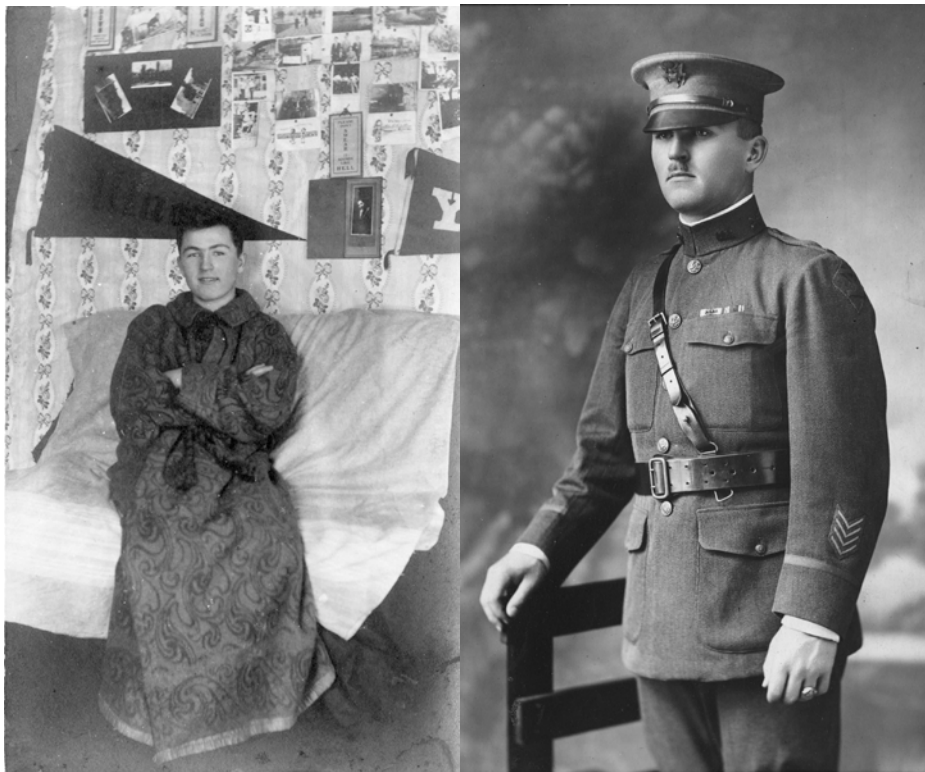


**Guide to the  
Fritz Draper Hurd '16 Papers**



**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**

Gifts of Dr. Richard A. Hurd, son of F.D. Hurd, 2012-2016.

### **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 Valpariso 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 States entered World War I, but did not have sufficient funds to do so. After the United States declared war on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 1917, Hurd enlisted as a private in the Medical Reserve Corps of the U.S. Army. He received his orders for deployment May 15<sup>th</sup>, and headed to France on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 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 10<sup>th</sup>, 1918. He joined the 103<sup>rd</sup> Field Artillery, 26<sup>th</sup> 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 Bennett 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**

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.

### **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 and Biographical, including various copies of the memoir; **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 and Biographical**

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

*Life Story of Fritz D. Hurd, M.D.* a type-written transcription from audio recordings made in the 1970s, chapters 1 & 2, 55 pp.

Copy Hurd application to University College, London, March 14, 1919 in a University College envelope obtained by son Richard on a visit to London in 1980

Material gathered to verify Hurd's Birth

- Letter from the Maryland Department of Health re: Hurd's lack of a birth certificate
- Affidavit from Hurd's mother confirming the date of his birth as August 6, 1894
- Copies of the 1900 and 1910 U.S. Census of the Hurd family obtained in 1966, reporting his birth as being in October 1894

### **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 – folder 1  
Photographs – folder 2  
Photographs – folder 3, postcards  
Photographs-folder 4, graduation [added 9/5/2018 – accession #2019-0036]  
Photographs-folder 5, 2 photographs of unidentified groups of men, possibly medical school classes  
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 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, 7/10/1918 and 1<sup>st</sup> 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]  
Memos, 9/9, 10/5, & 11/5/1918, re: telephone communications, marked “Secret”  
Memo, 10/29/1918 “Changes in grouping of Specialist details in Headquarters Company,” 3 pp.  
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 103<sup>rd</sup> 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 & Coastal 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 1**

Shell fuse

**Oversize – location: Gettysburg College Diploma flat file drawer**

**Series 2 College Life**

1916 Pennsylvania College diploma  
1916 Gettysburg College diploma

**Related Reserach:**

Johnson, S. Marianne (2014) "Growing Up in the Trenches: Fritz Draper Hurd and the Great War," *Adams County History*: Vol. 20 , Article 5.

Available at: <http://cupola.gettysburg.edu/ach/vol20/iss1/5>