

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE ALUMNI OF RUTGERS COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE EDITOR
NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY

RUTGERS ALUMNI QUARTERLY

EARL REED SILVERS '13,
MANAGING EDITOR

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

over

George Henry White 1916

Candidate - D.R.C.

Battery "2"

Fort Niagara N.Y.

not drafted.

Ralph White is candidate at Fort Niagara

Robert W. Seale sailed for France Sept. 8
with the army Y.M.C.A. contingent.

G.H.W.

2nd Battery.

RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CAMP
FORT NIAGARA, NEW YORK

24 Nov, 17

Dear Ned,

Your received
and I want to tell
you how much I
enjoy your letters
of college news. Hall
is a wonderful idea
for we all want to
keep in touch with
old friends and the
letter idea fills the bill.
completely. It is

interesting to note
the number of Rutgers
men in the service. But
still it is no more
than we expected
of Rutgers' sons who
always long to be in
the van for God, country
and alma mater.

And what a record
'16 has already
made! individually

and as a class.

You will notify
me of the Concussions
the boys made at the
2nd Camp?

We leave here Monday
next (26) after a 3 months
pull. It has been intensive
and at times a hard
grind but there were
many compensations
and I would not
have missed it for the
world.

[47]
The friendships made here
are so worth while and
to be carried on at the
cantonments. Again, who
would have thought that so
much & varied knowledge
could be absorbed in so
little time as has been
given here in F. Artillery.
But believe me that's the
only brand of the service.

I was sworn in yesterday
as a 1st Lieutenant F.A.O.T.C.
to be stationed at Camp
Brooks, Ayer, Mass. from
Dec. 15.

From next Tuesday until the
15th I will be home at Bushkill
M. Best regards to who.

November 28th. 1917.

Lieutenant George H. Whisler,

Buskirk, N.Y.

Dear George:-

I was mighty glad to hear from you and to know that you did so well at the camp. I am wondering whether you can tell me if Joseph R. Forsythe 1911, received a commission or not? As soon as you are assigned to a regiment at Camp Devens, please let me know so that I can continue to send you the War Service letters.

With good luck to you and best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,



"WITH THE COLORS"



"F." Battery
303rd Field Artillery
Camp Brown
Ayre, Mass.

Dear Regd
Just a word to
let you know my
new address at camp.
It's a most wonderful
place and perfectly
immense.

With best regards

Colin.

December 21, 1917.

Lieut. George Whisler,

Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass.

Dear George;-

Thanks for your letter of December 19th and your new address. Jack Voornees went you one better and told me about you just a day ahead of time. But I was glad to hear from you and I hope you like the work. Send me some bullets when you get the time. This is the millionth letter I've written to-day, and I'm all in.

Yours,

*If you can
use any of this
and want to
go to it!
Write*

303 Field Artillery

"F" Battery

Camp Devens, Ayre, Mass.

Dear Reed;

Thinking you might be interested I am going to try to give you an idea of how we spent Christmas of 1917 at our National Cantonment AT Camp Devens.

It looked like a rather gloomy Christmas at first, both
~~Things looked rather gloomy at first~~ for officers and men. All expected to get back home at this time of the year when home has its greatest attraction; for a man may have been away from the home circle for ages and really not feel it, but when The Yuletide season comes round his heart and spirit wend their way back to the family hearth. Word came in from Headquarters that only 5% of the men would be allowed to go on pass. ^{*appointment*} Disappointment and gloom, of course, hung heavy ^{*throughout*} ~~the~~ out the great wooden city. Yet as a whole, the men took it philosophically and in good spirit. These men from Maine and New Hampshire are a bully lot and will be heard from very acceptably when they "go over the line and across the Rhine". All our "F" Battery men are of this sturdy ^{*calibre*} ~~lot~~ and, of course just a whole lot better than any other outfit in the Regiment.

^{*however,*}
In another day some of the clouds were dispelled for a second order was received raising the percentage to 15% for the men. This revision enabled nearly all ^{*of our*} ~~our~~ men to go on pass who stayed over Thanksgiving, and the Christmas spirit began to shine as the proverbial silver lining.

So we lost no time in making preparations for as happy a time as possible for those left behind, and, incident-

ly, for ^{us} ~~we~~ neophyte officers who had just arrived from Niagara and Plattsburg and who were "requested" to remain with the men. All drill was discontinued at noon on the 24th, with the declaration of a holiday until Reveille on the 26th. Timber cruisers were sent out into the neighboring woods to bring back ^{green} ~~green~~ ~~pine~~ for the decoration of the barracks. What a picturesque sight it was to see the 75 men trailing back over the snow-clad hills single file, each carrying a decorative possibility in green. They all sang as they trailed, and camp good cheer was on the wing.

This was no place for idlers, and there were none to be found, for all were imbued with the spirit of rivalry so characteristic of the entire Regiment and so splendid for the esprit-de-corps of all the organizations. Every man KNOWS that his outfit is the prize of the camp and he is going to do his "darndest" to uphold the reputation he covets, ~~to retain~~. Therefore, if a man was seen to "soldier" he was promptly prodded and the offense was not repeated. From the bareness of the walls and rafters a gradual transformation took place before our eyes. Every man seemed to have a pet idea of his own for the "artistic" until at last a real study in green and red was produced. Our own battery was unique in a number of things but especially in carrying out the old and attractive idea of New England origin:—in each window of both stories of the barracks ^{we} ~~we~~ had placed ^{three} ~~three~~ candles which were lighted as dark came on.

This was a particularly wonderful sight, especially from the officers' quarters across the road and since the interior electric bulbs were darkened by red tissue. We were especially proud of our men's efforts since all this, the greetings on the snow, and the illuminated "F" on the roof ^{were} ~~were~~ in the view of General McNair, whose quarters are just opposite.

So much for the decorations which by common assent were called a success.

At 6:30 the Regiment marched to the Regimental Tree by ~~batters~~. Here we had mass singing of marching and new war songs with Regimental cheers. Lieut. Twitchell, the Chaplain, who is a capital fellow and much respected by officers and men alike, called upon each outfit for competitive singing and cheering.

I might say right here that singing plays the most important part of the life of the men in camp. There is a great deal of it, and it means so much to the morale of our newly made army.

It heartens the men when the constant daily grind of routine camp life makes them wish they were back home in Maine.

We make a particular point of teaching any new and catchy songs we are able to procure. Colonel Conklin, of our 303rd, realizes the value of the singing army, and has issued an order that from 4.00 to 4.30 each organization gather in their mess halls for a period of battery singing. Some of our outfit have made frequent trips to neighboring towns and to Boston to show the people that all is not "hardtack" in the army.

The tree singing over, everyone went to the much appreciated Y.M.C.A. hut, where the excellent Herford Chorus gave selections and distributed a present to every man from an illuminated tree. The evening was then by no means completed, for informal "doings" ~~were~~ ^{were} held at each barracks, consisting of singing, stunts, and smoking in the mess halls. At 10.00 oclock a picked 50, led by the band, marched through the streets singing the old Christmas Carols. Our Captain, who is a man among men, in order to end the day right, read the Christmas story from St. Luke, reminded us of the real meaning of it all, and the service was over after the Officer's Quartet sang a verse of "Adeste Fideles".

Then at 11.00, that most beautiful of all calls, taps, was sounded, and lights were out to await the advent of our first Christmas in the great war. Never before did that call carry so much with it as it did then, for we seemed to hear a distressed humanity pleading for relief and succor from the Tyrant's tortures, and we could see the beloved "Comrade in White" standing in the midst of it all with arms outstretched, appealing to the nations of the world to come unto Him where there is rest and peace.

But to the Mess Sergeant, taps meant a rolling up his sleeves with his cooks for the preparation of the big Xmas dinner of many turkeys etc., and 40 mince pies.

And Christmas morning was given over to out-of-door games, for which the committee had a long list prepared. This afforded quite a preparation for the feed to follow. During the meal our 1st. Sergeant, a Dartmouth foot-ball man, Cunningham, and a crack entertainer at the piano, kept things lively for the men and their guests. The Officer's Quartet tried to do it's bit again; all joined in the "Marseillaise" in French; and a Frenchman, apt with his feet, gave us a few steps. After some speeches and more singing, the dinner party was dismissed and the men had the afternoon to themselves.

After supper presents were given out to all the men in the battery from our own tree, each man receiving a sweater or comfort kit and some trinkets received from the Red Cross and friends. That just about completed the happenings, and I dare say that the men were glad they had the opportunity of remaining, as the officers certainly were. Then again there was the hope that perhaps a year from date we might not only be trying to make Christmas happy for ourselves, but for those in whose towns we may be billeted in war stricken France.

Conrad White

From First Lieutenant George H. Whisler '16

Camp Devens, Mass.,
Dec. 26, 1917.

It looked like a rather gloomy Christmas at best, both for officers and men. All expected to get back home at this time of the year when home has its greatest attraction; for a man may have been away from the home circle for ages and really not feel it, but when the Yuletide season comes round, his heart and spirit wend their way back to the family hearth. Word came in from headquarters that only 5 per cent of the men would be allowed to go on pass. Disappointment and gloom, of course, hung heavy throughout the great wooden city. Yet, as a whole, the men took it philosophically and in good spirit. These men from Maine and New Hampshire are a bully lot and will be heard from very acceptably when they "go over the line and across the Rhine." All four "F" Battery men are of this sturdy calibre and, of course, just a whole lot better than any other outfit in the regiment.

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(original
paper
brittle)

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December 28, 1917.

Lieutenant George Whisler,
Battery "F", 303rd Field Artillery,
Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass.

Dear George:

Your article on "Christmas in Camp" reached me yesterday and I am going to print it just as it is in the January issue of the Quarterly even though it is necessary to crowd out material which is already in type. I am sure that our Alumni will appreciate your letter very much; it is the best thing of its kind I have ever read and I thank you for writing it for us and we all appreciate it very much..

With all good wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Assistant to the President

ERS/MVH

January 3, 1918.

Lieutenant G. H. Whisler,
303 F. A.,
Camp Devens, Ayre, Mass.

Dear George:

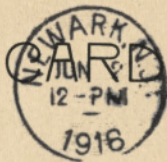
Many thanks for your camp paper which was
received this morning. I appreciate your kindness
in keeping in touch with me and hope that you will drop
into see me sometime here at the office so that I may
thank you personally. With all good wishes,

Very sincerely yours.

Assistant to the President

ERS/MVH

POST



Earl Reed Silvers

Rutgers College

New Brunswick, N. J.

The last I heard of Mr. Geo.
H. Whistler's location was in
Omaha. His brother-in-law

Rev. E. E. Davis of

Ruskirk, N. Y. can
give the necessary information

very truly yours
Newark N. J. (Mrs. J. H.) Lucy E. D. Steel
140 Elm St

Post Field
Fort Sill, Okla.
June 5, 1916

Gen Sill,

Had you forgotten
me while I was at Ft.
Omaha? Haven't heard
from you in an age and
did not get the last
quarterly. I am now
at Sill for further
instruction and expect

to be here for a month
or more.

Had a great time
at Omaha. Very in-
teresting course
and the people in
the town were wonder-
ful to us all.

I met Harry Blue '15
here in the airplane
school and
Mauley too. I understand

(3)

Huber was here a a Pilot.
I expect Jack Levin here
in a few weeks.

Don't forget I am
still here and want
to much to keep in
touch with things on
"the old Rantan".

Best regards to all
the boys I know you see
-Bowie for instance.

Yours ——— this.

June 10
19 18.

Lieut. George Whisler,
Post Field,
Fort Sill, Okla.

Dear George:

Somehow or other we have lost track of you and have been sending S. O. S. messages all over the country in a vain attempt to locate you. I am glad now to know where you are and am sending you the April Quarterly, together with two or three of the latest War Service Letters. Whenever you change just drop me a postal. We will try not to lose track of you again.

Good luck to you and all best wishes.

Cordially yours,

IRS/W

POST CARD



Earl Reed Silvers

Rutgers College

New Brunswick, N. J.

Appreciate thoroughly your great
task and also your good work.

This may help a bit: Cooper '14, X ϕ ,
is at Ft. Omaha; Frank Lewis '15 is
at this detachment; Al Hickman '18(?)
is at School of Fire, Fort Sill; Manly '20(?) is
a Private - Post Field Ft. Sill; Vredenburg
LT '05(?) is at Ft. Omaha Det. My address is
Post Field, Balloon Detachment, Ft. Sill Okla.

Best regards, George H. Fisher

July 11, 1918

Lieut. George H. Whisler,
Post Field,
Balloon Detachment,
Fort Sill, Okla.

Dear George:

Your postal card of July
6th containing gossip about Rutgers men
is appreciated. Keep up the good work
and send me in whatever addresses you
may have at any time.

With the kindest personal
regards, I am

Cordially yours,

ERS/W

WAR DEPARTMENT
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AERONAUTICS
ARMY BALLOON SCHOOL
ARCADIA, CALIFORNIA

FILE NO.

September 25, 1918.

Dear Red—

Just a few lines to let you know that I still appreciate the work the college has been doing through you and the War Service Bureau. Your letters are at all times most welcome and interesting. The latest telling about the new status of the undergraduates is especially and notably interesting for all it implies. It is a real military aspect the college must now begin to take upon itself and quite different from the days when the Corps used to do

WAR DEPARTMENT
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AERONAUTICS
ARMY BALLOON SCHOOL
ARCADIA, CALIFORNIA

FILE NO.

the "Harrier" in blue.

This camp at Arcadia is about as ideal as one could find and since there are but bare prospects of spring across for some time we are most fortunate in being located in this grand spot. Pasadena is only a 20 minute ride from camp and Los Angeles but 45 min.

My particular job is "Cadet Adviser" with duties resembling "Father Confessor" to cadets trying for commissions. I am also detailed as asst. Instructor in artillery. The combination makes the work very interesting.

You might be interested to know that since my arrival here I have

met "The Girl" in Pasadena and
we are going to be married on the
5th of October.

I am enclosing the only
thing I have in a picture which
you asked for some time ago.

Wishing you all the success
in your work and with regard
to any of the boys you see,

Yours as ever -

George H. Wheeler

October 4
1918

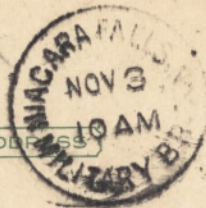
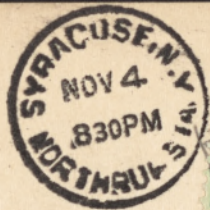
Lieut. George H. Whisler
Balloon Detachment
Arcadia, Calif.

Dear George:

Julia Williamson gave me the good news about your marriage. By the time you receive this letter you will have become a benedict. May I offer my heartiest congratulations and my sincerest good wishes for a life filled with happiness. I am mighty glad to hear of your good fortune.

Cordially yours,

ERS/G



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

EARL REED SILVERS

ALUMNI HOUSE

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

2nd Battery
Fort Niagara N.Y.

Dear Reed,

Received the "Directors" letter to-day

I wrote the above the day I
received your letter. I had to rush
to a formation at the time and
therefor the delay. for I put this in
my trunk until now.

Would be very glad to
hear all 2 could from Old Queens
Yr^t respt, George H. Wick