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MS-032: Letters of the Toomey Family during World War I

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MS-032: Letters of the Toomey Family during World War I

**Description**
The Toomey collection is composed primarily of correspondence and is arranged into four sections including letters to Leo Toomey, Joe Toomey, Mary Ellen Toomey, and other miscellaneous correspondence.

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**Keywords**
World War I, WWI, Quarter Master Corps, Fort Slocum, 306th Infantry, Camp Upton, war nurse, war correspondence

**Disciplines**
Cultural History | History | History of Gender | Labor History | Military History | Social History | United States History | Women's History
Guide to the
Letters of the Toomey Family during
World War I

Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections & College Archives

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Provenance: Purchased from Charles Apfelbaum

Biography:

The Humphrey Toomey family was a Catholic family residing in Sullivan County, New York, during World War I. This collection includes letters from Leo Toomey, Joe Toomey, and Mary Ellen Toomey to their mother, Mrs. Humphrey Toomey.

Leo Toomey, a member of the Quarter Master Corps, served as a clerk during World War I. He was stationed in Fort Slocum, New York; Camp Joseph E. Johnston, Florida; and Newport News, Virginia. Toomey was a member of the 35th Rec. Company, Clerical Company Number 4, Clerical Company Number 3, and Supply Company Number 312. Leo Toomey was a member of the Knights of Columbus. In April 1927, he married a woman named Nellie.

Joe Toomey was a private in the 306th Infantry Company A, stationed at Camp Upton on Long Island, New York during World War I. As a civilian, he was a police officer. He was later moved to the Guard and Fire Company, stationed in Hoboken, New Jersey in October 1917.

Mary Ellen Toomey was a nurse stationed in Hoboken, New Jersey, during World War I.

Scope and Content Notes:

The Toomey collection is composed primarily of correspondence and is arranged into four series: I. Leo Toomey Letters, II. Joe Toomey Letters, III. Mary Ellen Toomey Letters, and IV. Miscellaneous.

Series I is composed of letters written by Leo Toomey to his mother and letters written to Toomey from family, friends, and various sources.

Series II is composed of letters written by Joe Toomey to his mother.

Series III is composed of letters written to Mary Ellen Toomey from her brother, Leo and letters written by Mary Ellen Toomey to her mother.

Series IV is composed of miscellaneous photographs, correspondence, and unknown family papers. This series includes a Certificate of Naturalization for Godlib Feitz and a blank World War I Questionnaire to be used for perpetuating history.

Series I – Leo Toomey Correspondence

1-1 Leo Correspondence – Letters to Toomey from family and friends:
   From George B. Ford, Not Dated
   From Elizabeth, March 2, 1916
   From George H. Bell, July 31, 1916
   From Mrs. Humphrey Toomey, January 15, 1917
Birthday Card from Luke, June 17, 1917
From Private Edgar W. Hulse, October 31, 1917
From Mother Polycarpa, February 23, 1918
From Mother Polycarpa, March 16, 1918
From Vincent Arcere, March 10, 1918
From Henry T. Steinham, March 25, 1918
From Private Edgar W. Hulse, March 3, 1918
From George B. Ford, April 3, 1918
From Private Joseph Toomey, May 9, 1918
From John L., April 6, 1927
From Joe and Mary, April 10, 1927
From Elmer (cousin), April 15, 1927
“Congratulations on your Wedding” card From Mr. & Mrs. A. G. Meisurukle, April 26, 1927
4 envelopes addressed to Leo Toomey

1-2 Leo Correspondence – Letters to Leo Toomey from various sources:
  Membership application to the Monticello Guards, January 18, 1916
  Payment Receipt from Dr. Russell W. Allan, July 24, 1916
  Invitation to Knights of Columbus Dance November 29, 1916
  Notice of Membership in Knights of Columbus February 5, 1917
  From John Foote, Grand Knight, Knights of Columbus, May 7, 1917
  From Leon Brooks, June 6, 1917
  From Leon Brooks, June 18, 1917
  Graduation Announcement from E. Harold Woods, June 21, 1918
  John E. Watson, December 9, 1916
  Copy of form letter from John J. Pershing, February 28, 1919
  Receipt for Diamond Ring from Philip Krukin, August 10, 1926

1-3 Leo Correspondence – Letters from Leo Toomey to his mother, Dated:
  December 12, 1917
  December 13, 1917
  December 20, 1917
  December 27, 1917
  January 9, 1918
  January 13, 1918
  January 27, 1918

1-4 Leo Correspondence – Letters from Leo Toomey to his mother, Dated:
  Blank stationary and addressed envelope
  March 4, 1918
  March 14, 1918
  April 1, 1918
  April 12, 1918
  April 24, 1918
  May 15, 1918
  May 28, 1918
  7 envelopes addressed to Mrs. H. Toomey
Series II – Joe Toomey Correspondence

1-5 Joe Correspondence – Letters from Joe Toomey to his mother, Dated:
   September 20, 1917
   October 8, 1917
   December 24, 1917
   January 17, 1918
   February 5, 1918
   February 13, 1918
   February 21, 1918
   February 22, 1918
   April 10, 1918
   April 22, 1918
   May 23, 1918

Series III – Mary Ellen Toomey Correspondence

1-6 Mary Ellen Correspondence – Letters from Leo Toomey, Dated:
   February 15, 1918
   April 3, 1918 (includes Farm Service Weekly Report Card)
   April 12, 1918
   April 14, 1918
   May 5, 1918

1-7 Mary Ellen Correspondence – Letters to her mother, Dated:
   February 27, 1918
   May 30, 1918
   May 31, 1918

Series IV – Miscellaneous

1-8 Miscellaneous – Photographs: 9 Photos, mostly unidentified
1-9 Miscellaneous – Ticket to Farewell Banquet December 6, 1917; Postcard book of
   scenes from Florida; Business Card for J. Chester Sneath; Envelope
   Addressed to U.S. Dept. of Interior; Letter to Sister Martha September 17,
   1876; Letter from Walter Smithing December 2, 1882; Program from
   Class Night Monticello High School June 26, 1916; The Battle of Gievres;
   Certificate of Naturalization for Godlib Feitz; Blank Personal War Sketch
   of Comrade World War Questionnaire for History; Letter from Scranton
   Stockdale to his sister May 17, 1927
1-10 Miscellaneous – Army Pouch