

Frye, Ernest L. Papers

Ernest L. Frye Papers
1917-1918 and undated

Title Statement

Frye, Ernest L. Papers Guide to the Ernest L. Frye Papers SC 00618

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

SC 00618

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/2751

Unit Date

1917-1918 and undated

Language

English

Creator

Frye, Ernest L., 1896-1974

Extent

0.1 Linear Foot

Repository

Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access:

Collection is open to all researchers.

Conditions Governing Use:

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Ernest L. Frye Papers, Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

Biographical Information:

Ernest Lee Frye was born in Osceola, Iowa to Albert Ellihugh Frye and Anna Eliza Sharp Frye. The family of seven children moved west from Iowa in 1899 to Oregon, where Ernest's father found a job at a gold mine near Grants Pass. As a teenager, Ernest found a job in the lumber mills and was a member of the mill's baseball team. Ernest, along with his brothers Alonzo (Lon) and Jay, enlisted in the Army in 1917. Ernest was stationed at Kelly Field near San Antonio, Texas as part of the 75th Aero Squadron, which later became the 487th, and became part of the squadron's baseball team. The squadron was station in France during World War I, where planes were shipped in to be assembled, armed, tested, and flown out to other airfields. Frye left the service in June of 1919, he returned to Oregon and returned to working in the lumber mills but later found a job as a bookkeeper for Keizer Hospital.

In 1936 he married Alice V. Dick, a registered nurse, and adopted two children, a baby girl named Jane in 1937 and a baby boy named John in 1942. After World War I, Ernest was active in the community and served on the school board and was elected mayor of North Bend, Oregon to two terms. He died in 1974 and was buried with his wife at Suset View Cemetery in Coos Bay, Oregon.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains letters, photographs, and other material documenting Ernest L. Frye's time in the 487th Aero Squadron during World War I. Included in the papers are letters from Frye to his brother and sister describing his fellow officers, reminiscing about friends back home in Oregon, his experience on the Aero squadron baseball team, and other matters. Photographs of Frye along with his fellow officers in the 487th and playing baseball, as well as programs for dances, leave passes, train passes, documents of promotion, poems, a government letter honoring the memory of Frye, and newspaper clippings regarding Frye playing baseball are also included.

Related Materials:

June A. Dowling Papers (Mss. Acc. 2009.163).

Information about related materials is available at <http://guides.swem.wm.edu/armedconflicts>

Keywords

Letters (correspondence)

Photographs

Postcards

Athletics--Baseball

Soldiers--United States--Social life and customs--20th century

World War, 1914-1918--France

World War, 1914-1918--Regimental histories--United States--487th Aero Squadron

Arrangement of Materials:

This collection is arranged chronologically by item type.

Description of Subordinate Components

Papers**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/241062**Unit Date** 1917-1918, undated**Mixed Materials** Small Collections Box 21 (Box)**Container** 1 (folder)**487th Aero Squadron panoramic group photo****Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/286397**Unit Date** 1917**Mixed Materials** 1 (Oversize_Folder)**Language** English