

**Guide to the  
Letters of the Toomey Family during  
World War I**



**Gettysburg College, Musselman Library  
Special Collections & College Archives**

**Processed by Jaclyn Campbell  
August 2001**

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

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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 35<sup>th</sup> 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 306<sup>th</sup> 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. Steinharm, 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