10-2013

MS-153: The Fritz Draper Hurd ’16 Papers

Amy E. Lucadamo
Gettysburg College

Danielle Jones
Gettysburg College

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MS-153: The Fritz Draper Hurd ’16 Papers

Description
This collection consists primarily of materials produced by F.D. Hurd himself. The collection includes a memoir draft, photographs of his college experiences, diaries from his college and war time, and various artifacts and memorabilia from Hurd’s time in the military. The collection focuses heavily on Hurd’s college activities and his war service. While the collection does not provide much official information on Hurd’s military service and Gettysburg College experience, it does contain extensive anecdotal information from Hurd’s diaries and remembrances, dictated to his son in the 1970s. There is also a significant amount of information about his time in medical school.

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Keywords
Hurd, Fritz Draper, Gettysburg College, World War I, 1914-1918, American Expeditionary Force, Trench warfare, Artillery, Sigma Chi, Greek life, Hazing, Football, Baseball, Medicine, Medical school

Disciplines
History | Military History | United States History

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Guide to the
Fritz Draper Hurd ‘16 Papers

Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections & College Archives

Amy Lucadamo
October 2013
Danielle Jones ‘18
April 2017
MS – 153: The Fritz Draper Hurd ’16 Papers

(7 boxes, 4 cubic feet)

Inclusive Dates: 1912-1970s
Bulk Dates: 1917-1920

Processed by: Amy Lucadamo, Archivist, October 2013 Danielle Jones ’18, Fortenbaugh Intern, April 2017

Provenance

Biography
Fritz Draper Hurd was born August 6, 1894 in Clear Springs, Maryland. At age six, he and his family moved to Williamsport, Maryland, where he lived until college. Hurd attended high school until his sophomore year when he dropped out to work in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. After a few months, he decided to go back to school. He attended Valparaiso University in Indiana from 1910 to 1912.

In 1912, Hurd returned to home and enrolled in Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He played club football and baseball and pledged the Theta Chapter of the Sigma Chi fraternity his sophomore year. Hurd describes his junior year at Gettysburg as completely uneventful; however, during that year, he and two friends did try to fire a cannon on Seminary Ridge, the monument to the Battle of Gettysburg exploded in the process. Hurd, who had chosen to watch the firing from afar, did not get into trouble, unlike his friends. In 1916 Hurd was supposed to be one of the Commencement speakers but was expelled by the Dean of the College the morning of graduation for stealing furniture off the porches of local Gettysburgians and then throwing it out the windows of his dorm room in South Hall (now McKnight Hall.) Hurd would receive his diploma in December of 1916 after petitioning the faculty for intervention. After receiving word of his son’s expulsion, Hurd’s father kicked him out of the house.

Hurd traveled to Philadelphia, where he got a job at the Remington Arms Company. He started out in the body shop and was moved to a clerking position for the superintendent within the year.

Hurd had attempted to get into the Red Cross Ambulance Corps before the United Stated entered World War I, but did not have sufficient funds to do so. After the United States declared war on April 6th, 1917, Hurd enlisted as a private in the Medical Reserve Corps of the U.S. Army. He received his orders for deployment May 15th, and headed to France on May 19th, first landing in England, for two weeks of training. After training, they were stationed at La Treport, near Rouen, at Base Hospital 10. Hurd was originally assigned to the penetrating chest wound ward, and then transferred to the amputation ward.
By the end of 1917, Hurd sought a transfer in order to be involved in the fighting. He attended the Saumur Artillery School of Instruction, and received his commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Field Artillery, American Expeditionary Force on July 10th, 1918. He joined the 103rd Field Artillery, 26th Division, then stationed near Chateau-Thierry. His unit was involved in fighting at Champagne Marne, Aisne Marne, St. Mihiel, and Meuse Argonne. In November 1918 he was hospitalized for chlorine gas exposure. His duties included running communications wires from trench to trench as well as organizing recreational sports for men behind the lines.

After returning home in 1919, Hurd spent a few months in Williamsport before deciding to go to medical school. Hurd applied and was accepted to Harvard Medical School and in 1921 traveled to Boston. After suffering from medical issues, Hurd dropped out and transferred to the University of Minnesota Medical School. Hurd did his medical residency at the University Hospital, and graduated December of 1924. His first job was at the Rood Hospital in Hibbing, Minnesota. In the fall of 1924 Hurd moved to the hospital in New Ulm, Minnesota until 1925 when he moved to Tolley, North Dakota to become the local doctor. He was married to Genevieve Bernett in 1927, and in addition to raising a family, was elected to the school board, assisted with town improvements, and in 1935, was elected to the North Dakota House of Representatives, and served a session in January and February in Bismarck.

After serving as a state representative, Hurd traveled back to the University of Minnesota for an Ear, Nose, and Throat fellowship, which lasted from November 1935 to May, 1939. Upon completion, he moved to Great Falls, North Dakota and went into private practice. During this time, he was involved in the local Boy Scouts, became Grand Praetor of what is now the Big Sky Province for Sigma Chi Fraternity, and served as a member of the Great Falls Receiving Home, a temporary shelter for children removed from their homes. Hurd eventually passed away in Great Falls in 1981.

Scope and Content Notes
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Subjects
Hurd, Fritz Draper
Gettysburg College
World War I, 1914-1918
American Expeditionary Force
Trench warfare
Artillery
Sigma Chi
Greek life
Hazing
Football
Baseball
Medicine
Medical school

**Series Description**
This collection is divided into three Series. **Series 1**: Memoir, including various copies; **Series 2**: College Life, including photographs, notebooks, daily diaries for 1913, 1914 and parts of 1916, diplomas, and alumni correspondence; **Series 3**: World War I, including photographs, documents, artifacts, and a daily diary 1916-1920.

**Box 1**
Finding Aid and Biographical Information including correspondence from donor.

**Series 1 Memoir**
*Life Story of Fritz D. Hurd, M.D.* a type-written manuscript from audio recording made in the 1970s – original, complete

**Series 2 College Life**
Daily diary, 1913
Daily diary, 1914
Daily diary, 1916-1920

**Box 2**
**Series 2 College Life**
Textbooks and notebooks
Letter from President W.A. Granville to Hurd, 5/21/1920, Thank you for donations
Transcript from Valparaiso University 1911-1912, requested 6/14/1921
Various College Ephemera

**Box 3**
**Series 2 College Life**
Photographs 4 – 2 photographs of unidentified groups of men, possibly medical school classes
Photographs – folder 1
Photographs – folder 2
Photographs – folder 3, postcards
Photograph album – color snapshots of Hurd’s medical office in Great Falls taken during his last year in practice by his nurse, Miss Mansfield, 1977
1914 *Spectrum*
1916 *Spectrum*

**Box 4**
Series 2 College Life
Pennsylvania College scrapbook containing clippings, photographs, letters, notations, etc., 1914-1920s
Framed eglomisé painting of Penn Hall labeled on reverse “Christmas Gift from Lois to Daddy - 1974”

Box 5
Series 3 World War I
Certificate of Enlistment, 7/10/1917; Commissions – 2nd Lieutenant, 7/10/1918 and 1st Lieutenant, 3/24/1920
Commemoration Certificate “for services rendered to the USA” signed by J. Alden Twachtman, Col. 103 #29
Ephemera
Honorable discharges from U.S. Army, 7/9/1918 and 8/16/1919
Letter of Award of Compensation from U.S. Treasury, 11/24/1920
Letters & Photograph from Margaret Morrison, 8/17, 9/10, & 10/22/1917, re: her son, Allen, who Hurd cared for in a hospital [in France], [socks in Box ___ were knitted by Mrs. Morrison and are referred to in these letters]
Memo, 9/9, 10/5, & 11/5/1918, re: telephone communications, marked “Secret”
Memo, 11/7/1918 “To Regimental and Battalion Signal Officers,” 2 pp.
Memo, 2/26/1919, from Hurd, re: standing of basketball league of the 103rd Field Artillery
Newspaper Clipping, n.d., “Fritz Hurd Now Doing Hospital Work in France” (2 copies)
Order, 11/2/1918 “Hopital d’Évacuation 17/1”
Order No. 191 & 200, 8/26/1918, Appointment of enlisted men, graduates of Saumur Artillery School to Second lieutenant in field & Costal Artillery (2 copies)
Personal Letter from Hurd to his mother on Mothers’ Day, 5/12/1918
Personal Letter from Lady Nancy Astor to Mayor G.W. Hurd (FDH’s father), 12/14/1921
Personal Letters from Hurd to his mother, 6/28, 7/23, & 5/21/1917
Photographs
Sketch of Hurd in uniform (framed) done by “a girl”
Special Order No.43, 2/21/1919, authorization for Hurd to travel to Tours to procure athletic supplies (3 copies)
Special Order No.53, 2/24/1919, List of officers & soldiers to report to university
Special Order No. 124, 8/23/1918, Appointing Hurd as Regimental Athletic Officer
First Aid tin, teaching tool
Army Reserve Corp Identification Card, 1922

Box 6
Artifact Tray 1
Series 3 World War I
Civil War Antietam souvenir – bullet with Stanhope lens inside, showing 3 monuments on the Antietam battlefield
Buttons and Artillery Pin
Epaulet “5 ENGRS AUSTRAL”
Shell primer
Trench knife & sheath
Artifact Tray 2  
Series 3 World War I  
First Aid tin, unopened  
Field binoculars & case with nameplate “F. Draper Hurd, Lieut., 103 F.A.”  
Shrapnel

Box 7  
Series 3 World War I  
Knit socks  
Haversack

Box 8  
Series 3 World War I  
Sam Browne belt

Box 9  
Series 3 World War I  
Shell fuse

Oversize – location: Gettysburg College Diploma flat file drawer  
Series 2 College Life  
1916 Pennsylvania College diploma  
1916 Gettysburg College diploma

Related Reserach:  
Available at: http://cupola.gettysburg.edu/ach/vol20/iss1/5