son's address, as I am
quite sure any news you can send to him will be
most welcome. John R. Perry #116,

Field Hospital, Sanitary Train

Camp M. C. Cleburn, Ardmore,

signed, Cornelius Perry.

Alabama.

①

Field Hospital #116,
Camp M. C. C. C.,
Anniston, Ala.,
November 21, 1917.

Mr. Carl Reed Silvers,
Rutgers College,
New Brunswick, N. J.

My dear Mr. Silvers:—

Several of the Rutgers War Service circulars have reached me and I desire to express my sincere appreciation to those responsible for my receipt of them. They are very acceptable in that they show one that his Alma Mater is deeply interested in him, in that they show how much a member of Rutgers College one is even though miles away, and in that they keep one posted on the College happenings.

In the fourth letter which I received it was stated that camp publications, souvenirs, etc. would be appreciated so I am sending you a camp paper and shall when I get one send you a Y. M. C. A. publication. I have a small vest pocket camera and if you deem that some of the small pictures I take will be worth while I shall, when I get one which I believe interesting, now and then send

① it an to you. I have taken a number already which are of considerable interest to myself and folks and if you so desire will be an the look out for interesting pictures for my college. As time passes I may now and then be able to obtain things of interest and whenever such an opportunity presents I shall take advantage of it.

As it is I am not aware that any one has described this camp to you so I shall briefly describe it and its activities. Camp McEllen is situated in the mountains in north central Alabama about five miles out of the town of Anniston. On every side rise the rather low ~~undulating~~ mountain ridges. In clear weather one can readily discern the trees on the sides of these mountains but on a dull day, although it may be clear enough in camp one can barely trace the irregular outlines of the mountains. The climate here is exceedingly healthy and although it is usually quite cold during the nights and quite warm during the days one

② Cannot but enjoy the weather. The camp is spread out over a site about three miles in length by a mile and three quarters in width. Almost everywhere one gazes his eyes are met with rows and rows of khaki tents and lines of unpainted mess shacks. Here and there on a prominence one sees a large Y. M. C. A. or a Knights of Columbus building. Here and there down in a valley one sees the warehouses and perhaps a train of freight cars drawn along by a puffing locomotive and a spur leading to one of the warehouses. Down toward the derailing station are the military stores run by private concerns. The biggest of these stores is the 'hub' which building contains pool-rooms, a laundry receiving station, bowling alleys, stationery departments and a large department where one can purchase all varieties of hot and cold sandwiches, cake, hot and cold drinks, fruits and candy. On the highest plateau in camp is the big base hospital consisting of fifty-two separate

④ wards connected by covered walks, each ward having a capacity of about forty patients. The base hospital view is the very best in camp. Off in the distance from this place one can see large caravans enclosing large numbers of mules and horses.

The activities of the various units in camp are extremely varied. The Infantry are learning all about the different types of trench warfare, in most cases under the instruction of French and British soldiers, of whom there are a number about camp. There are also French and British soldiers here to help instruct the Engineers, Artillerymen, and to give lessons in gasing. The biggest part of the day is devoted to drilling and in the field hospitals, the morning is devoted to close order and litter drill and the afternoon to lectures. On holidays and evenings the streets of Amritsar are flooded with men in uniform. Business booms and the town is,

⑤ Judging from appearances, more and the more than ever before in its existence. The Anniston folks are very hospitable and welcome the soldiers to their churches and homes and a number of rest rooms have been established. All varieties of jitneys in seemingly unlimited numbers run between camp and the town, the fare one way being a quarter, as a soldier would say 'Two bits.' The town officials are aided by the Military Police, known to soldiers as 'M. P.s.' These officials are located at every ^{place} necessary to be watched and certainly do faithfully fulfill their duties. They are however ~~a~~ very necessary and serve to regulate traffic and obviate disturbances as well as safeguard the soldiers in a number of ways.

Some little time ago I received a Bulletin from the War Service Bureau which told of the call for aviators and

⑥ also told about the third training camp for officers. I have written to Professor Turiss to find out if it will be possible for me to be mentioned in the Rutgers quota. I am applying here but I should truly like to go into camp with the Rutgers men. Could you let me know about this? I am afraid that Professor Turiss is, as usual, rather busy and perhaps you could let me know sooner than he about this matter. Also I would like to find out about the aviation school as I am interested in that branch of the service although I am more interested in the Heavy Artillery. That you may have some information regarding me I shall state that I attended Rutgers from 1915 until 1917, pursuing the Agricultural Course and the course in Military Science. I enlisted at Newark in the 29th Divisional Troop on July 9th, 1917. On September 7th, 1917, after I had reached Camp M. S. Clellan, I was transferred to the medical detachment of this

⑦ Troop and made a first class private.
About October 1st, 1912 I was transferred
to my present unit and on about the
third or fourth day made an acting
sergeant, in which capacity I am still
acting.

It is nearly time for Taps
so I shall terminate my letter and
with best wishes for my college and
with sincere thanks to the War Service
Bureau for its activities say good night.
Thanking you in advance for whatever
trouble you make take in advising me a-
bout the Aviation School and the
Third Training Camp for Officers, I am

Very sincerely yours,
John R. Berry.

November 26th. 1917.

Mr. John R. Perry,

Field Hospital, No 116.

Camp Mc Clellan,

Anniston, Ala.

Dear Mr. Perry:-

It was mighty good of you to write me your interesting letter of November 21st. and I am going to use extracts from it in our next issue of our Alumni Quarterly. The paper from Camp Mc Clellan came to me this morning and I also wish to express my appreciation of your thoughtfulness in sending it. Indeed we would like to have any pictures you think may be of interest.

In regard to the application for membership into the third series of Officers Training Camps. I do not think that you are eligible for the Rutgers quota, as I have just heard from Washington this morning that only graduates of the college or men who are now pursuing their studies may be admitted to the camp from Rutgers. I am afraid therefore that you cannot be admitted with our men, although I wish that I could give you a more encouraging statement.

If at any time I can be of service to you I hope that you will not hesitate to call upon me. Concerning the call of

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aviators, that is open, I believe, only to men who have not yet entered the service. Please write to me whenever you have a chance and do not forget to let me know of any change of address.

Very sincerely yours,

January 14, 1918.

Mr. J. R. Berry,
Field Hospital #116,
Camp McClellan, Ala.

Dear Mr. Perry:

Dr. Lipman has shown me your interesting letter of January 1st. If you are commissioned, I hope that you will advise me so that I may keep the records of the war service bureau as correct as possible.

Good luck and best wishes,

Very truly yours,

ERS.MVH

Officers Training Camp,
Camp M^cCallan,
Anniston, Ala.,
January 26, 1918.

Mr. Earl Reed Silvers,
Rutgers War Service Bureau,
Rutgers College,
New Brunswick, N.J.

Dear Mr. Silvers:—

Your kind letter of the 14th inst. was received and in reply I wish to state that I have abandoned the idea of aviation at least for the present. Shortly after I began to think seriously of aviation I was appointed to attend the 'Third Training Camp' and here I am. Slicker '19, Kirk '19, Hickman '17, and Rauch '17 are here in the artillery, the points of which branch of service I am likewise endeavoring to master.

One surely is on the job here. The only time we are not playing the war game is between Zaps and Reveille when we are sleeping and that according to schedule. We begin work at eight in the morning and finish at four-thirty in the afternoon. From six until eight in the evening we are scheduled to study and after that I find it all

essary to clean off some of the mud from my shoes and leggings. Since being in the training camp most of us have purchased rubber boots because rain or shine we drill and go through our schedule. The work, however, is interesting and we are all doing our best so that we may finally be the more efficient in helping Fritz into eternity.

✓ Obe Armstrong certainly did bring back some relics. Perhaps some of the rest of us will be able to bring back a brick from the imperial palace.

Trusting that everything is running along nicely at the college and with best wishes to all, I am

Very sincerely,
John R. Perry,
Sgt. M.D.

January 31st. 1918.

Sergeant R. Perry,

Officers Training Camp,

Camp Mc Clellan,

Alabama.

Dear Mr. Perry:-

I am glad to know that you have been admitted into the Officers Training Camp, and thank you for writing me about it. I am glad, too, to know that Hickman is in the camp. I hope you will continue to keep in touch with me and that you will not fail to call upon me if there is anything I can do for you at any time.

With the best of good wishes,

Cordially yours,